

FACTORS INFLUENCING INDIVIDUAL NITROGEN DIOXIDE EXPOSURE IN STOCKHOLM

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AIM OF THE STUDY



Individual exposure to NO₂



Personal exposure - Ambient air level



Residence - Workplace



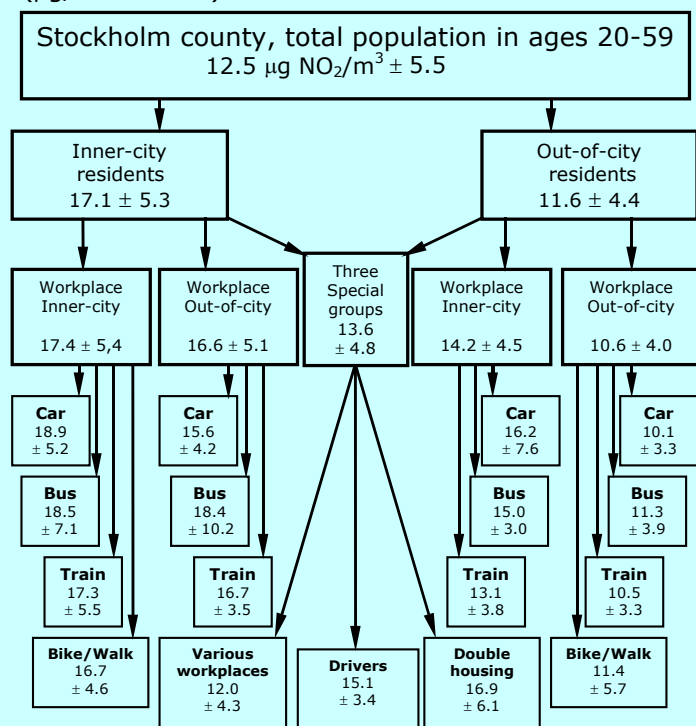
Mode of transportation

MATERIALS & METHODS

- Random population sample of 240 persons
 - aged 20 - 59 years
 - non-smokers
 - permanent work within Stockholm County
 - no gas appliances at home
- Stratification by location of home, work and mode of transport to work
- Individual NO₂ exposure by small diffusion monitors carried for a week at two occasions, in the period May 1999 - May 2000. Daily activity patterns recorded in diary
- Air levels of NO₂ at workplace and home from dispersion modeling
- Urban street and background levels from at three fixed monitoring stations

RESULTS

Stockholm County inhabitants' exposure to NO₂ (µg/m³ ± stdev)



- Inner-city residents were more exposed than out-of-city residents.
- For out-of-city residents, place of work was important.
- Mode of transport did not seem important.

Factors influencing personal NO₂ exposure
Multiple regression model, r²=0.46

Factor	IQR	Coef. µg/m ³	95 % C.I.
NO ₂ at residential address	12.3	0.26	0.19 0.33
NO ₂ at workplace	11.9	0.22	0.16 0.28
NO ₂ at street level	8.2	0.27	0.17 0.35
NO ₂ at roof level	4.6	0.15	0.03 0.27
Bedroom facing large street (prop.)	7.3%	2.6	1.4 3.8
Hours in room with gas. appl.	0.0*	0.44	0.34 0.55
Hours in smoky room/free flames	5	0.26	0.18 0.35
Hours in traffic/garage	6.5	0.15	0.05 0.25

- Individual one week exposure levels were strongly correlated to the estimated annual average levels at home and work
- Bedroom facing a large street increased the exposure level
- Individual exposure levels were correlated to the current street (more) and urban background (less) levels
- Time spent in certain environments influenced the individual exposure level:
 - in a room with gas appliance
 - in a room with free flames or smoke
 - in traffic or a garage

*Only 33 out of 383 weeks of measurement had times greater than 0, up to 24 hours

CONCLUSIONS

- Individual NO₂ exposure varied mainly due to estimated NO₂ levels at home address and work
- Variation in NO₂ at street level was correlated to individual NO₂ exposure. Roof level variation was less influential.
 - Time spent in traffic was only weakly related to individual NO₂ exposure
 - Mode of transport had no significant influence on individual NO₂ exposure.
 - Indoor sources may give significant contributions