

What are the guidelines drafted by the World Health Organisation?

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has drafted guidelines for certain pollutants with the aim to reduce the health effect as much as possible. These guidelines are meant to inform policy makers across the globe and to reduce or prevent the risks of air pollution in an effective manner. The guidelines are established after evaluation of scientific studies and are based on expert opinions. The guidelines for particulate matter are the following:

Pollutant		Guideline WHO
PM2.5	Annual mean	10 µg/m ³ .
	Daily mean	25 µg/m ³ (no more than 3 exceedances per year).
PM10	Annual mean	20 µg/m ³ .
	Daily mean	50 µg/m ³ (no more than 3 exceedances per year).

Until today, the scientific world has not been able to establish a value beneath which no health effects prevail. The guidelines shown above can thus not guarantee absolute protection of health. The WHO guidelines are meant to be used all over the world to support actions (in various contexts) for amelioration of air quality.