




# **EPA Office of Air and Radiation: Update on Priority Policy Issues**



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CAPCA Spring Conference  
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# Overview

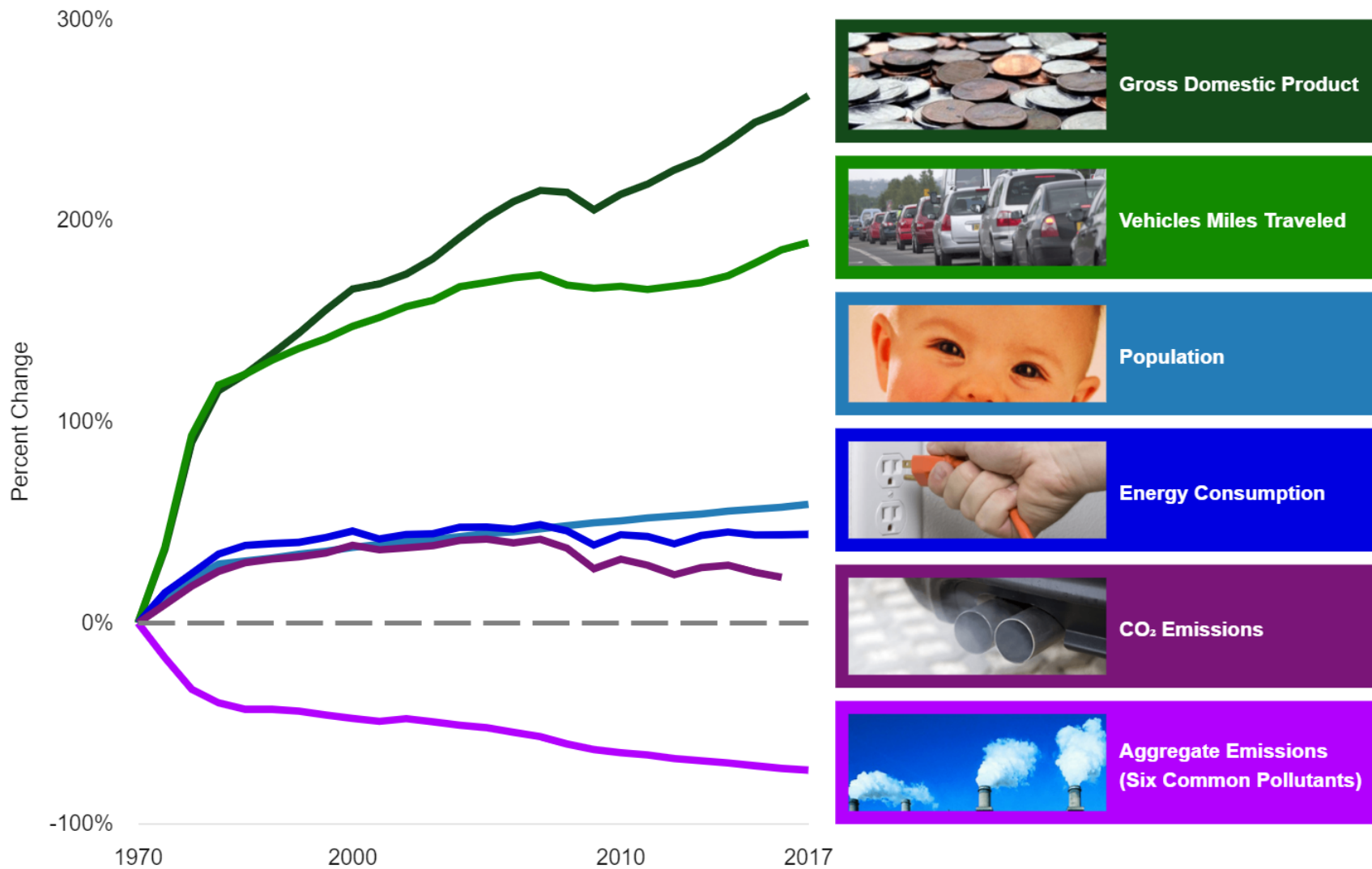


- **Air Quality Progress**
- **Update on Air Office Priorities**
- **Cross-Cutting Issues**
- **Questions**

# Air Quality Trends



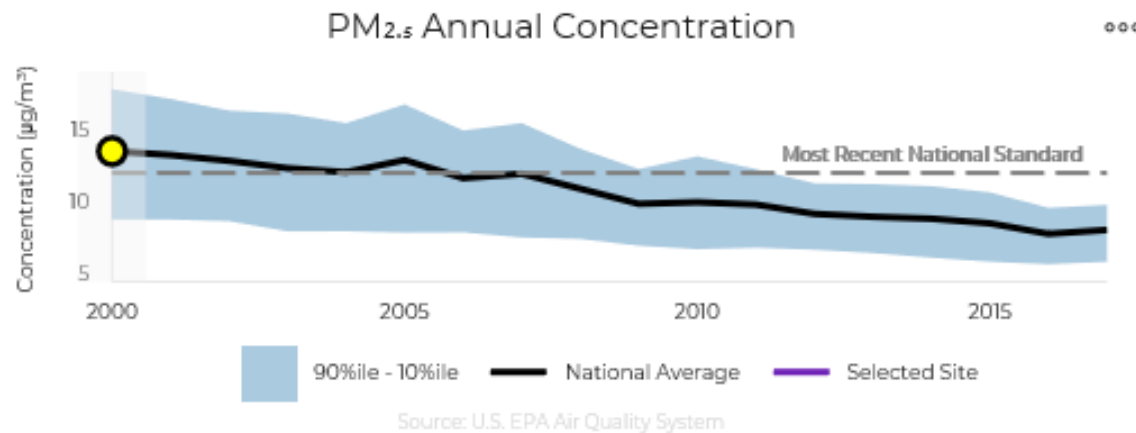
## Comparison of Growth Areas and Declining Emissions 1970-2017



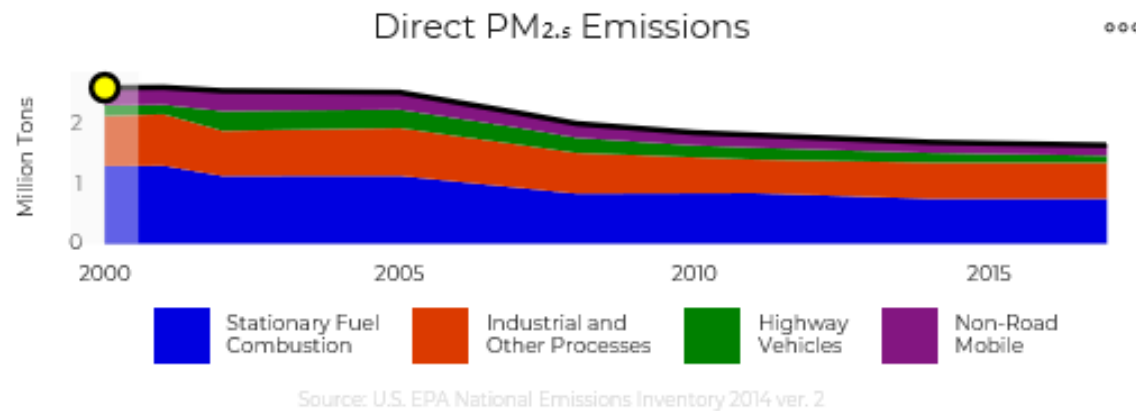
# Air Quality Trends



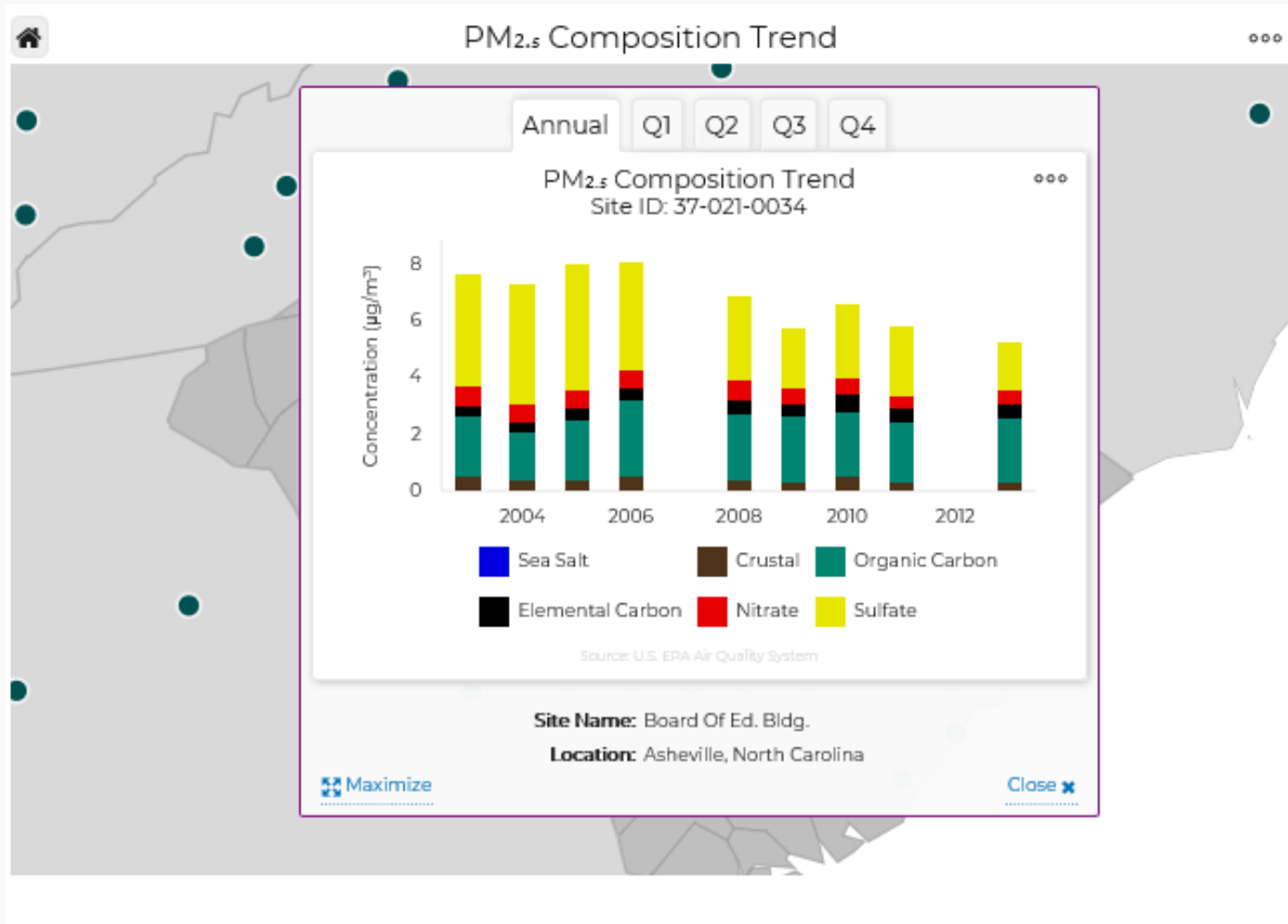
Particulate Matter 2.5 microns (Seasonally-weighted Annual Average)



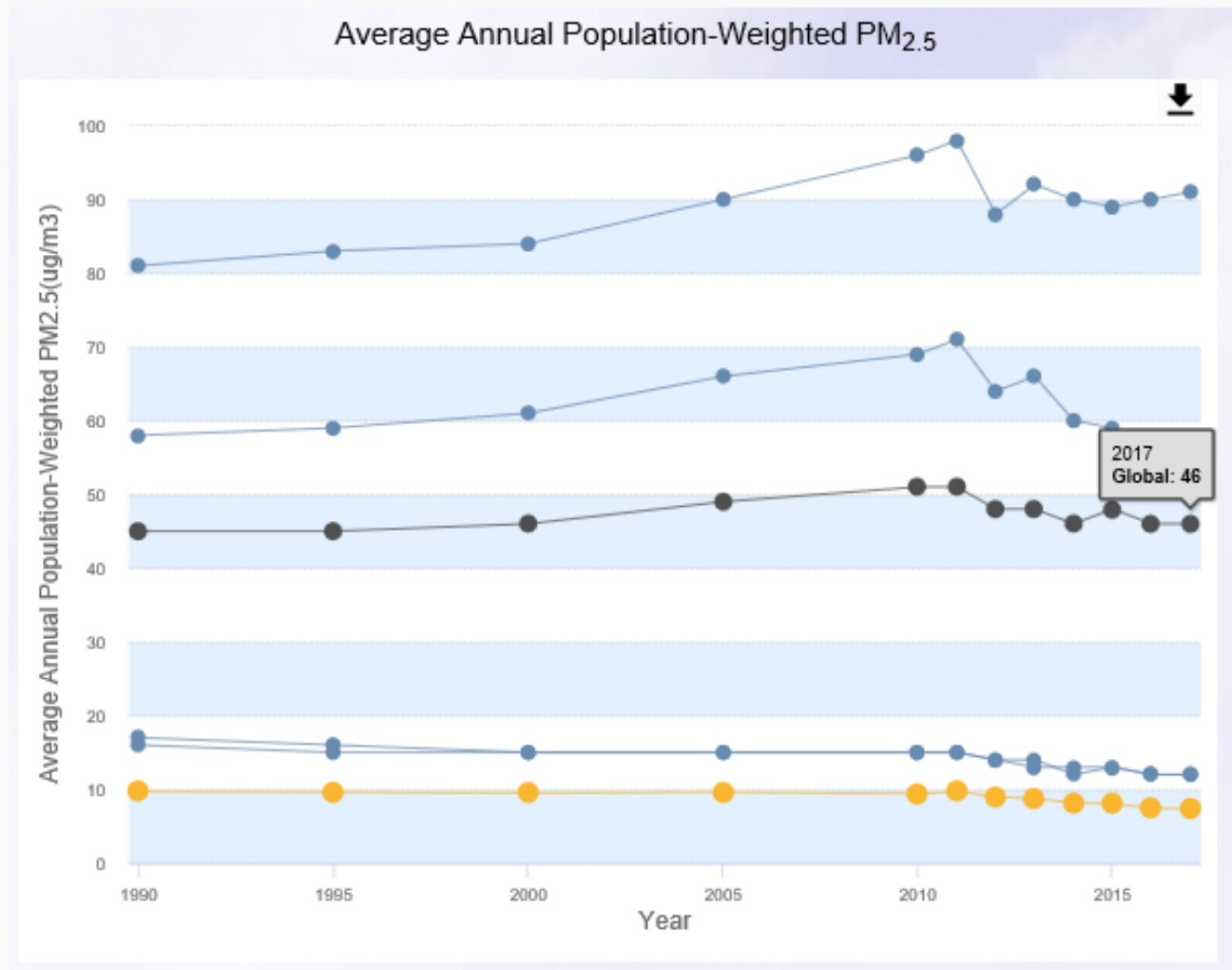
Direct PM<sub>2.5</sub> Emissions SO<sub>2</sub> Emissions NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions VOC Emissions



# Air Quality Trends



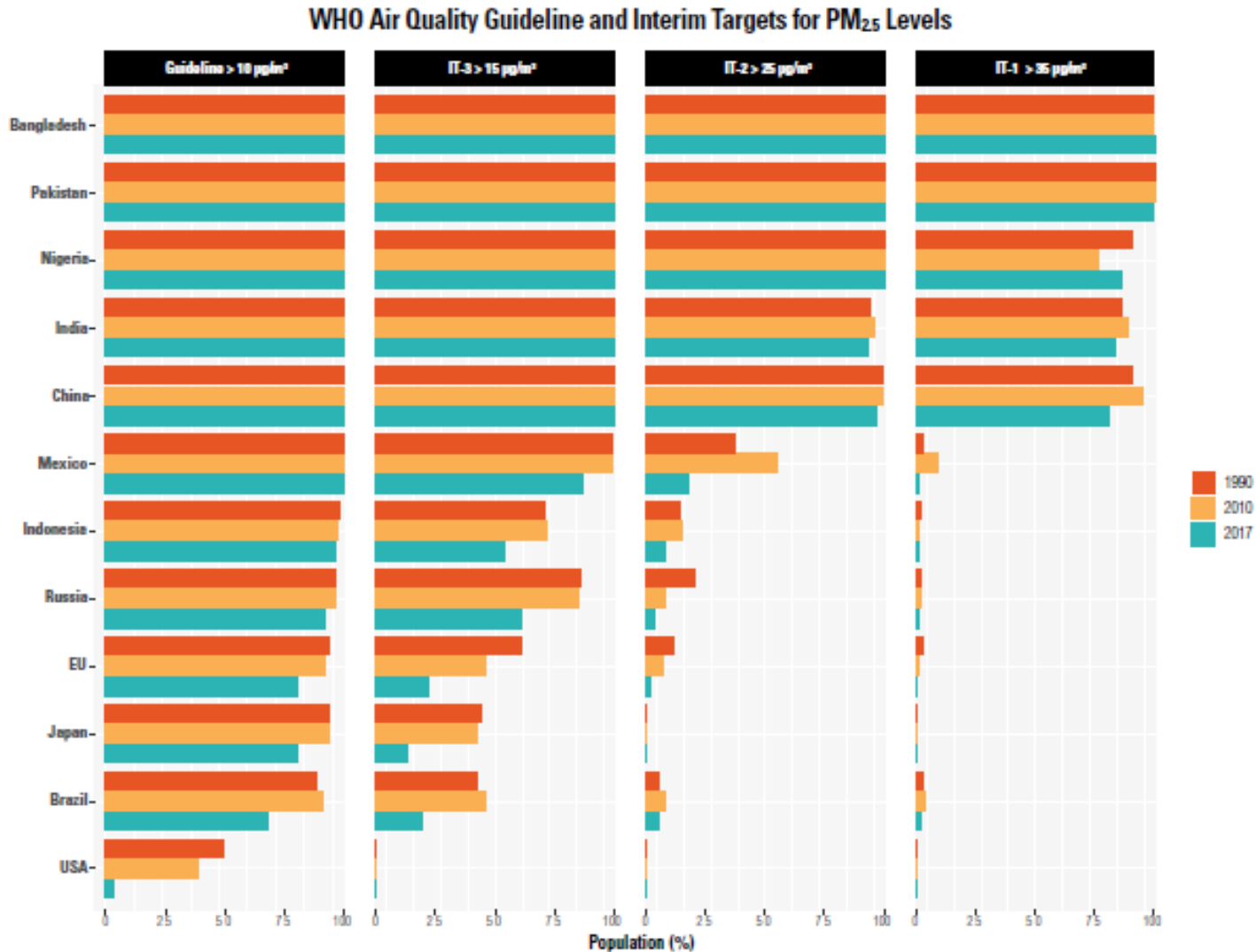
# Air Quality Trends



# Air Quality Trends



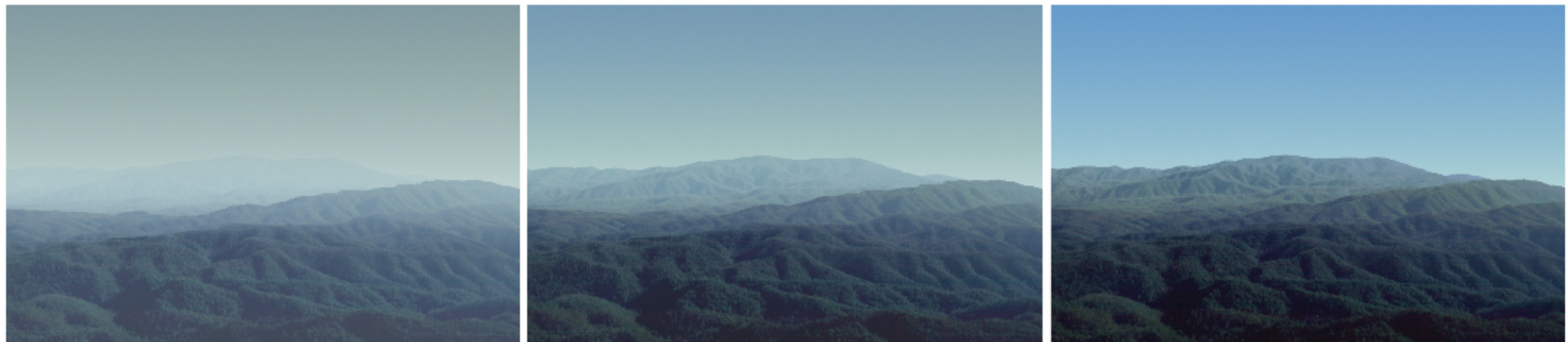
Figure 3. Percentage of population living in areas with PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations exceeding the WHO Air Quality Guideline and interim targets in the 11 most populous countries and the European Union in 1990, 2010, and 2017.



# Air Quality Trends



*More than 10 million people visited **Great Smoky Mountains National Park** in 2015, making it the most visited park in the U.S. The average visual range in Great Smoky Mountains National Park has improved from **25 miles** in 2000 to **60 miles** in 2015. Natural visibility range is **110 miles**, so we have work to do to reach natural visibility conditions.*



Simulated images of a typical hazy day during 2000-2004 (left), 2010-2014 (middle), and natural conditions (right) in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.



# OAR Priorities



- **Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) Rule**
- **Oil and Gas New Source Performance Standards**
- **Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS)**
- **Mobile Sources**
  - **The Safer Affordable Fuel Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Proposed Rule for Model Years 2021-2026**
  - **Cleaner Trucks Initiative**
  - **Tampering Policy and Treatment of Certain Vehicle Types**

# OAR Priorities



- **National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)**
  - **Standard-Setting**
  - **Designations**
  - **Implementation and Tools for Regulatory Relief**
    - **SIP Requirements**
    - **South Coast II & Revocation**
    - **Background Pollution**
    - **Addressing Interstate and International Transport**
- **Permitting and New Source Review**
- **Regional Haze**
- **Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction SIP Call**
- **Renewable Fuels**

# Cross-Cutting Issues



- **Regulatory Certainty and Cooperative Federalism**
- **Risk Communication**
- **Regional Re-organization**
- **Budget / Appropriations; Shutdown Effects**
- **Interagency Review & Relevant Executive Orders**

**QUESTIONS?**