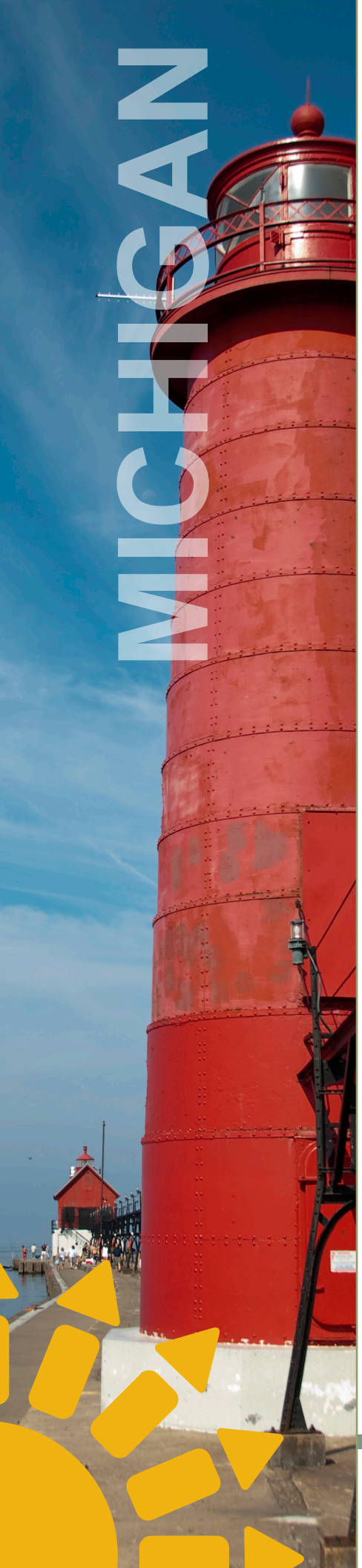


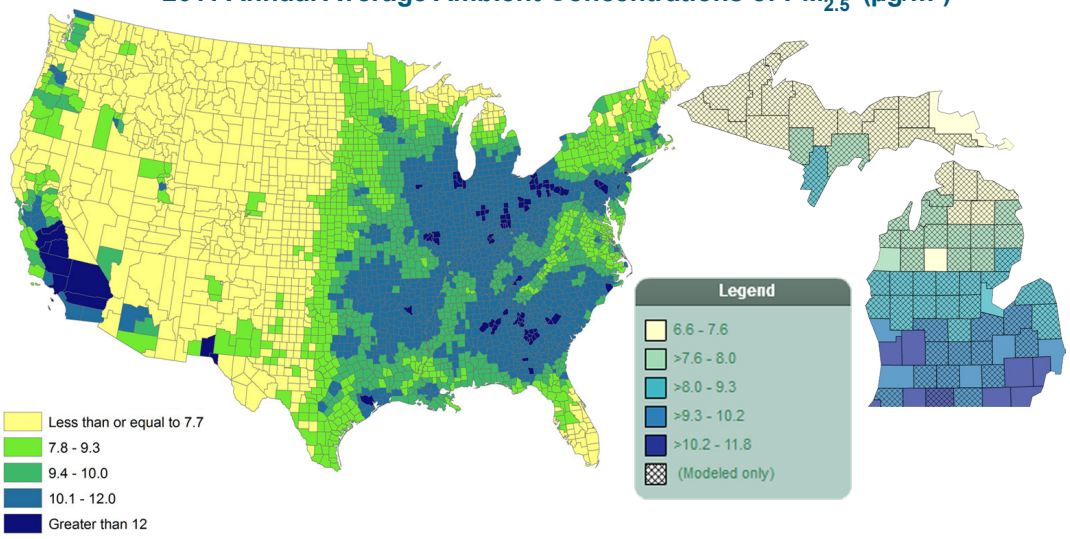
CDC's National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network

The Environmental Public Health Tracking Network (Tracking Network) is a dynamic system that provides information and data about environmental hazards and potentially related health problems. It presents what is known about environmental hazards, such as air pollution, and where they might exist, where people are exposed to hazards, and how targeted action can protect health, reduce illness, and save lives.

AIR POLLUTION ($PM_{2.5}$) AND HEALTH

Air pollution is a leading environmental threat to human health. Particles in the air such as dust, dirt, soot, and smoke are kinds of air pollution that have been linked with health problems. Some particles in the air are large or dark enough to be seen, like some kinds of smoke and soot. Other particles are so small that you cannot see them. Very small particles that are less than 2.5 micrometers wide (smaller than a grain of sand) are known as fine particulate matter or $PM_{2.5}$.

2011 Annual Average Ambient Concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ ($\mu g/m^3$)



$PM_{2.5}$ particles are small enough to be inhaled deeply into the lungs. Once fine particles are in the lungs, they can affect the heart, blood vessels, and lungs. People exposed to fine particles over a long period of time can have more heart and lung problems than people who are not breathing this kind of air pollution. Being exposed to any kind of particulate matter may lead to increased emergency department visits and hospital stays for breathing and heart problems and other health problems.

According to 2009 data available on the Tracking Network, a 10% reduction in PM2.5 could prevent

479
Number of deaths from all causes in Michigan

387
Number of deaths from coronary artery disease in Michigan

cdc.gov/ephtracking

CDC's National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network

Michigan Data Highlights

Michigan is known as the Great Lakes State for good reason. Michigan has the longest freshwater coastline of any state in the U.S. at 3,288 miles. It also has more than 11,000 lakes and 36,000 miles of rivers and streams. With these abundant water resources, Michigan became an industrialized state and has a centuries-long history of industrial and agricultural development. Unfortunately the economic gains of this development have been achieved partially at a cost to the environment.

Environmental Hazards

Environmental contaminants from industrial and agricultural activities that are of particular concern in Michigan:

- Air pollutants, particularly in larger cities
- Arsenic in drinking water
- Mercury and organochlorine contaminants in soil, sediments, fish, and wildlife

The health risks from exposure to these contaminants are an ongoing concern for Michigan residents and public health officials. Many of these hazards are concentrated in urban areas, disproportionately affecting minority and low-income neighborhoods and raising environmental justice concerns.

Until now, Michigan has lacked an integrated system to track these environmental hazards and their related health outcomes. Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services received funding from CDC in 2014 to join the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (Tracking Program). The goals of the Michigan Tracking Program include:

- informing and educating members of the public about health risks created by the environmental contaminants in their communities,
- providing data to promote health policy decisions and deliver interventions, and
- supporting research by providing easier access to scientific data at the state and local level.

As part of the National Tracking Program, Michigan will develop a state-based, online interactive system, or tracking network, of health and environmental data. Michigan's Tracking Network is expected to launch in 2016.

Health Effects

Estimated proportion of Michigan children aged 0-17 years who were ever told by a doctor they had asthma is **15.2%** (2013 BRFS)

Estimated proportion of Michigan adults who reported they were ever diagnosed with asthma is **16.6%** (2013 BRFS)