Planetary and Global Health Vital Signs

1% of the global population breathes healthy air, with air pollution causing 6.7 million deaths annually (UICC)\(^1\)

6/9 of the planetary boundaries identified as safe for humanity have been crossed (Mongabay)\(^2\)

80% of people displaced by climate change are women (UNHR OHCR)\(^6\)

1.5°C is the global temperature rise ceiling to avoid catastrophic climate warming (IPPC)\(^7\)

1K-10K times higher rate of extinction today then the natural extinction rate (WEF)\(^3\)

5g of plastic is the average amount of plastic a person could ingest weekly (World Wildlife Fund)\(^5\)

5% of the world’s indigenous population stewards 80% of the world’s biodiversity (World Wildlife Fund)\(^8\)

45% of greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced by 2030 to reach net zero by 2050 (United Nations)\(^9\)

---

1. \(\text{https://www.uic.edu/news/events/health-world-crisis-reversing-progress-boost-air-control}\)
2. \(\text{https://www.mongabay.com/2020/carbon-roads-sees-slash-9-planetary-boundaries}\)
3. \(\text{https://www.worldwildlife.org/magazine/summer-2021/extinction-rate-mass-extinction-doomsday}\)
4. \(\text{https://www.worldwildlife.org/news/2022/05/global-extinction-rate}\)
5. \(\text{https://www.worldwildlife.org/news/2022/05/global-extinction-rate}\)
7. \(\text{https://www.un.org/en/sections/2022/05/united-nations-corporate-office-ohchr}\)
8. \(\text{https://www.un.org/en/sections/2022/05/united-nations-corporate-office-ohchr}\)
9. \(\text{https://www.un.org/en/sections/2022/05/united-nations-corporate-office-ohchr}\)
8.5% of overall greenhouse gas emission are created by the U.S. health sector (The Commonwealth Fund)

1/3 of people around the world lack access to essential health services (World Bank)

57% of animal-based food, including feed production are linked to greenhouse gas emissions (AHRQ)

3 areas of climate solution focus in the health sector: what we do, what we burn, and what we buy (See You Now Podcast)

79% of Black Americans are more likely than White Americans to live in areas with high industrial pollution (Climate Reality Project)

92% of countries experienced disruption of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic (World Health Organization)

2B people are experiencing catastrophic or impoverishing health expenditures (World Health Organization)

2x more Black and Latinx households go without functional water or wastewater compared to white households (The Lancet)
1 in 5 people have experienced at least one form of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law (United Nations)¹

24M learners are at risk of never returning to school (United Nations)²

700M+ of people live in countries with high and critical levels of water stress (United Nations)³

99% of the world’s urban populations breathe polluted air (United Nations)⁴

22.7M children missed basic vaccines in 2020 (United Nations)⁵

1 in 3 people worldwide lack access to adequate food (United Nations)⁶

1/2 of all women lack access to make their own decisions on sex and reproductive health care (United Nations)⁷

30M nurses globally could be the projected nursing workforce shortage by the International Council of Nurses (ICN)⁸

Increased access to high quality education and family planning for women and girls doubles as a gender equity and climate solution (United Nations)⁹