

25 November 2025

From Inspections to IAQ Measurement:

Exploring Databases for Better Indoor Environments

French National Ventilation Observatory (ONV)







Presented byAntoine MISCHLER CEO



Legal and regulatory context



In buildings and parts of buildings used for residential purposes, in order to ensure that it is functioning properly, any ventilation system in the building shall be checked and its performance measured by a person recognized as competent by the Minister responsible for construction, in accordance with the provisions set out in Annex VIII. The operator shall comply with the ventilation system verification protocol referred to in the same annex.

Decree of August 4, 2021 on energy and environmental performance requirements for building construction in mainland France, Article 20



Legal and regulatory context

- Mandatory inspection since January 2023 of the ventilation systems for every new residential building
- The inspection is performed according to the RE 2020 Ventilation Protocol
- This inspection shall be performed by a qualified tester (by qualification named "Qualibat 8741")

French National Ventilation Observatory (ONV)



Legal and regulatory context

Each authorized operator must report to the national ventilation observatory either manually or automatically for all of its operations.

The observatory will then compile the data and make it available to the public.

Specifications for qualification bodies available on rt-re-batiment.developpement-durable.gouv.fr

Mandatory recording of every control on the French National Ventilation Observatory required by the qualification framework

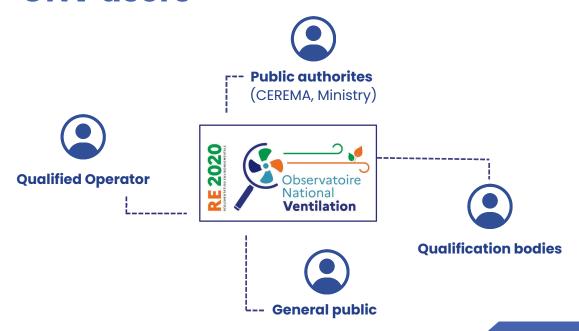
Goals of the ONV

- Monitoring the compliance over time with the regulatory requirement
- Objectifying the results of public policy on indoor air quality and identifying any deviations or areas for improvement in the sector
- Communication tool aimed at the general public and construction industry professionals

French National Ventilation
Observatory (ONV)

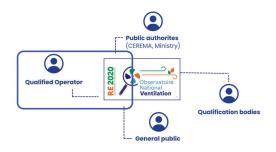
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ONV users

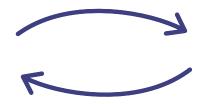


ONV users

Publishes inspection results









Downloads inspection registry



ONV users

Download summary of inspection published by a qualified operator







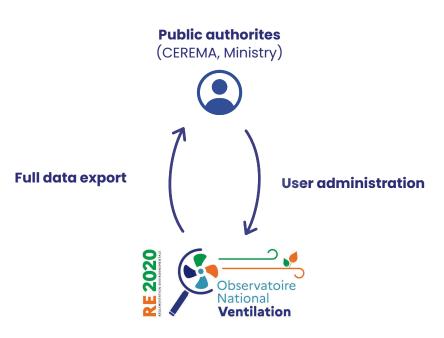


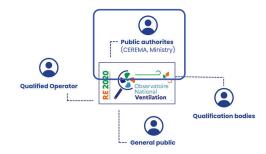
Qualified operator account creation request



Qualification bodies

ONV users

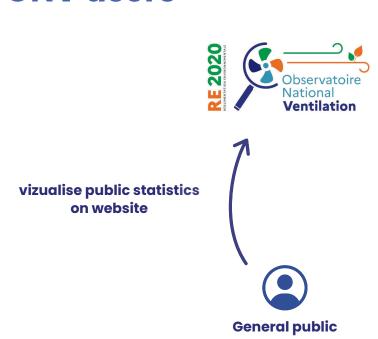




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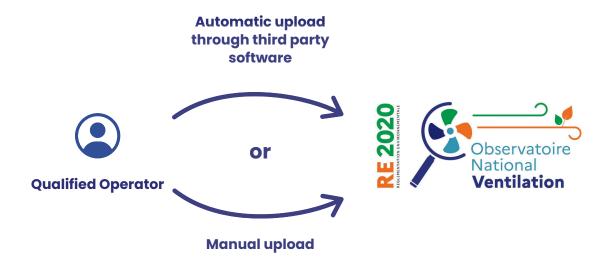
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ONV users





Inspection results publication



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Manual upload

Administrative information, building characteristics, and consolidated results

Informations Géné	rales		Loge	ments
Référence du rapport *	PC00000000A0000-202407-0051	Logement *	Type *	Shab *
Nom de l'opération *	M. Jean Dupont		1 74 1 SdB + 1 WC	107,7
Label visé *	Aucun			
Date de vérification sur site *	17/4/24			
Statut de l'opération *	A réception			
Bâtiment				
Identifiant du Bâtiment *	Dupont - 1 rue toto			
Code postal *	59000			
Type de bâtiment *	Individuel			
Permis de construire groupé *	Non			
Q4Pa-surf (m³/h/m² à 4Pa)	0,2714			
Nombre de logements du bâtiment desservis par le système *	1			
Echantillonnage des logements *	Non			
Nombre de logements à contrôler desservis par le système **	1			
Altitude	229			
Nombre de caissons de ventilation du bâtiment *	1			
Echantillonnage des caissons de ventilation *	Non			
Nombre de caissons de ventilation controlés **	1			
Caisson de ventila	ation			
Identifiant du système *	ALDES EasyHOME Hygro PREMIUM MW			
Type de système *	Simple Flux Hygro B			
Nombre d'ouïes	5			
Type de distribution	Logement dans son ensemble			
Fabricant	ALDES			
Type des conduits majoritaire	Cylindriques			
Nature des conduits majoritaire	Souple			
Configuration mesures fo				
Type de mesures aux bouches d'extraction *	Pression			
Incertitude mesure en pression **	Forfaitaire			

Manual upload

Detailed list of points checked

Point *			Nombre de pièces contrôlées **	Nombre de pièces valides **	Pièce(s) invalide(s) (Saisir 1 typologie concernée - Laissez vide sinon)								
	Statut *				Cuisine	SdB	wc	SdB+WC	Sanitaire	Buanderie	Salle d'eau	Chambre	Séjour
G1	Conforme/Validé												
G2	Conforme/Validé												
G3	Conforme/Validé												
G4	Conforme/Validé												
G7	Conforme/Validé												
G8	Conforme/Validé												
C1	Conforme/Validé												
C2	✓ Conforme/Val	idé											
C3	Non conforme												
C6	Non vérifiable												
C12													
C14	Sans objet												
C15	Non conforme/Non												
C16	Conforme/Validé												
C17	Conforme/Validé												
C18	Conforme/Validé												
C19	Conforme/Validé												
C30	Conforme/Validé												
C33	Conforme/Validé												
C34	Conforme/Validé												
C35	Conforme/Validé												
C36	Conforme/Validé												
R1	Conforme/Validé												
								_					_

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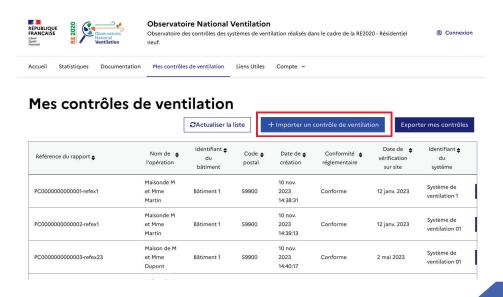
Manual upload

flow and/or pressure measurements

Logement *	Pièce *	Position de la bouche en débit nominal minimal (bouche cuisine des systèmes autorégables), débit nominal (systèmes autorégiables), débit réduit ou hygrorégiable (systèmes hygrorégiables)				Position de la bouche en débit nominal, complémentaire ou non, (systèmes autoréglables), nominal temporisé (systèmes hygroréglables), uniquement pour les bouches Cuisine, SdB/WC et WC				
		Type de mesure *	Min *	Max **	Valeur mesurée *	Type de mesure **	Min **	Max **	Valeur mesurée **	
1	Cuisine	Pression	80	160	155	Pression	70	160	88,4	
1	SdB	Pression	80	160	126,5					
1	WC	Pression	80	160		Pression	80	160	131,5	

Manual upload

operator online web interface



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Third party software upload



Third party software upload

Public API documentation



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Data validation

Mes contrôles de ventilation



- Strong data validation on upload
- Ensures data quality
- and statistical consistency

Statistics page



Statistiques

Découvrez les principales statistiques issues des vérifications des systèmes de ventilation réalisées dans le cadre de la RE2020. Vous pouvez interagir avec les graphiques afin de préciser votre besoin et obtenir les résultats qui vous sont utiles.

Vous pouvez réinitialiser l'affichage et télécharger chaque graphique grâce aux icônes situés en bas à droite.

Les graphiques sont issus des résultats des vérifications des systèmes de ventilation réalisées dans le cadre de la RE2020 et saisis par les opérateurs qualifiés dans la base de données de l'Observatoire National Ventilation. Seuls les résultats complets sont pris en compte dans les statistiques.

Nombre de contrôles actuellement téléchargés dans l'Observatoire National Ventilation : 29852

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Observatory (ON)

RÉPUBLIQUI FRANÇAISE James James James



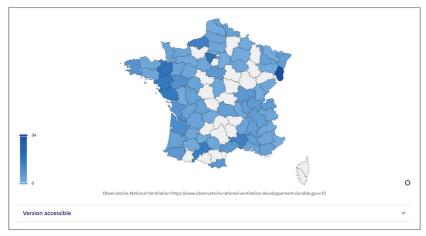
Public statistics

Geographic location of qualified operators

1. Localisation géographique des opérateurs reconnus

Carte interactive de la France métropolitaine représentant le nombre d'opérateurs reconnus par département.

Vous avez la possibilité de zoomer sur la carte et de sélectionner les bornes inférieures et supérieures à afficher sur la carte.

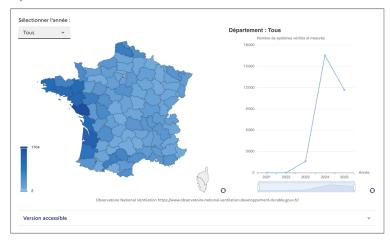


Geographic location of inspections

2. Localisation géographique des vérifications et mesures

Carte interactive de la France métropolitaine représentant le nombre de vérifications et mesures par département et par année.

Vous avez la possibilité de zoomer sur la carte et de sélectionner les bornes inférieures et supérieures à afficher sur la carte. La sélection d'un département mets à jour le graphique en courbe avec les données du département. Vous avez la possibilité de zoomer sur une année précise avec la barre horizontale sous le graphique.



French National Ventilation Observatory (ONV) REPUBLIQUE OF CHARGONS OF CHAR

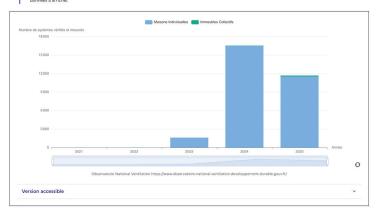
Public statistics

Change over time in the number of systems inspected

3. Évolution dans le temps du nombre de systèmes vérifiés et mesurés par an

Nombre de systèmes de ventilation vérifiés et mesurés, par type de bâtiment et par année.

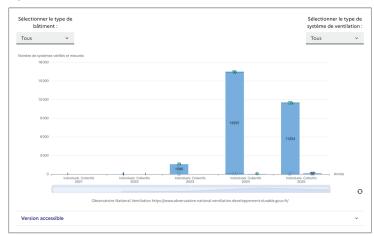
Vous avez la possibilité de zoomer sur une année précise avec la barre horizontale sous le graphique. Vous pouvez sélectionner dans la légende la ou les séries de données à afficher.



Types of ventilation system by building type

4. Types de systèmes de ventilation par type de bâtiment

mbre de systèmes de ventilation vérifiés et mesurés, par type de bâtiment, type de système de ventilation et par année.



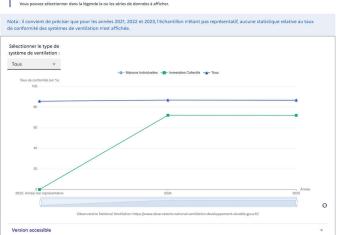
French National Ventilation Observatory (ONV)

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE General Construction de l'Action de l'Action

Public statistics

Number of compliant ventilation systems

5. Nombre de systèmes de ventilation conformes Taux de conformité par typologie de système de ventilation, par type de bâtiment et par année.

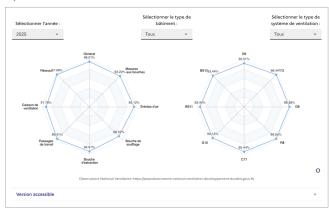


Compliance rate for mandatory checkpoints and measurement points

6. Taux de conformité des points de vérification et de mesure obligatoires

Taux de conformité des points de vérification et de mesure obligatoires, par type de bâtiment, par type de système de ventilation et par année Le graphique radar de gauche représente les taux de conformité (en %) obtenus pour les différentes rubriques de vérifications et de mesure des systèmes

En survolant les graphiques en radar, le détail des données s'affiche.







Project team









Project owner

Project management support

Consulting, development and hosting

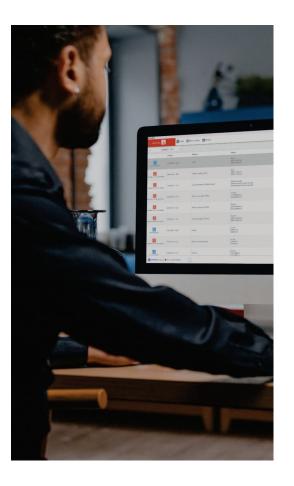
Project management

- ONV developed in two steps
- First version: only collecting data published on October 18, 2023
- Second version: public statistics published on April 14, 2025

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Next steps?

- Improved management of inspections versioning and inspections performed by multiple operators
- Integration of mandatory airtightness measurement results (envelope and air ducts)

Useful links

- French National Ventilation Observatory
 https://www.observatoire-national-ventilation.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/
- Official ministry website on RE 2020 https://rt-re-batiment.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/verification-des-systemes-de-ventilation-a561.html
- Ventilation Resource Center, the reference site for building ventilation https://www.batiment-ventilation.fr
- VIP 48.2: Trends in building ventilation requirements and inspection in France https://www.aivc.org/resource/vip-482-trends-building-ventilation-requirements-and-inspection-france?volume=33977

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Thank you for your attention

WWW.DOOAPP.COM



OVERVIEW

Ventilation inspection database

- Context
- Process
- · Who has access?
- Content
- · Surveillance on content
- Results
- Conclusion



CONTEXT - REGULATION IN FLANDERS

- Ministerial Decision 28 October 2015:
 - Ventilation predesign at declaration of start and ventilation performance report at EPB-registration
 - Quality framework
 - Applies to building permits after 1/1/2016 in Flanders
 - Only for residential buildings
 - · New building or major renovation
- Government Decision 9 October 2020
 - · Supervision by independent quality organisation
 - 10% on site and desktop audits of measurements/reports
 - · Control of reliability of inspection

Ventilatievoorontwerp

Lisia vendadar enkort in soon ven heliji Lisipi

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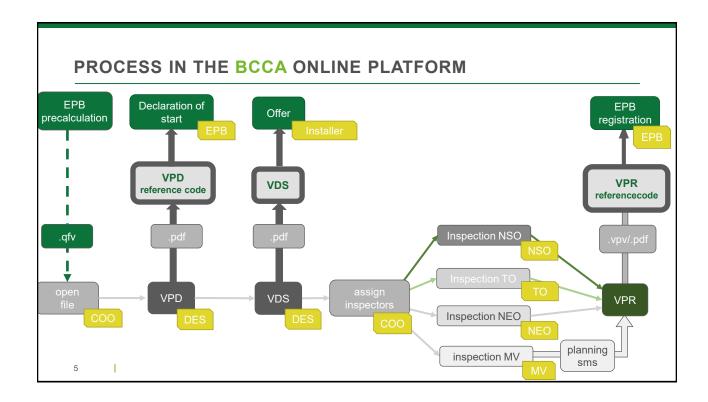
EPB-PROCESS IN FLANDERS REGION

- Building design (architect)
- · Building permit
- EPB start declaration (before first brick is laid) by EPB assessor: estimation of energy performance and indoor climate
- · Building process...
 - Foundations
 - Walls
 - ٠ ..
 - · Windows (with trickle vent)
 - •
 - Ducting
 - · Fan / ventilation unit
 - ...
 - Occupation
- Maximum 6 months after occupation: EPB registration by EPB assessor as-built Energy Performance and indoor climate of the building

2 years

1

4



ACCESS

- · Backoffice: helpdesk, registrations, logistics of sending auditors
- · BCCA auditors: check planned inspections, check inspection reports, check measurement results
- Recognised ventilation inspectors
- Public and authorities

1

ACCESS - RECOGNISED VENTILATION INSPECTORS

- · Who can become ventilation inspector?
 - → Everybody involved in the building process:
 - Architect
 - Engineer
 - EPB-assessor
 - · Ventilation installer
 - · Window installer
 - Carpenter
 - · Airtightness measurer
 - Producer

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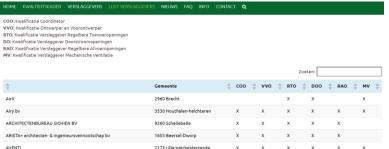
- •
- Open system: convince the market by engaging different people, motivate all parties to deliver quality
- · Different people can work together on same project: at first sight complex, but in the end more efficient

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ACCESS - RECOGNISED VENTILATION INSPECTORS

- Voluntary training: 1 day
- · Theoretical examination
 - 10-50 questions depending on aspect
 - · Exam per aspect
- · Measuring air flows: practical examination: 10 air flow measurements, check measurement devices
- Agreement with certification body, online





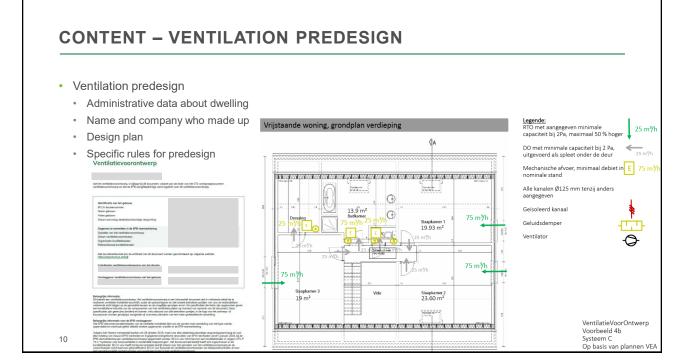
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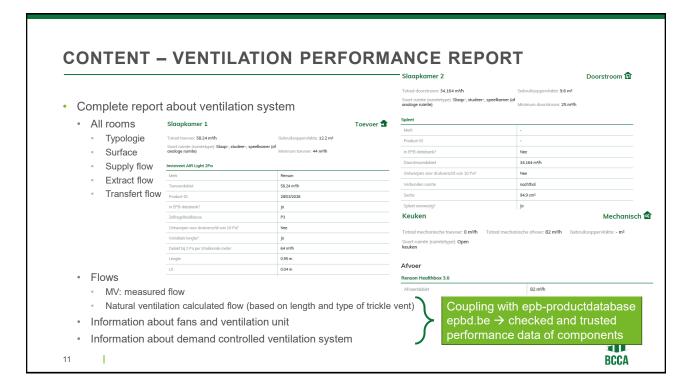
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ACCESS - PUBLIC AND AUTHORITIES Ventilatieprestatieverslag Check availability Check latest version verklaart in naam van dat het ventilatieprestatieverslag, in bijlage bij dit document, werd opgemaakt conform STS-P 73-1 en het STS werkgroepdocument en dat het ventilatieprestatieverslag zal worden overgemaakt aan de EPB-aangifteplichtige. Identificatie van de EPB-eenheid BCCA dossiernummer: Naam eenheid: Adres eenheid: EPB-nummer: Datum aanvraag stedenbouwkundige vergunning: Datum ventilatieprestatieverslag: 11/09/2025 BCCA vzw Organisator kwaliteitskader: Referentiecode kwaliteitskader: Met de referentiecode kan de echtheid van dit document worden gecontroleerd op volgende website: Referentiecode ventilatieontwerpspecificaties:

BCCA

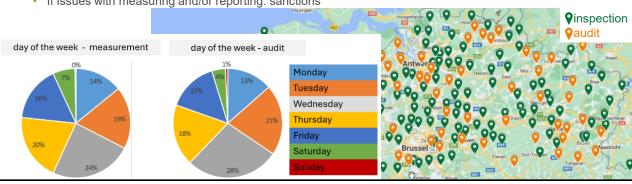
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RELIABLE CONTENT - SURVEILLANCE

- Announce every measurement in database: planning and sms
- Measurements in database
- Unannounced audits: during/just after measurement
- Declaration of conformity ventilation report by ventilation inspector
- If issues with measuring and/or reporting: sanctions

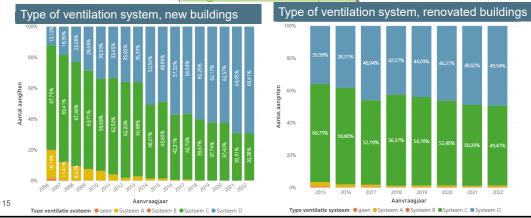






RESULTS

- · Measurement results are transferred to VEKA
- Facilitate data transfer
- Public data available at VEKA (Energiekaart Vlaanderen | VEKA)





CONCLUSION

- · Database running for about 10 years
- Content
 - · Ventilation predesign
 - Ventilation performance report: complete description of the ventilation system
 - · Attention for reliability of the content
- · Importance of surveillance to keep data reliable
- Relation with EPB



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Thank you for your attention Questions?

Maarten De Strycker

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ASBL BELGIAN CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATION ASSOCIATION VZW

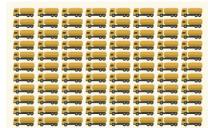
www.bcca.be • mail@bcca.be
Hermeslaan, 9 - 1831 Diegem
T +32 (0)2 238 24 11



Why air quality matters, in schools and beyond...

We breathe a lot of air - that air often contains pollutants. We wouldn't drink, nor even bathe, in polluted water!

Indoor air quality – IAQ – describes how polluted the air we breathe is. **Manage by:**



We breathe 180 tanker trucks of air at school.

- **Source control** is the first thing to consider is removing/mitigating the source; this works well for some VOCs, e.g., by more careful choice of furnishings, paints, cleaning products, arts/crafts activities, etc.
- Ventilation, the process of refreshing indoor air with air from outdoors, is the core means of managing IAQ by diluting pollutants indoors.
- Air cleaning is a secondary measure to consider to assist ventilation, as required.

Potential co-benefits of improving indoor environments and indoor air quality

- Better learning from higher cognitive function higher productivity at work
- More consistent attendance as better health follows lower infection spread
- Improved long-term health of pupils/employees exposed to healthier learning/working environments
- Massive potential to reduce energy costs through lower heating/cooling loads
 - o Significant investment required but necessary for 'net-zero' future
- Schools are a great place to gather evidence...

3



What is SAMHE?

- SAMHE stands for Schools' Air quality Monitoring for Health and Education.
- SAMHE started in 2022 and is a research project working with UK schools to improve understanding of indoor air quality.
- SAMHE started as a collaboration between Imperial College London, University of Cambridge, SEI/University of York, University of Surrey, University of Leeds, and the UK Health Security Agency

How does SAMHE measure air quality?

To measure school air quality at scale, SAMHE uses citizen science. 1000+ schools have been sent air quality monitors which measure:



The SAMHE monitor

- Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)
- Relative Humidity
- Temperature
- Total Volatile Organic Compounds
- Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})



5

The SAMHE method: working with schools

Schools received and set up a SAMHE monitor



SAMHE team set activities on the codesigned SAMHE Web App



Pupils complete fun activities (24), learning about air quality and inputting important contextual data



SAMHE scientists analyse data to report on air quality in UK classrooms, schools can download own data





SAMHE uses citizen science, why?

- Allows us to gather real-world data from hundreds of classrooms
- Pupils and teachers gain knowledge and understanding of air quality
- Pupils gain skills in interpreting graphs, analysing data, doing experiments, writing creatively, etc.
- Pupils and staff can see the air quality in classrooms and know what action to take to improve it
- Collaborative co-design ensured the SAMHE Web App meets pupil and teachers' needs and that they use it!



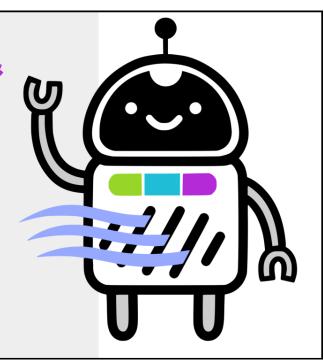
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SAMHE

SAMHE: engagement to impact

- These monitors are now gathering around 100,000 'school data days' every year from around 450 schools
- Each 'school data day' provides a day's worth of measurements every minute of:
 - Carbon dioxide
 - Temperature
 - Humidity
 - Particulate Matter
 - TVOCs

SAMHE findings & recommendations for ventilation and air quality in schools





'

Ventilation and carbon dioxide

Ventilation, the process of refreshing indoor air with air from outdoors, is the most important means of maintaining good indoor air quality

People give off ${\rm CO_2}$ when they breathe, and it is removed by ventilation.

The number of people in a room, their age, and their activities affect the amount of CO₂ they produce.

We can estimate how well-ventilated a classroom is from the level of carbon dioxide measured on SAMHE monitors.





Ventilation and the weather

Many SAMHE classrooms use windows to provide ventilation - with the government guidance for classrooms coming from BB101.

People open windows more when it's warm, so ventilation rates are closely linked to outdoor temperatures.

So we started by looking at the outdoor temperature across the UK over the Autumn 2023 school term.



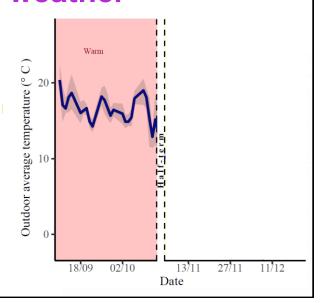


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Ventilation and the weather

Over last Autumn's school term, there were four distinct weather periods:

First a warm period (shaded pink on the graph), then





Ventilation and the weather

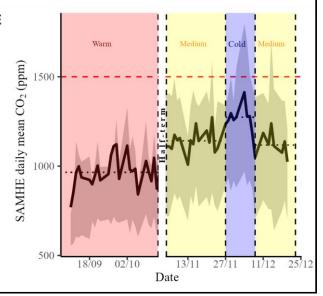
Using these same weather bands, the SAMHE CO₂ concentrations are:

- Lower during the warm weather period, and
- Higher during the cold weather period,
- Levels during the medium weather periods fall in between.

In the cold period, SAMHE monitors sometimes measured CO₂ levels higher than the government guidelines.

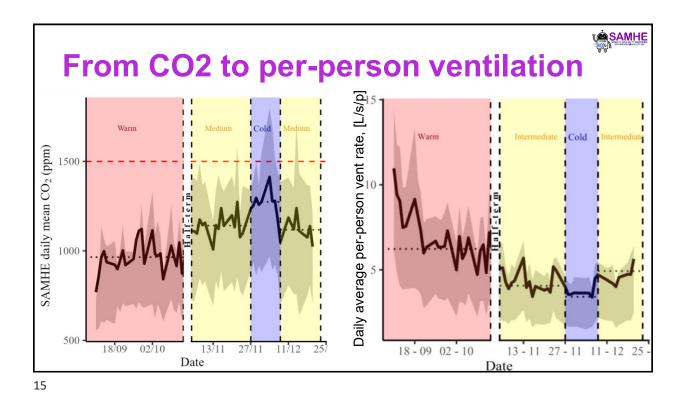
Recommendation: establish training classroom staff on air quality; provide monitors and encourage staff to use them





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Adherence to BB101 guidance BB101 specifies that CO₂ levels averaged Fraction of classrooms failing to over the school day fall below 1,500 ppm comply with BB101 within naturally ventilated (95% of UK) classrooms 0.2 When warm outside most classrooms can comply with BB101 When cold outside about 20% of 0.1 classrooms fail to comply with BB101 Recommendation: provide training and improve support of school staff to manage good ventilation even on cold days School day mean outdoor temperature (°C)



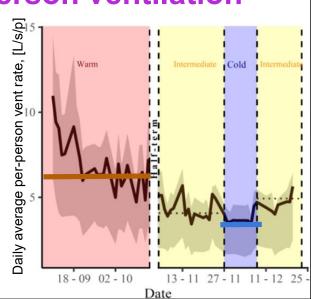
From CO2 to per-person ventilation

When warm outside almost classrooms are able to comply with BB101 BUT ventilation rates are about 6 L/s/p

When cold outside ventilation rates fall to about 4 L/s/p

Generally, 8-10 L/s/p recommended for healthy environment (e.g. ASHRAE 62.1, EN 16798-1, Part F for offices)

Recommendation: update BB101 to focus on achieving 'good' levels of ventilation



©SAMHE

What we learnt about levels of classroom ventilation

As we have such a lot of data, we can 'control' for the weather and determine what factors significantly affect ventilation:

Schools in area of greater deprevation showed lower ventilation and higher CO₂ levels.

Recommendation: when investing in schools consider adressing this inbalance.

- Schools with more pupils than their 'school capacity' target, showed lower ventilation and higher CO₂ levels than those which did not.
- Recommendation: keep pupil numbers below the published 'school capacity'.

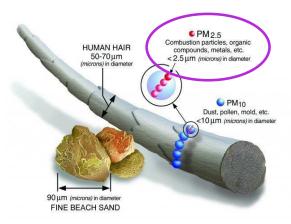
Good ventilation does not guarantee 'good' air quality - what more should be done?



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Particulate matter in classrooms

- "Particulate matter" is the mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air
- Particulate matter PM_{2.5} is a key pollutant present indoors
- We know that exposure to PM_{2.5} is associated with negative health outcomes



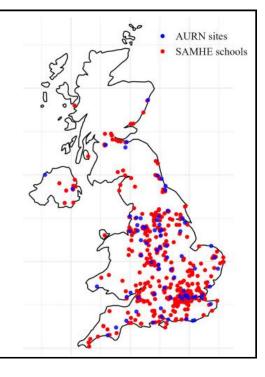


PM_{2.5} can come into classrooms from outside

We know PM_{2.5} can come into schools from outdoors...

We compared the SAMHE schools data set to outdoor PM concentrations at government **AURN** stations near schools.

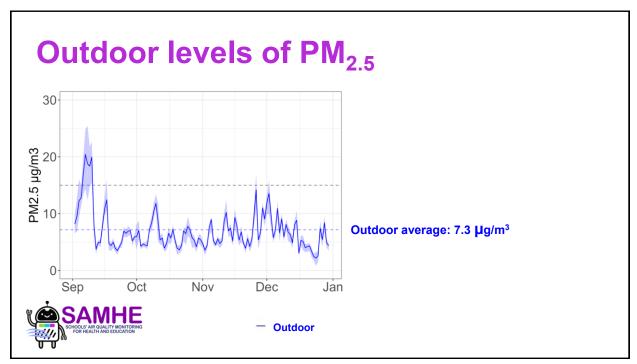
Let's examine data from SAMHE schools from autumn term 2023...

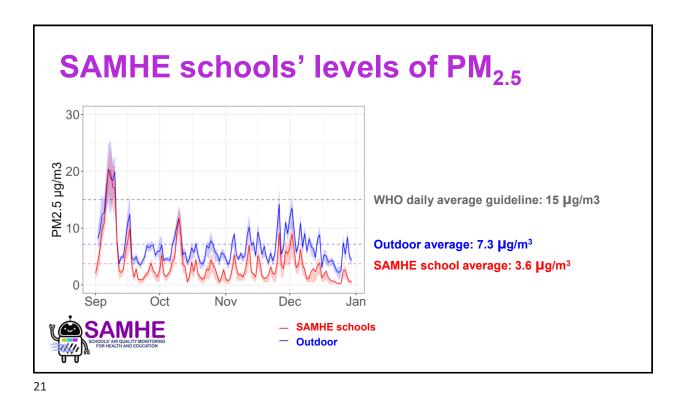


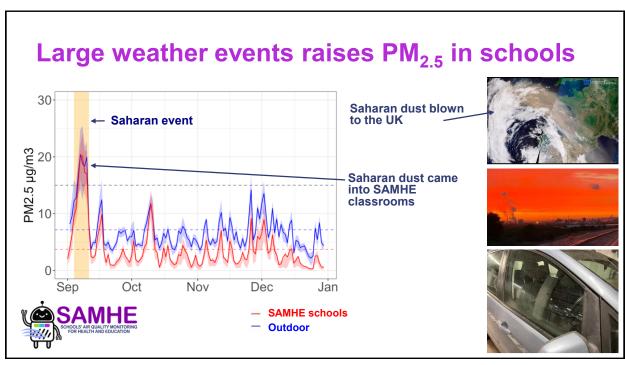




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What do we know about school PM_{2.5} levels?

- SAMHE classroom PM_{2.5} levels can be affected by outdoor events that happen nearby and large events that affect the entire country
 - At least 75% of PM_{2.5} in schools comes from outdoors
 - Recommendation: establish a legal right to clean air
 - Outdoor 'events' contribute significantly to long-term exposure
 - Recommendation: enforce 2021 WHO Air Quality Guidelines



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Evidence to inform improving ventilation and air quality in UK schools

- Typically, classrooms architecture can deliver reasonable ventilation rates during clement weather, but often fail to do so during colder weather
- Engineering retro-fit technologies, which provide a greater control of ventilation rates, are available both at classroom and building level.
- Air filters can reduce the concentrations of PM_{2.5} in classrooms by 40%-50% during wintertime. Air filters significantly reduced illness-related absence during the pandemic.



Provides a framework for recommendations

- We need to work together to set suitable targets for 'good IAQ' balancing energy consumption with health and attainment concerns will be challenging but... doing nothing should not be an option
- We need to monitor the air in our schools.
- <u>Provide school staff with the training they need</u> to understand the benefits of ventilation & air quality, and how they can help manage them.
- <u>Take action</u> when monitoring indicates either the air quality or ventilation rates are not good, mitigation measures should be provided to schools. These should first seek to improve ventilation, but where this is not possible or sufficient, other measures, such as air cleaners, should be provided.



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Insights beyond schools: improving indoor air quality in UK buildings

- Schools show that modern technology can enable large-scale data collection to provide evidence and target changes
- Engineering technologies are available, both for retro-fit and new build, to help deliver better IAQ.
- These investments in technology should be used to reduce our energy consumption and will be required for 'net-zero' or any other climate mitagtion strategy.

Thanks for listening!

Find out more:



www.samhe.org.uk



SAMHE schools UK



