

## AIR QUALITY IN IRELAND

AIR POLLUTION IS HARMFUL TO HEALTH

TRAFFIC EMISSIONS cause high levels of Nitrogen Oxide & Particulate Matter in our cities

RESIDENTIAL BURNING OF SOLID FUELS causes high levels of Particulate Matter and Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) in our towns

OZONE CONCENTRATIONS are higher in rural areas and higher in the west (because of Ozone chemistry)

Pollutants can damage the heart

and the lungs

or increase the risk of cancer

PARTICULATE MATTER CONCENTRATIONS are highest in colder, calm weather

OZONE CONCENTRATIONS are highest in warmer weather



## THERE ARE CHALLENGES AHEAD

THE INCREASE IN ROAD TRANSPORTATION means Ireland did NOT meet the 2010 EU National Emission Ceiling for Nitrogen Oxides

IRELAND IS REQUIRED UNDER EU LAW to decrease exposure to fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) by 10% between 2012 and 2020 to reduce potential impacts on human health

86% reduction in emissions of sulphur dioxide between 1990 and 2010

The impact of emissions from industry on air quality has significantly reduced due to licensing and control by the EPA and others

The ban on bituminous coal in cities & towns has greatly reduced the levels of particulate pollution in those areas

359 fewer cardiovascular & respiratory deaths every year in Dublin

