Air Quality and Children's Health by Karine Martirosyan

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One of the most important environmental factors impacting children’s well-being is air pollution. Experts are seeking to protect young children by educating parents of the danger posed by indoor and outdoor air pollution.

For example, researchers at the [University of Southern California](http://www.usc.edu/%E2%80%8E) (USC) studied 6,000 public schoolchildren in communities with differing air pollution levels over eight years. After compiling and analyzing the collected data, the researchers concluded that air pollution gives rise to asthma and other chronic respiratory conditions.

The USC study also observed a connection between specific pollutants and respiratory illnesses in children. A rise in ambient ozone was linked to school absences. Though ozone pollution is now well-known for its negative effect on respiratory health, other lesser-known air pollutants like ultrafine particulate matter may impact children similarly.