

COMMON PARTICULATE MATTER (PM) SIZES

PM₁₀

all particles with aerodynamic diameter < 10 micro-meter

most commonly measured size fraction

PM_{2.5}

all particles with aerodynamic diameter < 2.5 micro-meter

size fraction linked to various health impacts

PM₁

all particles with aerodynamic diameter < 1 micro-meter

new research linked to health impacts

UFP

Ultra fine PM with aerodynamic diameter < 100 nano-meter

emerging research linked to health impacts

PM consists of many chemical components, and both primary and secondary processes (i.e. chemical conversion of gases) can contribute to it. Chemical composition varies significantly with size due to differences in formation mechanisms.

1 micro-meter = 1 μm = 10^{-6} m
100 nano-meter = 0.1 μm = 10^{-7} m

