

# MAIN SOURCES OF AIR POLLUTION



## Transport

One of the main sources of air pollution is vehicles with petrol and diesel engines, such as cars, buses and trucks, as well as airplanes, trains and ships. These release pollutants like particulate matter (PM), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and carbon monoxide (CO). In Europe, about 40% of NO<sub>x</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions are linked to road transport.

## Industry

Power plants, large factories, waste management and other businesses release air pollutants, such as SO<sub>2</sub> from fossil fuel use, as well as volatile organic compounds from industrial processes.



## Agriculture

Farming and agricultural activities (like the use and production of fertilisers, the use of farm machinery, and livestock raising), release nitrogen compounds, methane and other pollutants.



## Homes

Residential activities, like using energy for cooling or heating, wood burning in fireplaces and fuel stoves, release a wide range of pollutants into the air.



## Natural sources

Volcanic eruptions, sand and dust storms in deserts, wildfires and sea salt spray are some of the natural sources of air pollutants, including PM, CO and NO<sub>x</sub>.

