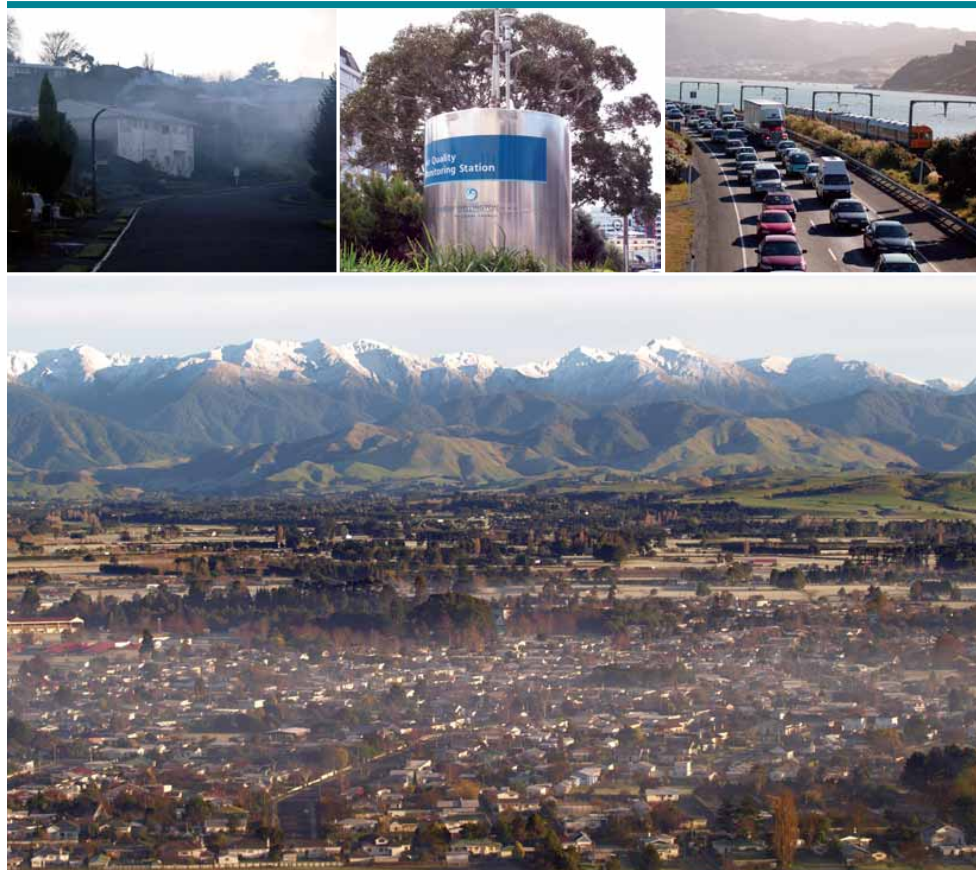


# Air quality in the Wellington region

State and trends

Quality for Life



The morning after – smoke clearing from domestic fires in Masterton

## Air Quality in Wellington

- Wellington City: despite full compliance with air quality guidelines at transport monitoring sites, a national screening programme carried out by the New Zealand Transport Authority has shown that nitrogen dioxide concentrations may be elevated on some heavily trafficked local roads which are surrounded by buildings that interfere with the dispersal of pollutants.
- some impact on air quality in areas adjacent to the Port of Wellington as a result of sulphur dioxide emissions from shipping activities in Wellington Harbour.
- Emissions from domestic fires used for home heating are the major source of PM10 contributing to poor winter air quality in some parts of the region, including Masterton, Upper Hutt, Wainuiomata, Carterton, Featherston and Raumati South. Most of this PM10 is emitted in the form of PM2.5 – a finer fraction (and a component of PM10) which is more strongly associated with adverse health effects than PM10 – which, on cold, calm and clear nights, is likely to exceed both the WHO (2006) guidelines.
- The Wairarapa airshed has been deemed ‘polluted’ after September 2012 when it breached National Air Quality Standards.
- In Wainuiomata where CCA treated timber is used as an intermittent fuel source arsenic has found to be emitted.

From [Air Quality in the Wellington Region](#). Greater Wellington Regional Council (2012).