

MOST VULNERABLE STUDENT POPULATIONS TO WILDFIRE SMOKE



DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN AGED 0-5

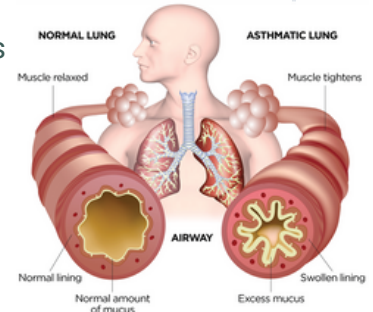


Wildfire is more dangerous to children because their lungs are still developing, they breathe more quickly and spend more time outdoors.

In addition, children may have a chronic disease that has not been identified yet.

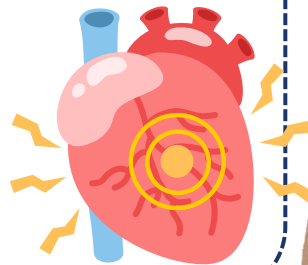
STUDENTS WITH ASTHMA

Wildfire smoke increases asthma symptoms like difficulty breathing, wheezing, and coughing. This may cause more reliance on rescue inhalers and possible emergency room visits.



STUDENTS WITH HEART CONDITIONS

Wildfire smoke exposure is linked to chest pain, heart palpitations and emergency room visits.



STUDENTS WITH OTHER LUNG ISSUES

Wildfire smoke exposure increases symptoms like shortness of breath, chest tightness, and fatigue or dizziness.



STUDENTS WITH DIABETES

Wildfire smoke exposure increases dehydration and has been associated with an increase in symptoms of diabetes.



STUDENT ATHLETES

Increased rate of breathing exposes lungs to increased levels of wildfire smoke, leading to inflammation, coughing, shortness of breath, and susceptibility to respiratory illness



For more information, visit airquality.mt.gov