

Clean Cooking in Central America: Why do we Care?

Kirk R. Smith, MPH, PhD

Professor of Global Environmental Health

University of California Berkeley

**“CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO UNIVERSAL ACCESS
TO CLEAN BIOMASS COOKSTOVES IN CENTRAL AMERICA”**

Regional Workshop Organized by SICA's General Secretariat and the

World Bank in Coordination with the

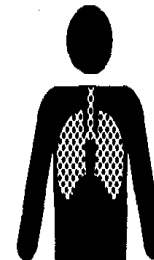
Ministry of Energy and Mines of Nicaragua and the Secretariat of

Natural Resources and Environment of Honduras.

May 24, 2013

The Environmental Health Pathway

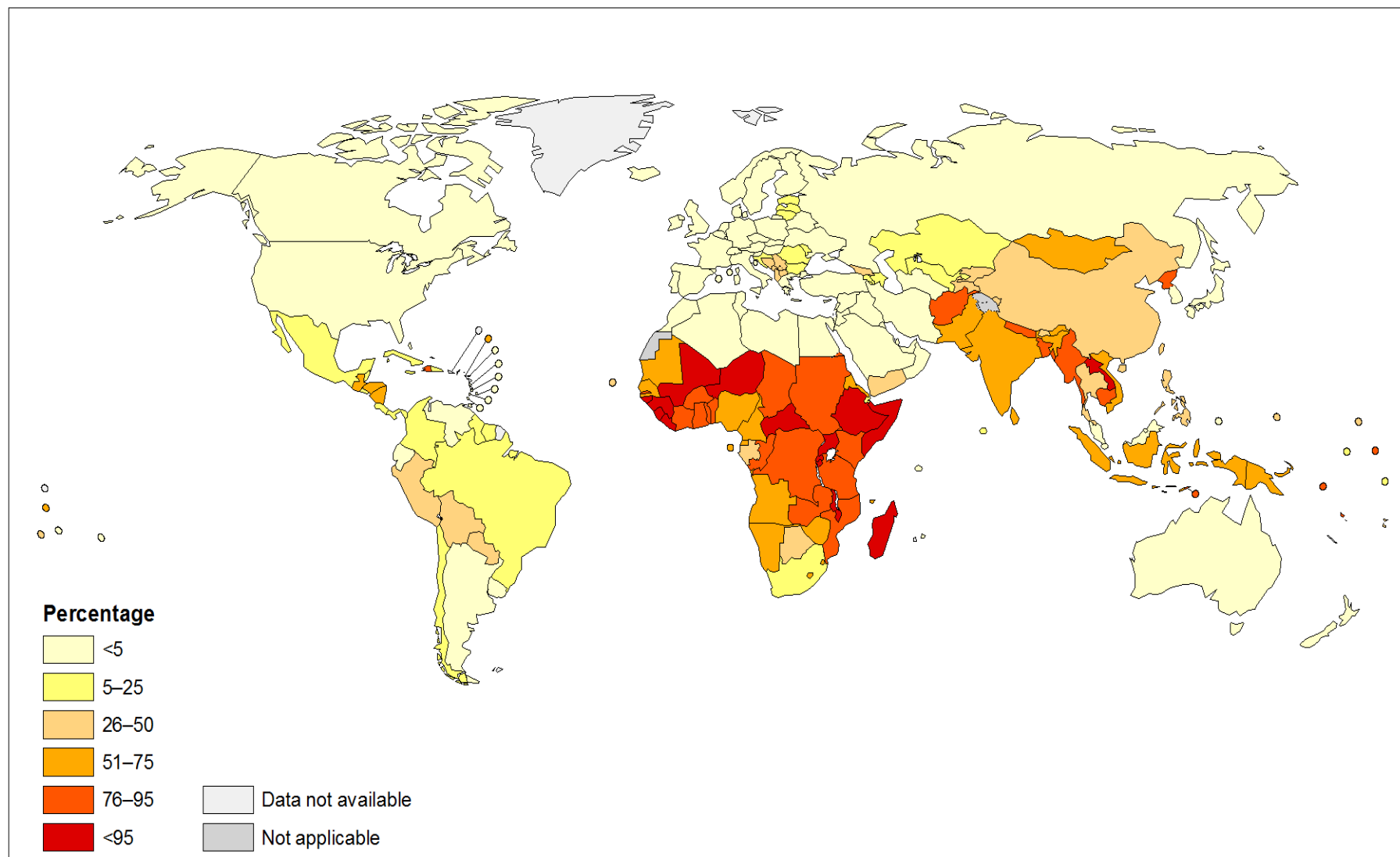
SOURCE → EMISSIONS → CONCENTRATION → EXPOSURE → DOSE → HEALTH EFFECTS



The three major solid fuels



Population Cooking with Solid Fuels in 2010 (%)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

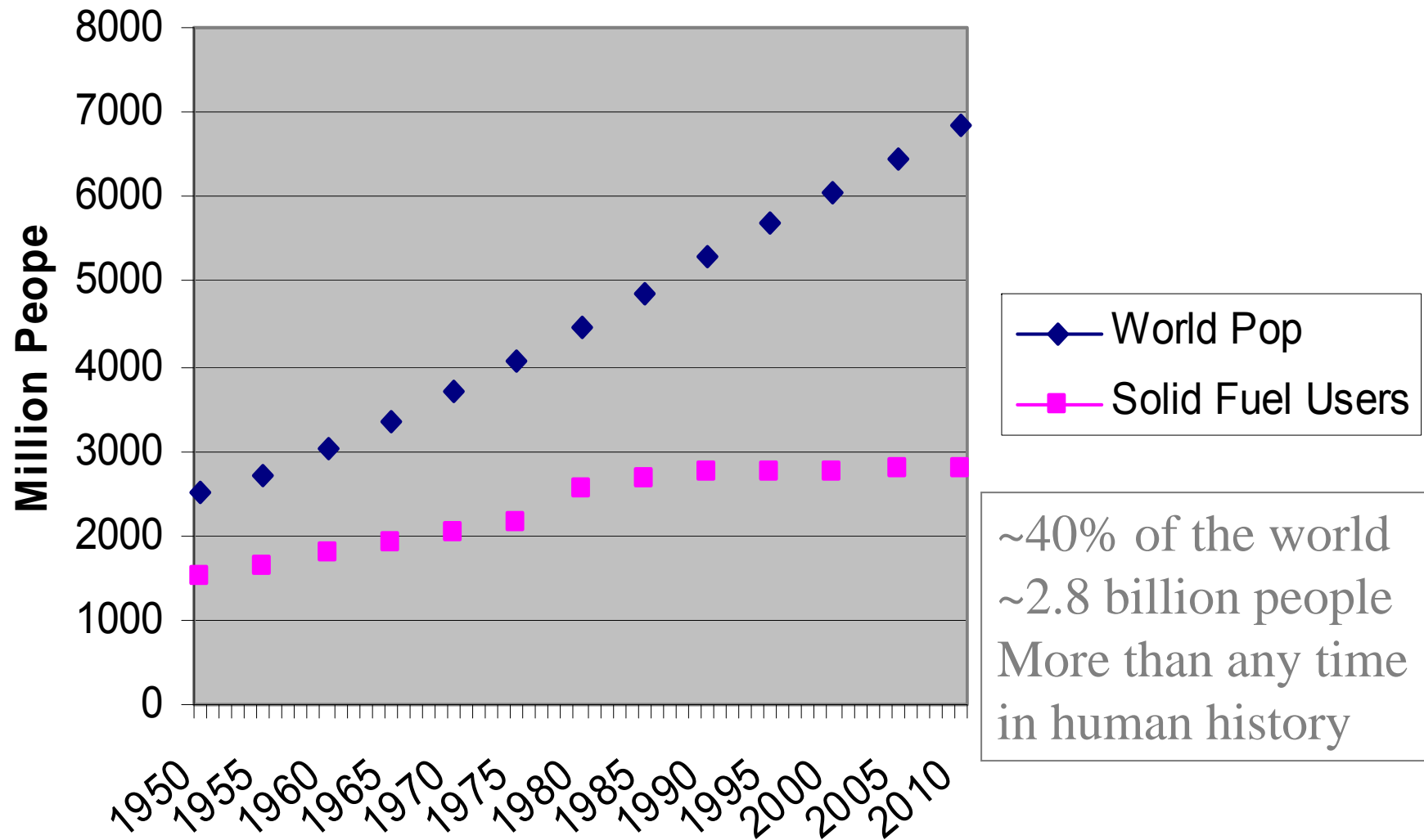
Data Source: World Health Organization
Map Production: Public Health Information
and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
World Health Organization



**World Health
Organization**

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World Population Using Solid Fuels



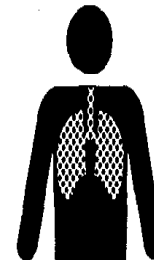
2010 Biomass Use for Cooking in Latin America

Argentina	0 (0, 12)
Belize	12 (0, 25)
Bolivia	29 (32, 58)
Brazil	6 (0, 19)
Chile	6 (0, 19)
Colombia	14 (1, 27)
Costa Rica	6 (0, 19)
Cuba	0 (0, 22)
Dominica	1 (0, 14)
Domin Repub	7 (0, 20)
Ecuador	2 (0, 15)
<u>El Salvador</u>	22 (9, 35)
Grenada	0 (0, 0)
<u>Guatemala</u>	57 (44, 70)

Guyana	7 (0, 20)
Haiti	91 (78, 100)
<u>Honduras</u>	51 (38, 64)
Jamaica	11 (0, 24)
Mexico	14 (1, 27)
<u>Nicaragua</u>	54 (41, 67)
Panama	18 (5, 31)
Paraguay	49 (36, 62)
<u>Peru</u>	36 (24, 50)
St Vinc/Grenad	3 (0, 16)
Suriname	12 (0, 25)
Uruguay	0 (0, 13)
Venezuela	0 (0, 8)

The Environmental Health Pathway

SOURCE → EMISSIONS → CONCENTRATION → EXPOSURE → DOSE → HEALTH EFFECTS



Woodsmoke is natural – how can it hurt you?

Or, since wood is mainly just carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, doesn't it just change to CO_2 and H_2O when it is combined with oxygen (burned)?



Reason: the combustion efficiency is far less than 100%

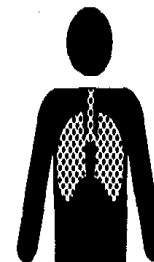
Toxic Pollutants in Wood Smoke from Simple (poor) Combustion

- Small particles, CO, NO₂
- Hydrocarbons
 - 25+ saturated hydrocarbons such as *n-hexane*
 - 40+ unsaturated hydrocarbons such as *1,3 butadiene*
 - 28+ mono-aromatics such as *benzene & styrene*
 - 20+ polycyclic aromatics such as *benzo(α)pyrene*
- Oxygenated organics
 - 20+ aldehydes including *formaldehyde & acrolein*
 - 25+ alcohols and acids such as *methanol*
 - 33+ phenols such as *catechol & cresol*
 - Many quinones such as *hydroquinone*
 - Semi-quinone-type and other radicals
- Chlorinated organics such as *methylene chloride* and *dioxin*

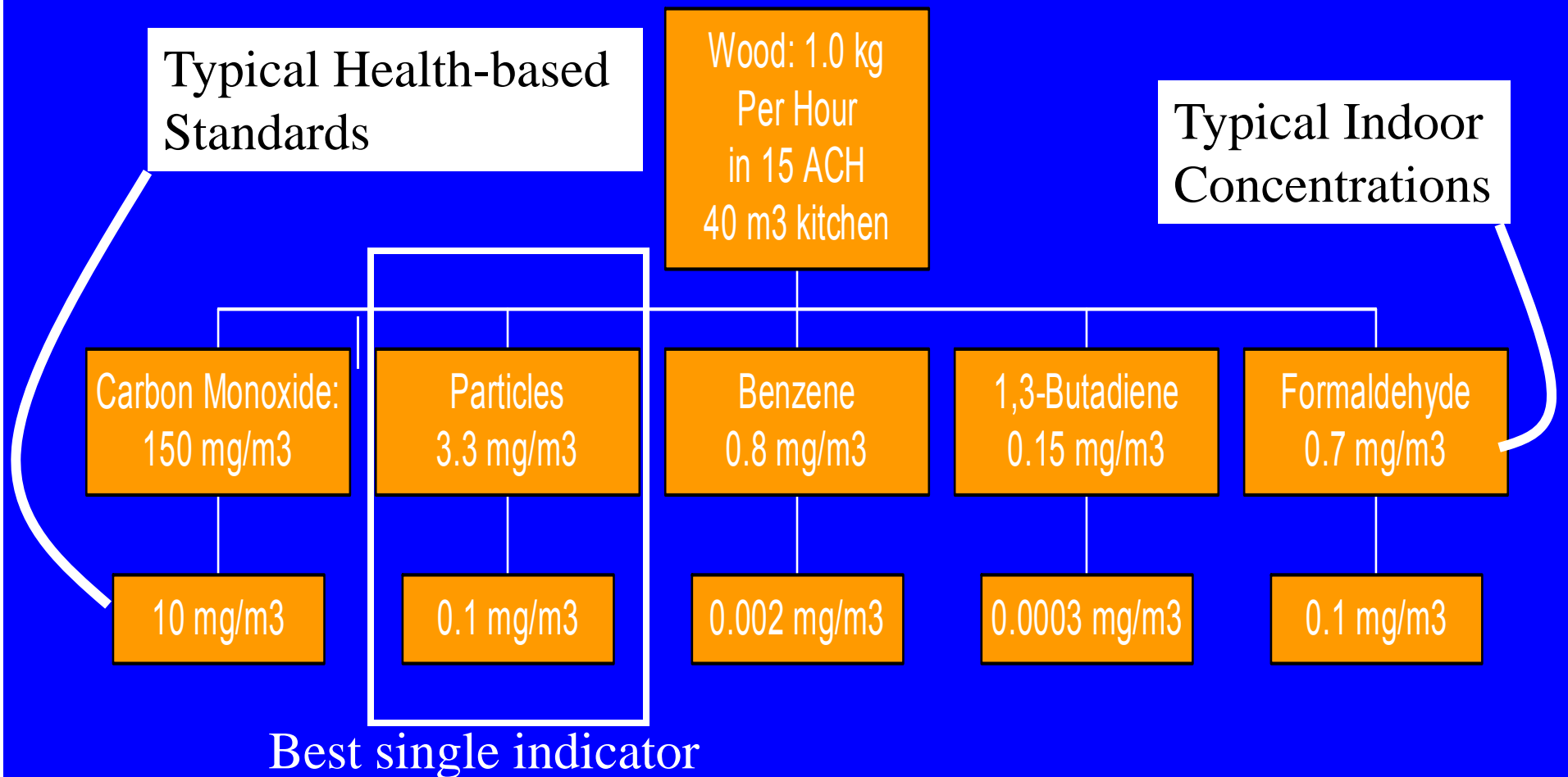
Source: Naeher et al,
J Inhal Tox, 2007

The Environmental Health Pathway

SOURCE → EMISSIONS → CONCENTRATION → EXPOSURE → DOSE → HEALTH EFFECTS

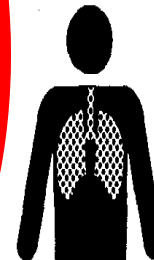


Health-Damaging Air Pollutants From Typical Wood-fired Cookstove.



The Environmental Health Pathway

SOURCE → EMISSIONS → CONCENTRATION → EXPOSURE → DOSE → HEALTH EFFECTS



First person in human history to
have her exposure measured
doing the oldest task in human history

~5000 ug/m³
during cooking
>500 ug/m³ 24-
hour
-typical in Central
America

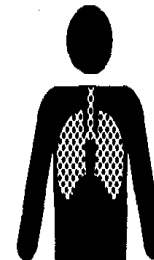
Emissions and
concentrations,
yes, but
what about
exposures?



India, 1981

The Environmental Health Pathway

SOURCE → EMISSIONS → CONCENTRATION → EXPOSURE → DOSE → HEALTH EFFECTS



How much PM_{2.5} is unhealthy?

- WHO Air Quality Guidelines
 - 10 ug/m³ annual average
 - No public microenvironment, indoor or outdoor, should be more than 35 ug/m³
- USEPA
 - Was 15 ug/m³ until 2012: annual outdoors
 - Now 12 ug/m³
 - Same as California since ~2000

A comparative risk assessment of burden of disease and injury attributable to 67 risk factors and risk factor clusters in 21 regions, 1990–2010: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010

Stephen S Lim[‡], Theo Vos, Abraham D Flaxman, Goodarz Danaei, Kenji Shibuya, Heather Adair-Rohani*, Markus Amann*, H Ross Anderson*, Kathryn G Andrews*, Martin Aryee*, Charles Atkinson*, Loraine J Bacchus*, Adil N Bahalim*, Kalpana Balakrishnan*, John Balmes*, Suzanne Barker-Collo*, Amanda Baxter*, Michelle L Bell*, Jed D Blore*, Fiona Blyth*, Carissa Bonner*, Guilherme Borges*, Rupert Bourne*, Michel Boussinesq*, Michael Brauer*, Peter Brooks*, Nigel G Bruce*, Bert Brunekreef*, Claire Bryan-Hancock*, Chiara Bucello*, Rachelle Buchbinder*, Fiona Bull*, Richard T Burnett*, Tim E Byers*, Bianca Calabria*, Jonathan Carapetis*, Emily Carnahan*, Zoe Chafe*, Fiona Charlson*, Honglei Chen*, Jian Shen Chen*, Andrew Tai-Ann Cheng*, Jennifer Christine Child*, Aaron Cohen*, K Ellicott Colson*, Benjamin C Cowie*, Sarah Darby*, Susan Darling*, Adrian Davis*, Louisa Degenhardt*, Frank Dentener*, Don C Des Jarlais*, Karen Devries*, Mukesh Dherani*, Eric L Ding*, E Ray Dorsey*, Tim Driscoll*, Karen Edmond*, Suad Eltahir Ali*, Rebecca E Engell*, Patricia J Erwin*, Saman Fahimi*, Gail Falder*, Farshad Farzadfar*,

CRA published on Dec 14, 2012
in *The Lancet*

Metrics

- Mortality – important, but can be misleading as it does not take age into account or years of illness/injury
 - Death at 88 years counts same as at 18, which is not appropriate
- Disability-adjusted Life Years (DALYs) lost do account for age and illness.
- GBD 2010 compares deaths against best life expectancy in world – 86 years

ALRI/
Pneumonia

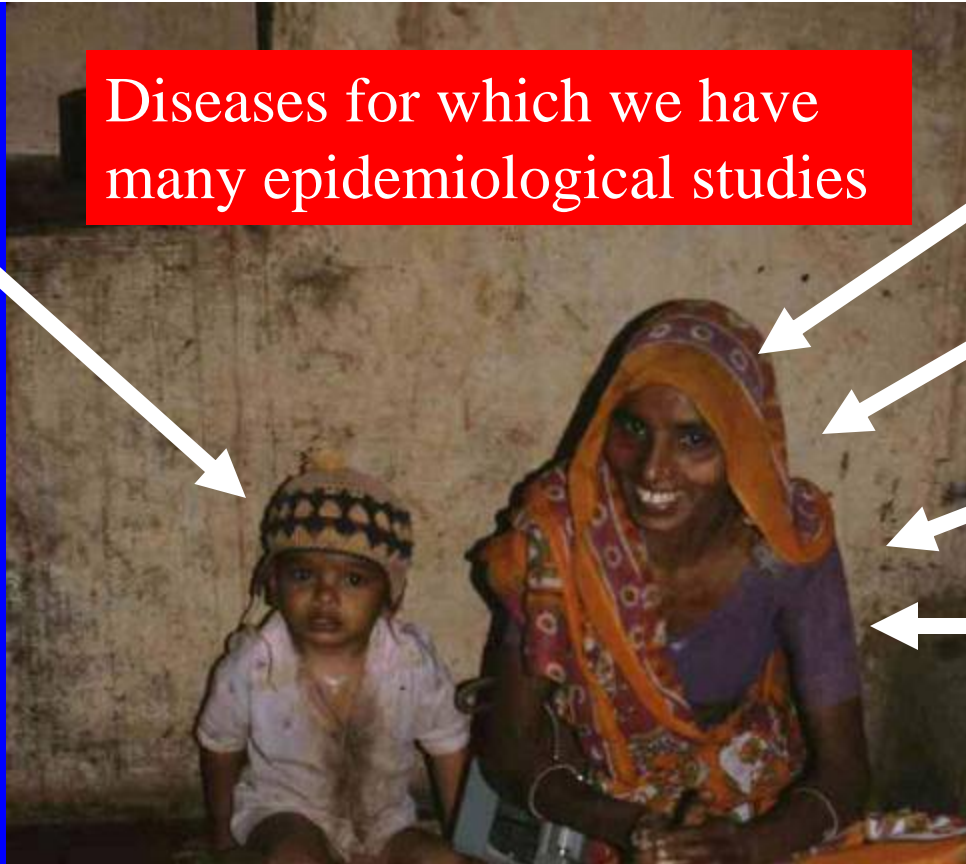
Diseases for which we have
many epidemiological studies

COPD

Lung cancer

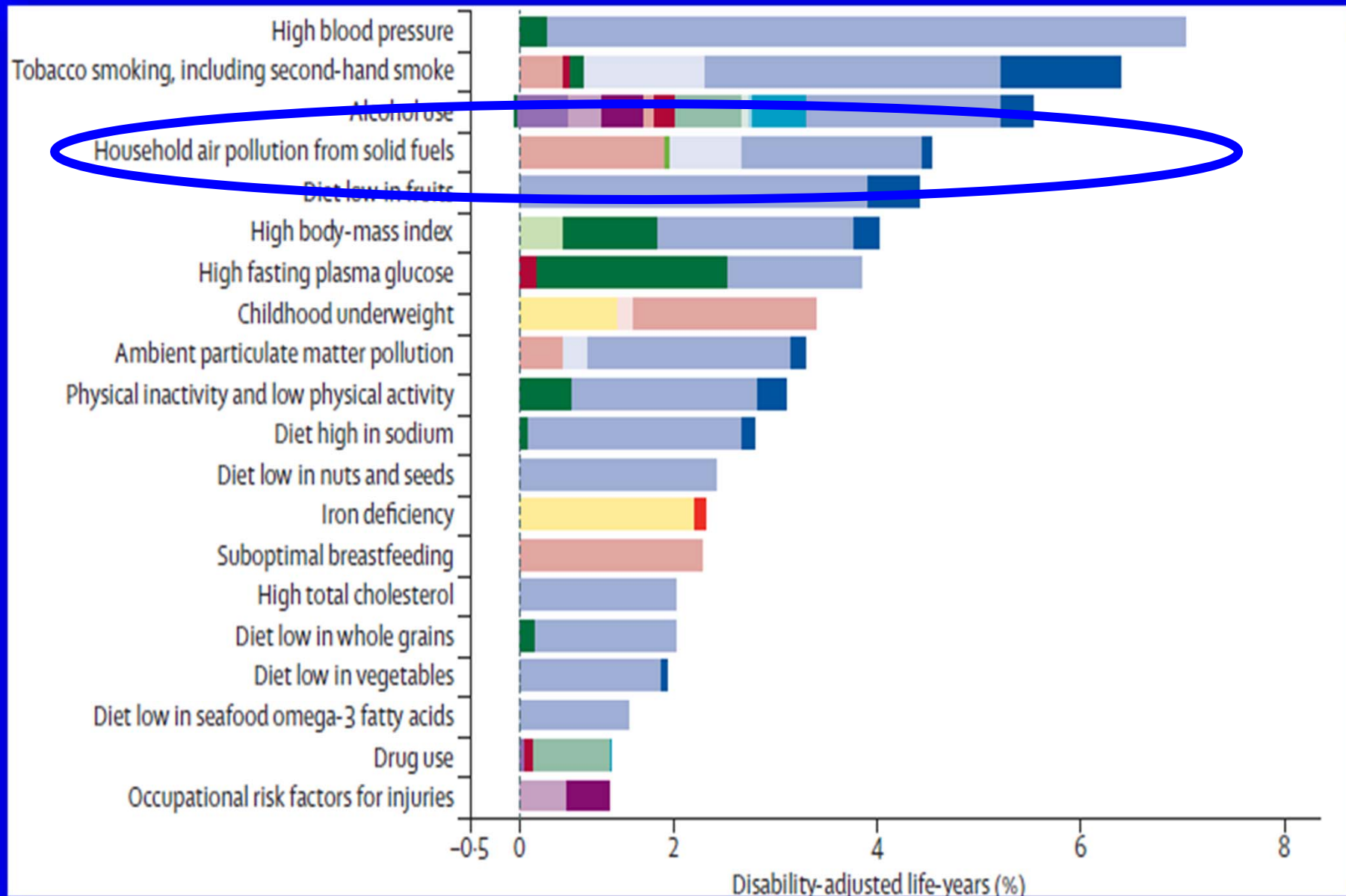
Blindness
(cataracts, opacity)

Heart disease
Blood pressure
ST-segment

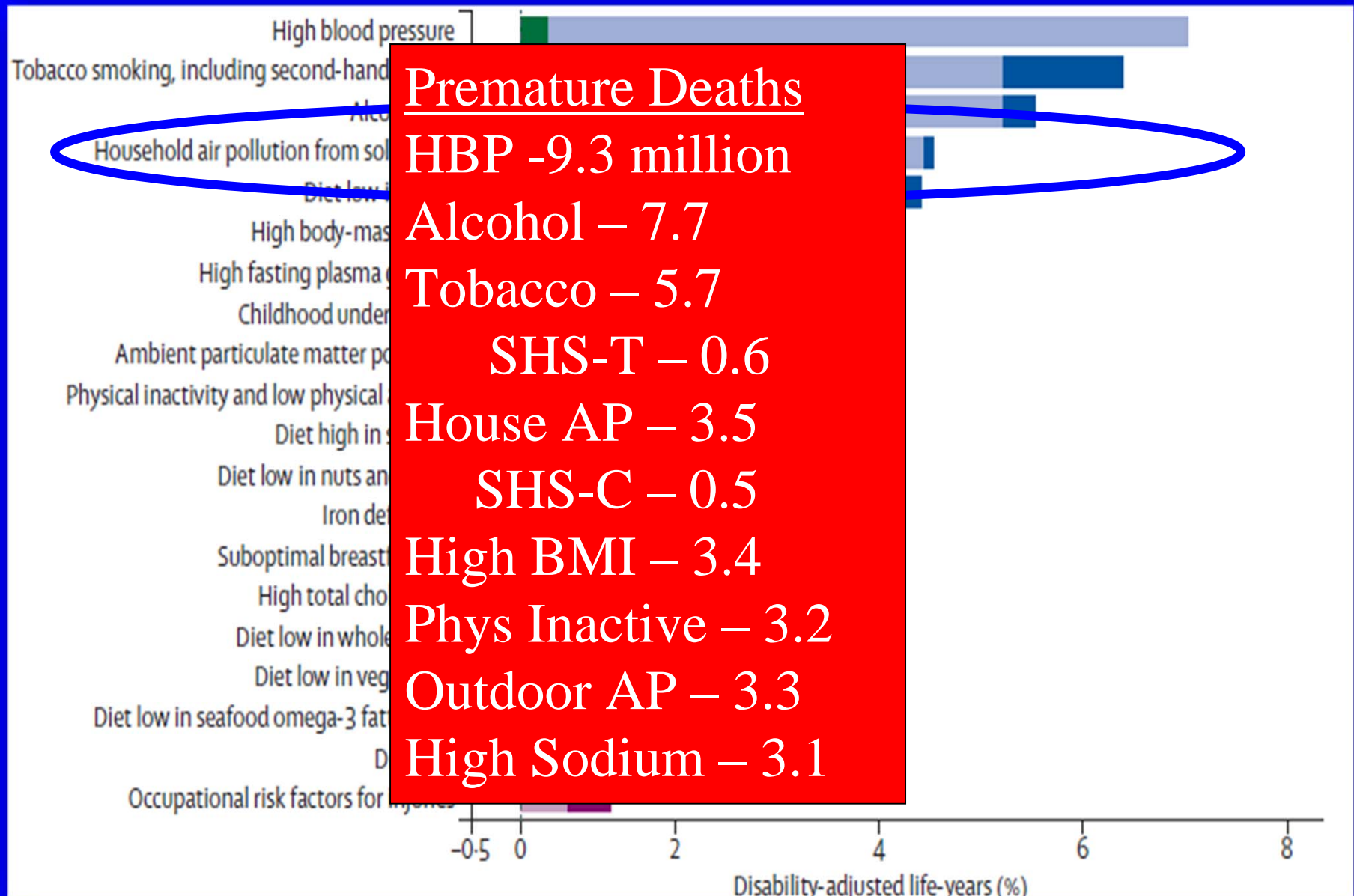


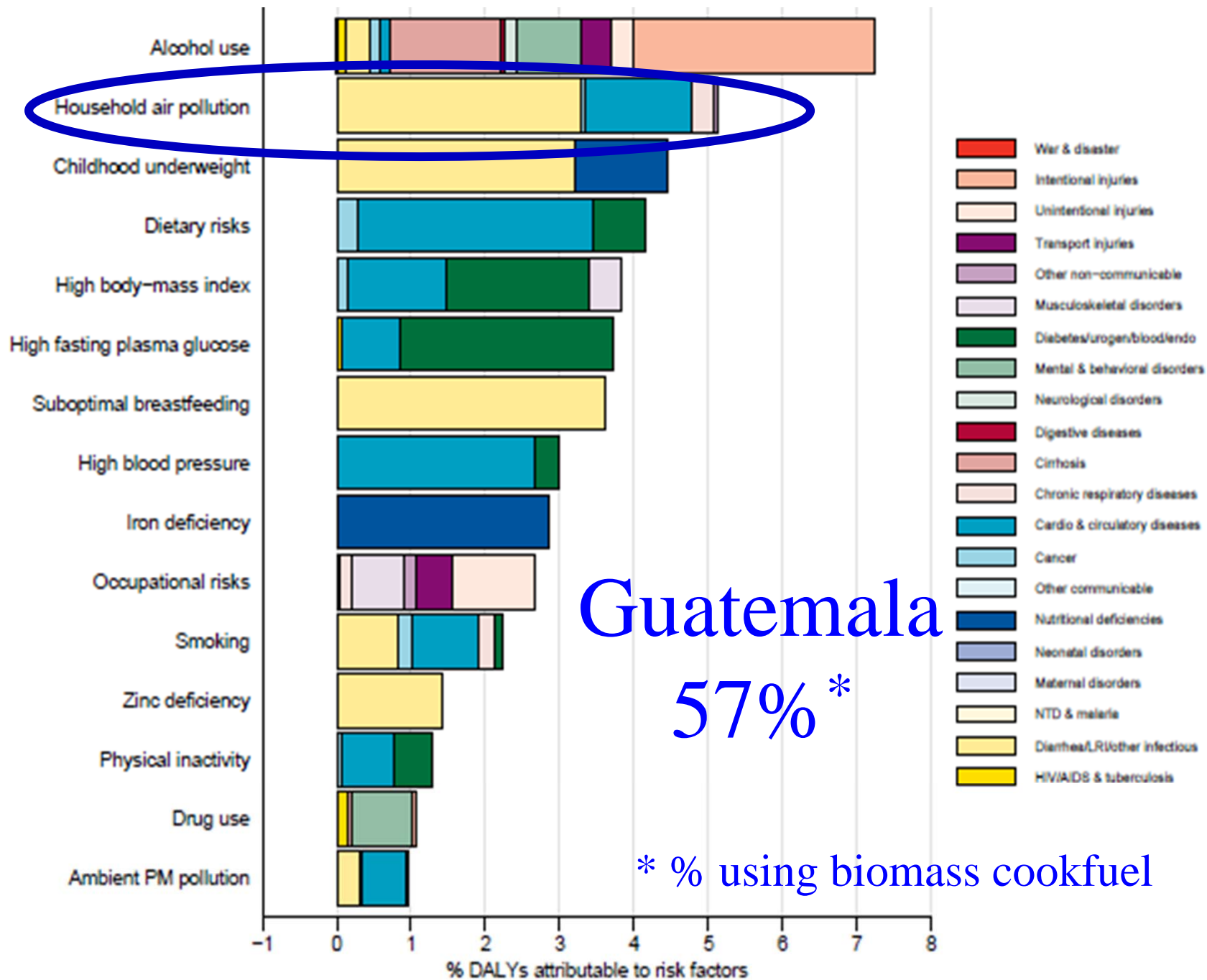
These diseases are included in the
2010 Comparative Risk Assessment (released in 2012)

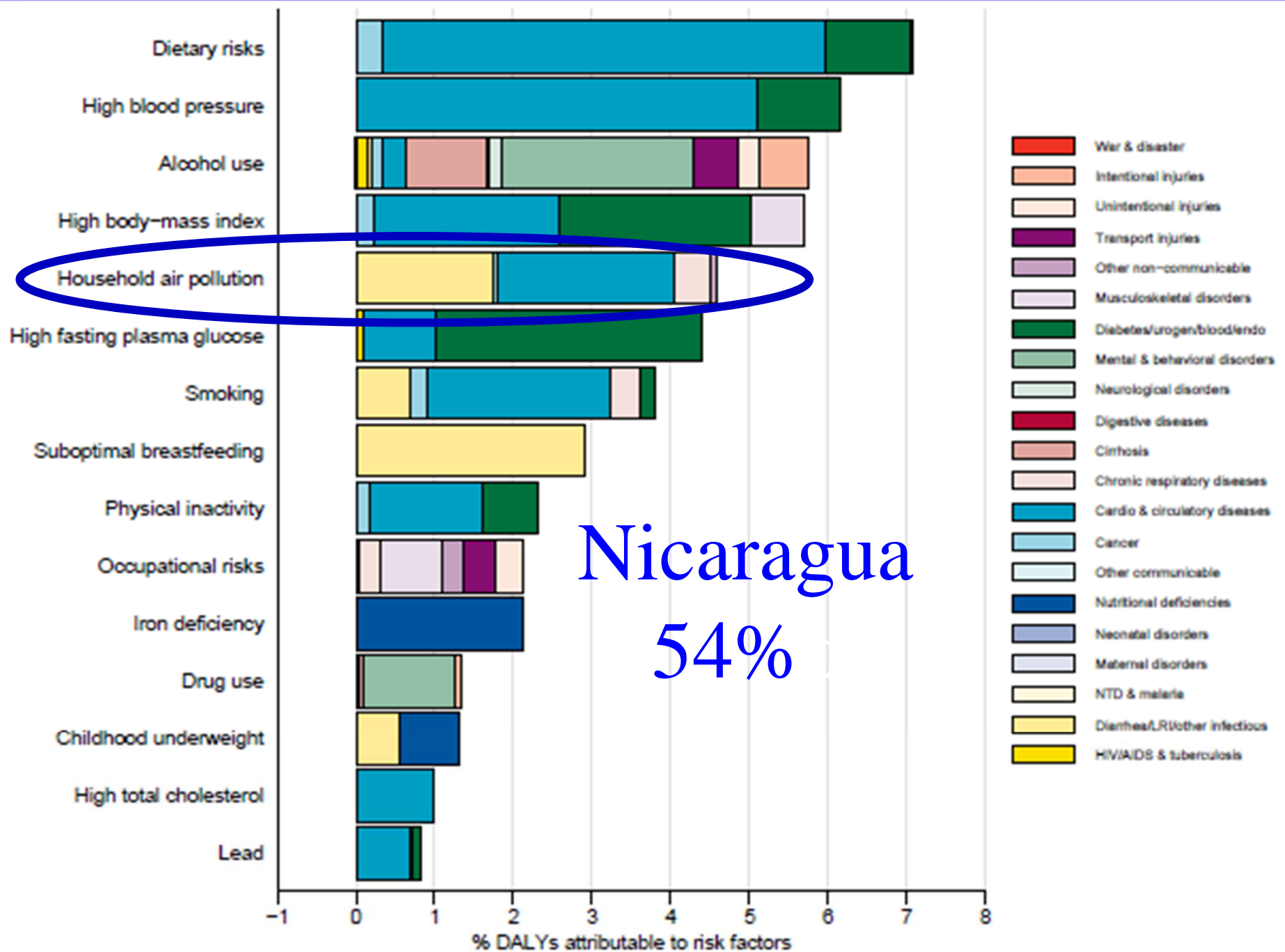
Global DALYs 2010: Top 20 Risk Factors

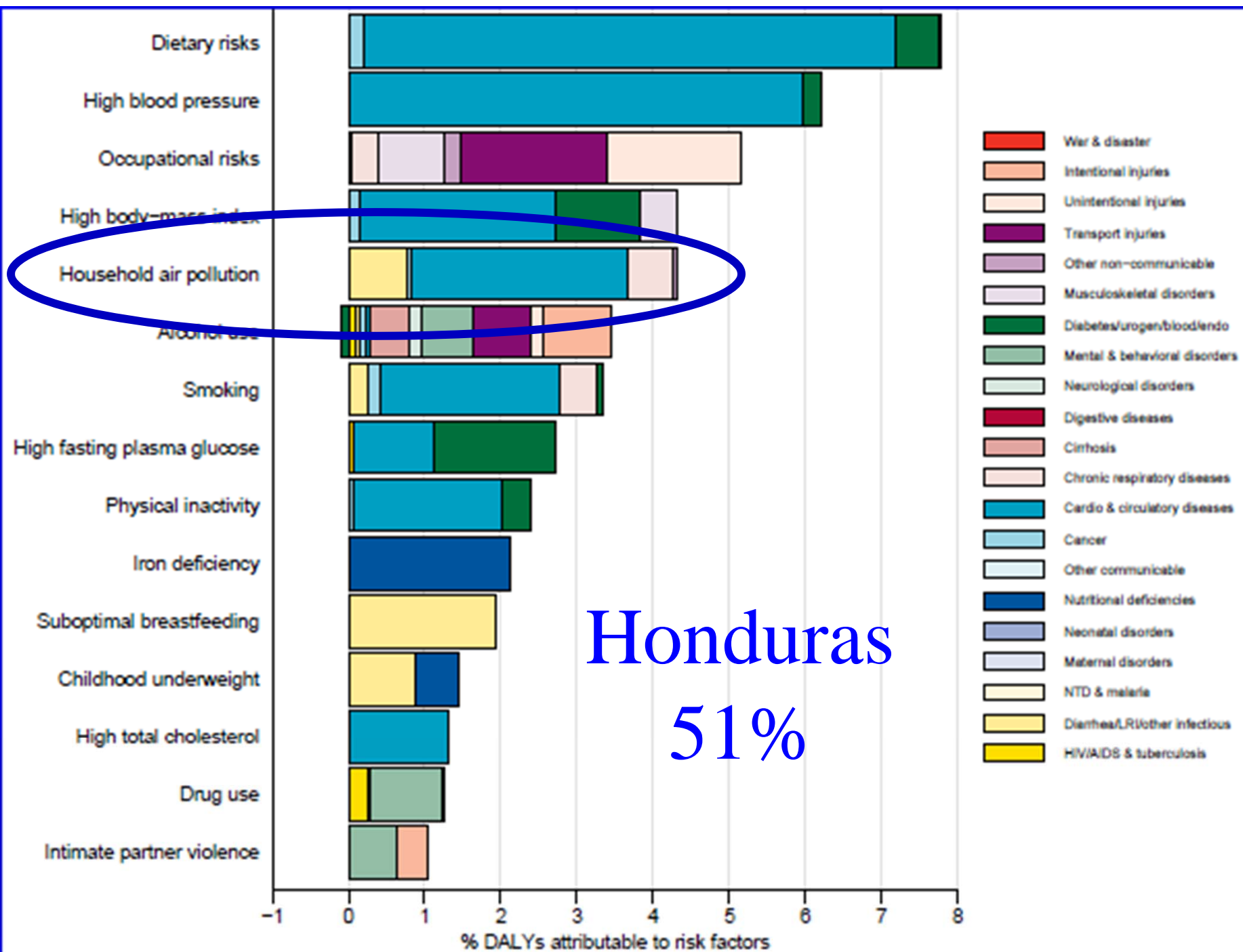


Global DALYs 2010: Top 20 Risk Factors

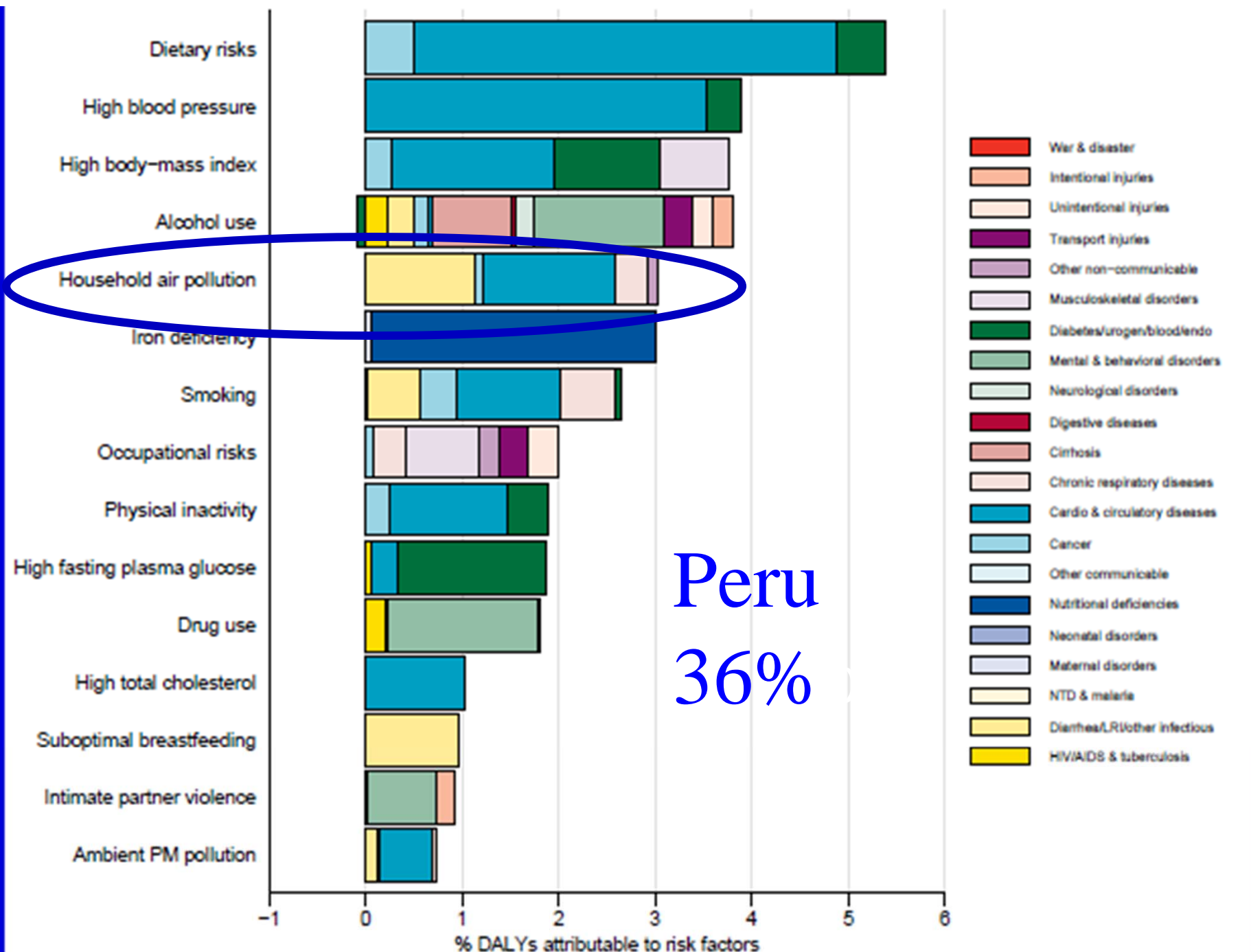


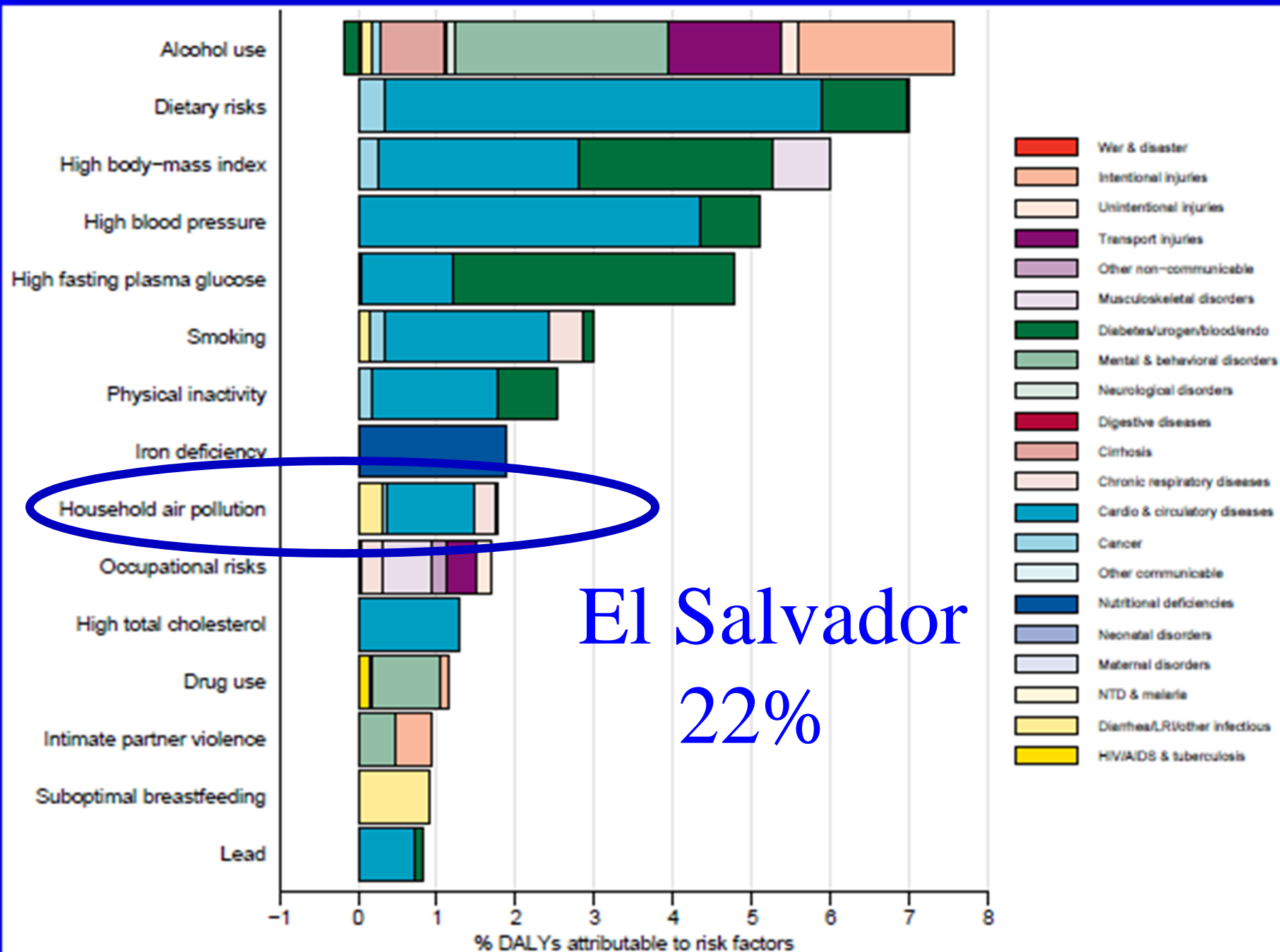


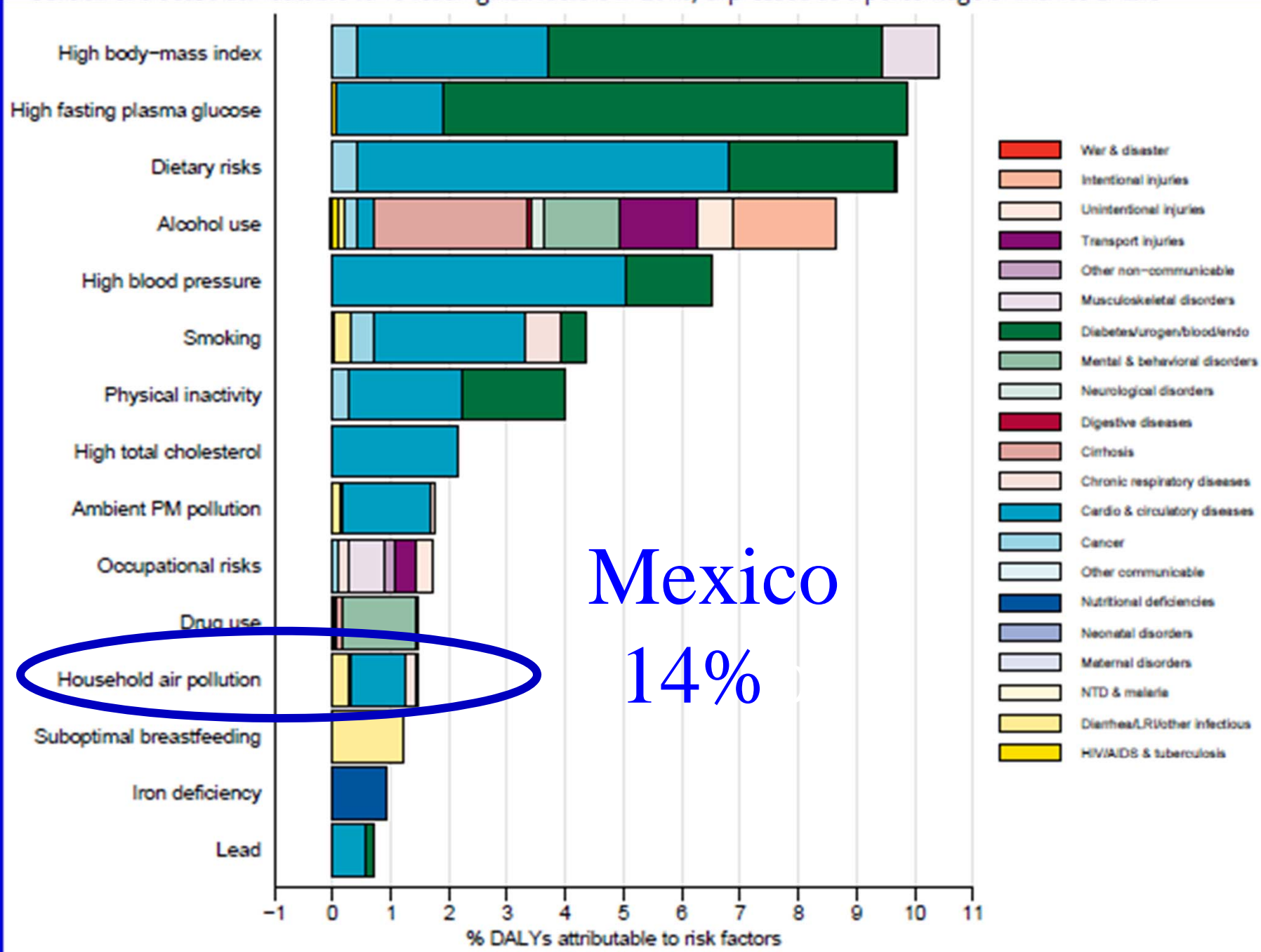


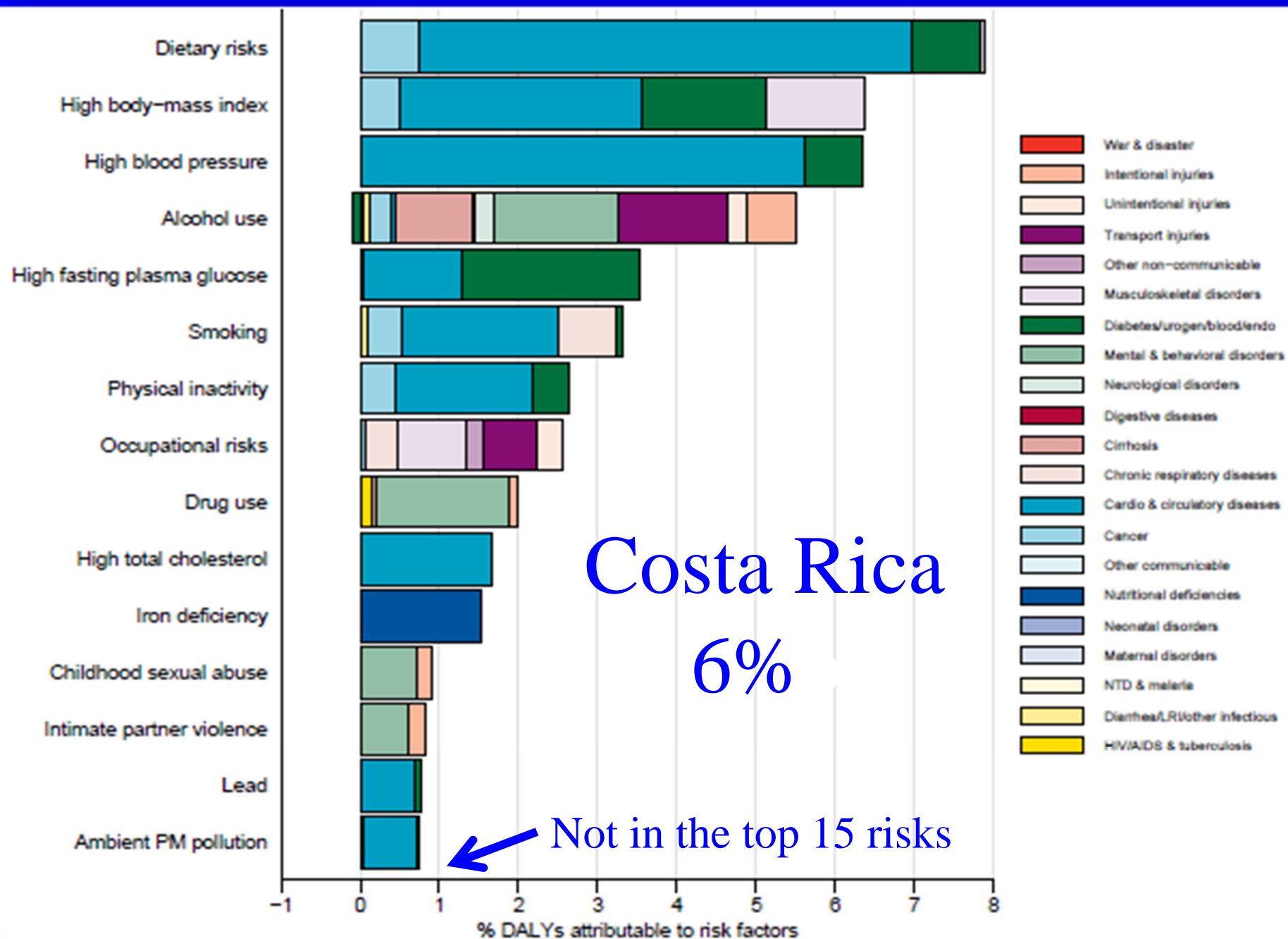


Peru
36%









Central America

- 37,000 premature deaths annually from household air pollution from biomass cookfires
- About 10% in children

The framing

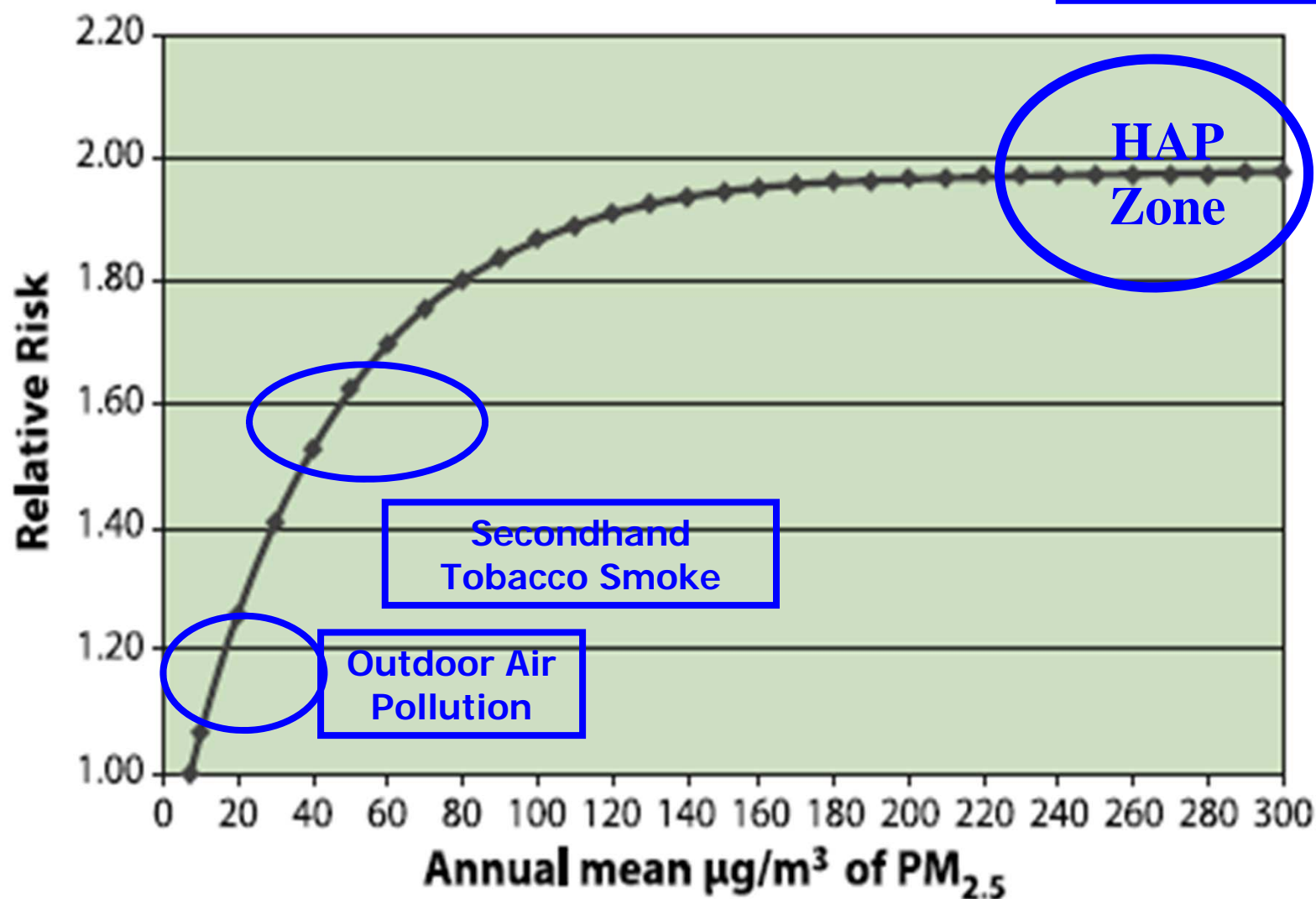
- Household air pollution from use of solid fuels for cooking
- Not called “indoor” because stove smoke enters atmosphere to become part of general outdoor air pollution (OAP)
- HAP contributes about 16% to OAP globally, but much more in some countries
- Thus, part of the burden of disease due to OAP is attributable to cooking fuels in households ~500,000 premature deaths.

Framing, cont.

- Much effort made to make estimates consistent across the four combustion particle groups in the new GBD/CRA
- Active tobacco smoking, household air pollution, secondhand tobacco smoking, and outdoor air pollution
- HAP and OAP use the same counterfactual level for nearly all diseases: $\sim 7 \text{ ug/m}^3$ annual mean PM_{2.5} concentration
- Roughly equivalent to cooking with a vented gas stove or electricity

Integrated Exposure-Response: Outdoor Air, SHS, and Smoking and Heart Disease

Smokers →



CRA,
2012

Summary of CRA

- One of the top risk factors in the world for ill-health.
- Most important environmental risk factor among all examined
- Biggest impact in adults --3 million premature deaths (two-thirds the DALYs)
- Still important for children ~500,000 deaths (one-third the DALYs)
- Important source of outdoor air pollution
- Impact going down slowly because background health conditions improving
- Actual number of people affected is not going down

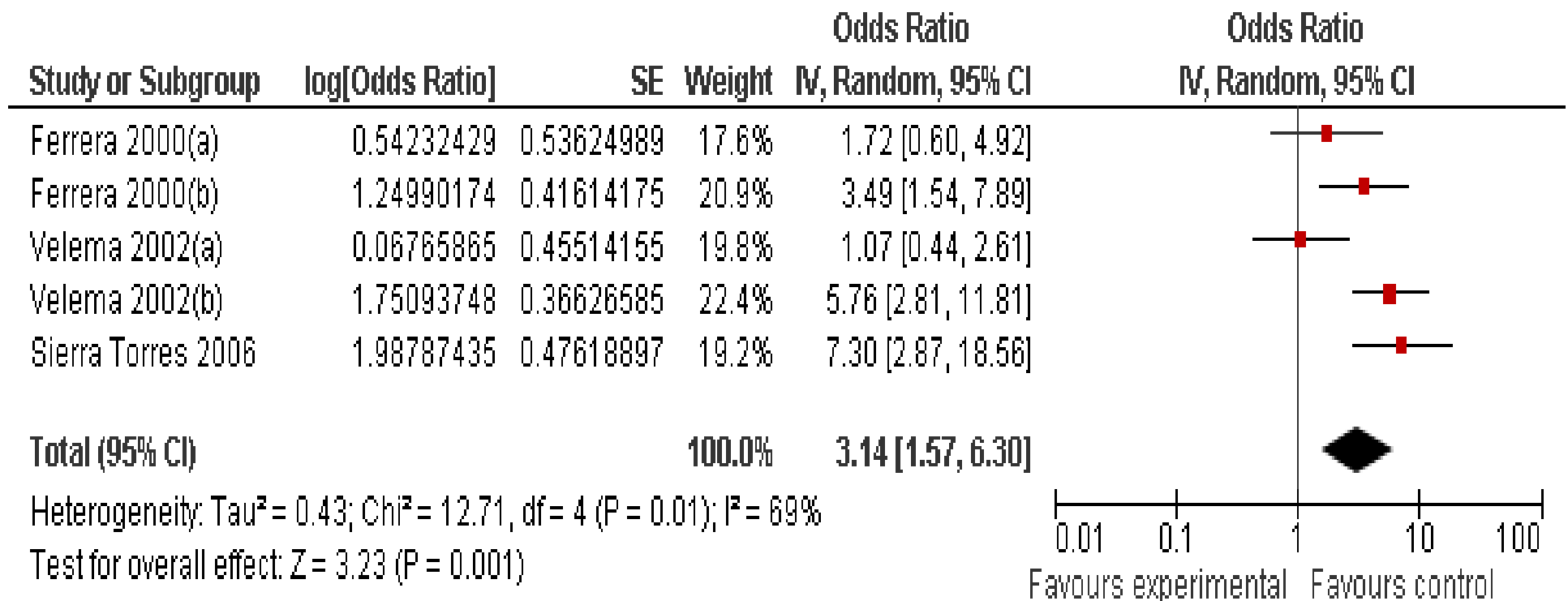
Not all diseases included

- Many with evidence not included yet
 - Low birth weight
 - TB
 - Other cancers – cervical, upper respiratory, etc
 - Cognitive effects
 - Pneumonia in adults
- Can expect that HAP effects, over time, will be found for nearly all the many dozen diseases found for smoking.
- But at lower risk levels

Much evidence from Central America

- Oldest and most productive HAP research site in the world – highland Guatemala
 - Pneumonia in children
 - Low birth weight
 - Impaired cognitive ability
 - Chronic lung disease in women
- Several studies of cervical cancer in Honduras

Cervical Cancer and Household Air Pollution



Three papers; two done in Honduras with four groups,
 one in Columbia

RESPIRE

Impact on pneumonia up to 18 months of age



Traditional open 3-stone fire:

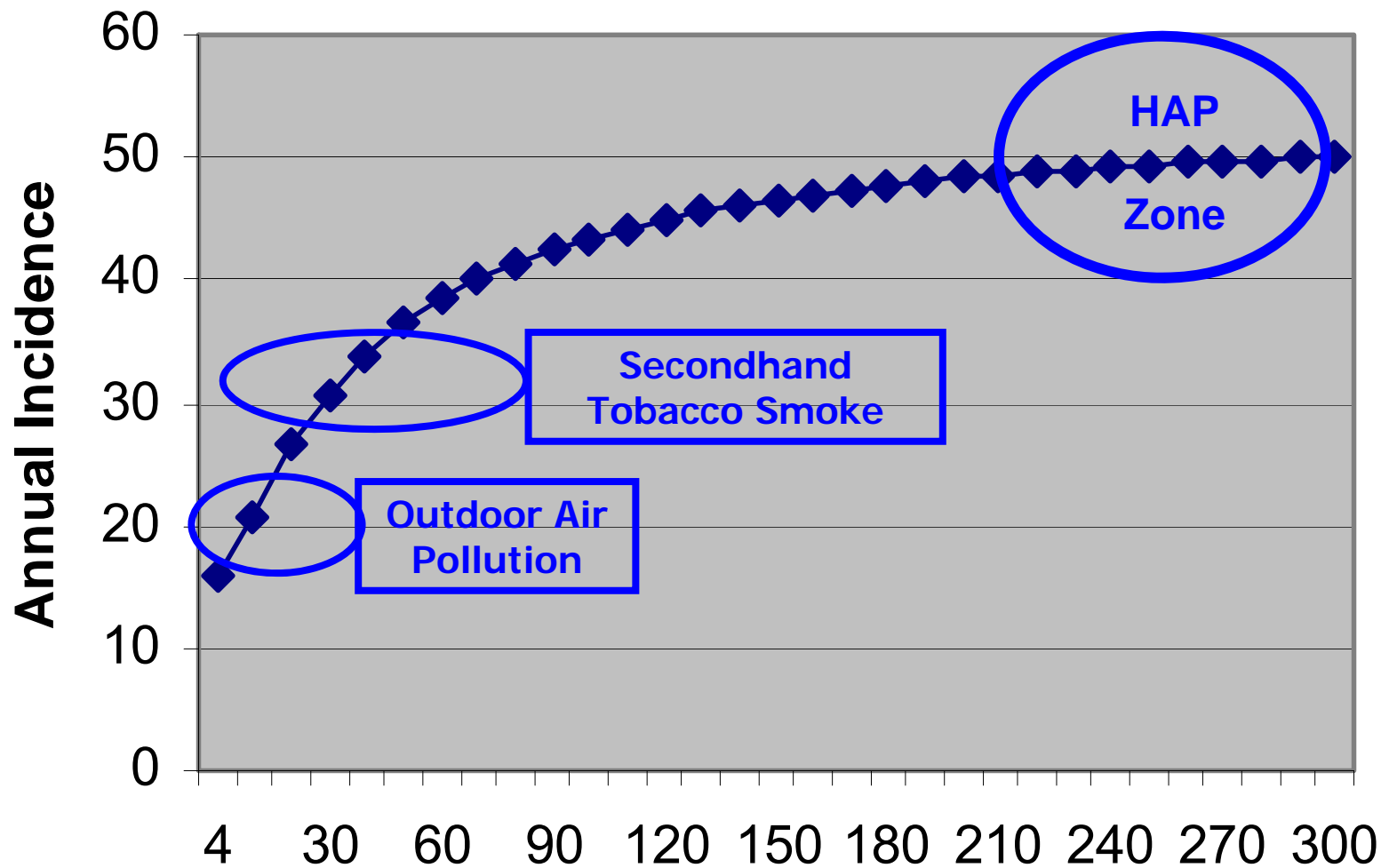


Chimney woodstove, locally made
and popular with households

The Plancha

Pneumonia from combustion particles

Annual average PM2.5 in ug/m3



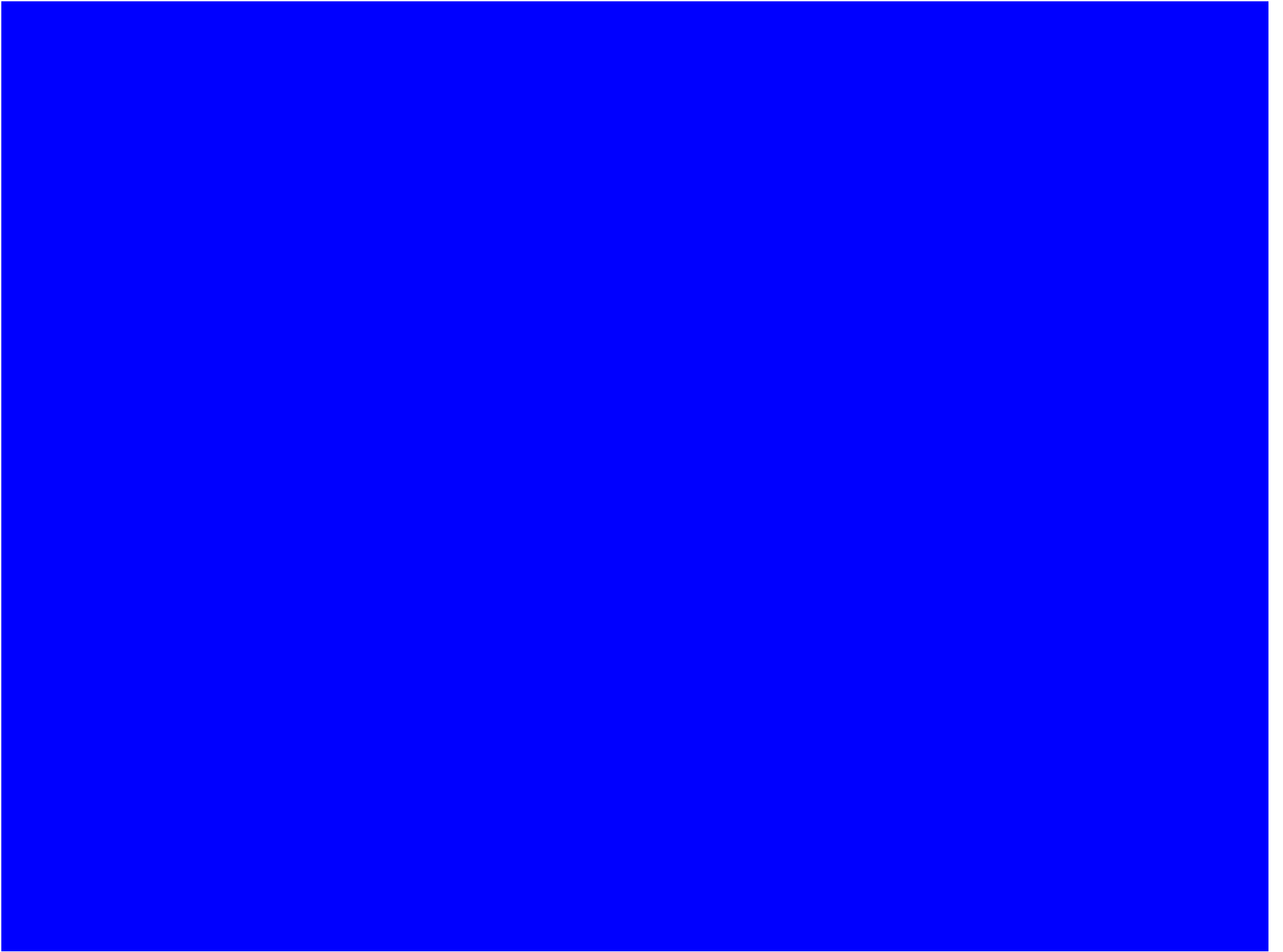
CRA,
2012

y Stove reduced kitchen pollution by 10x, but children exposure by only 2x

- The kids do not spend their entire day in the kitchen
- A chimney does not reduce smoke, but just shifts it outside into the household environment,
- No significant difference in bedrooms or patios

To reduce exposures more requires reducing smoke as well as moving it.



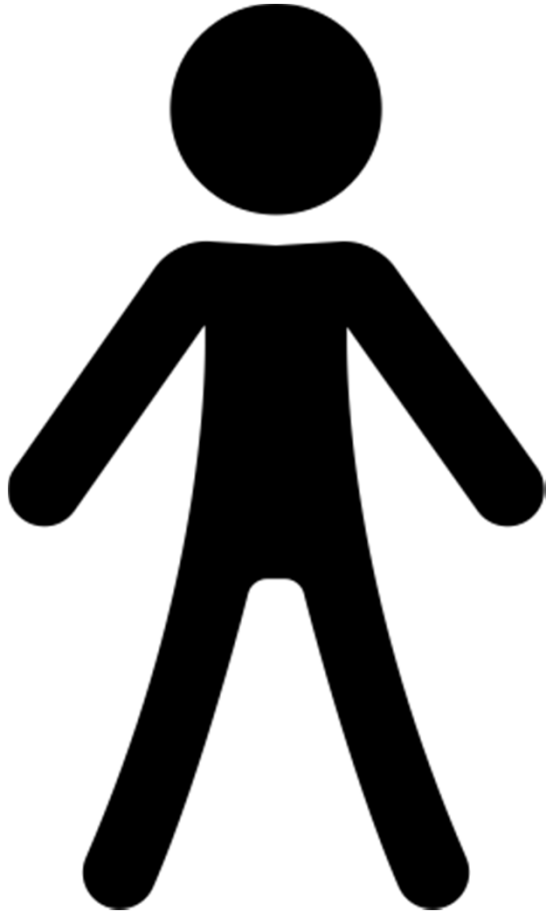


Important!

- Implied health benefit from HAP reduction only potentially achieved by shifting to clean cooking – gas & electricity
- Not achievable with a chimney alone
- Must be very clean combustion
- Can we do this with biomass fuels?
- The big question!

What is to be done?

A fresh look



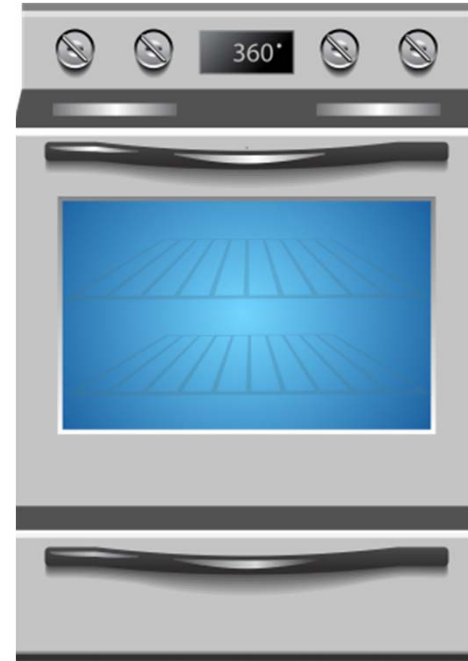
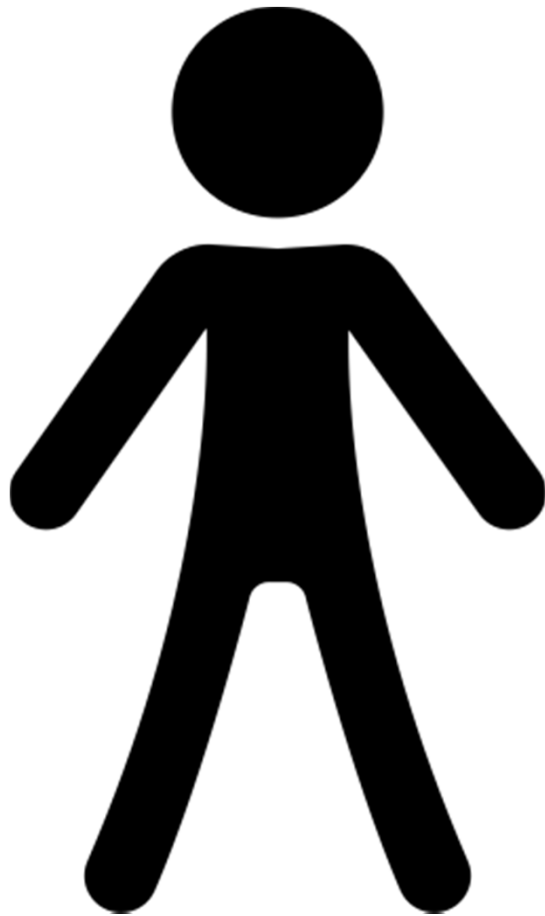
World cooking in
Pictograms –

One billion
people each

With apologies to
Hans Rosling at Gapminder*
*”Magic Washing Machine”

And thanks to Ajay Pillariseti

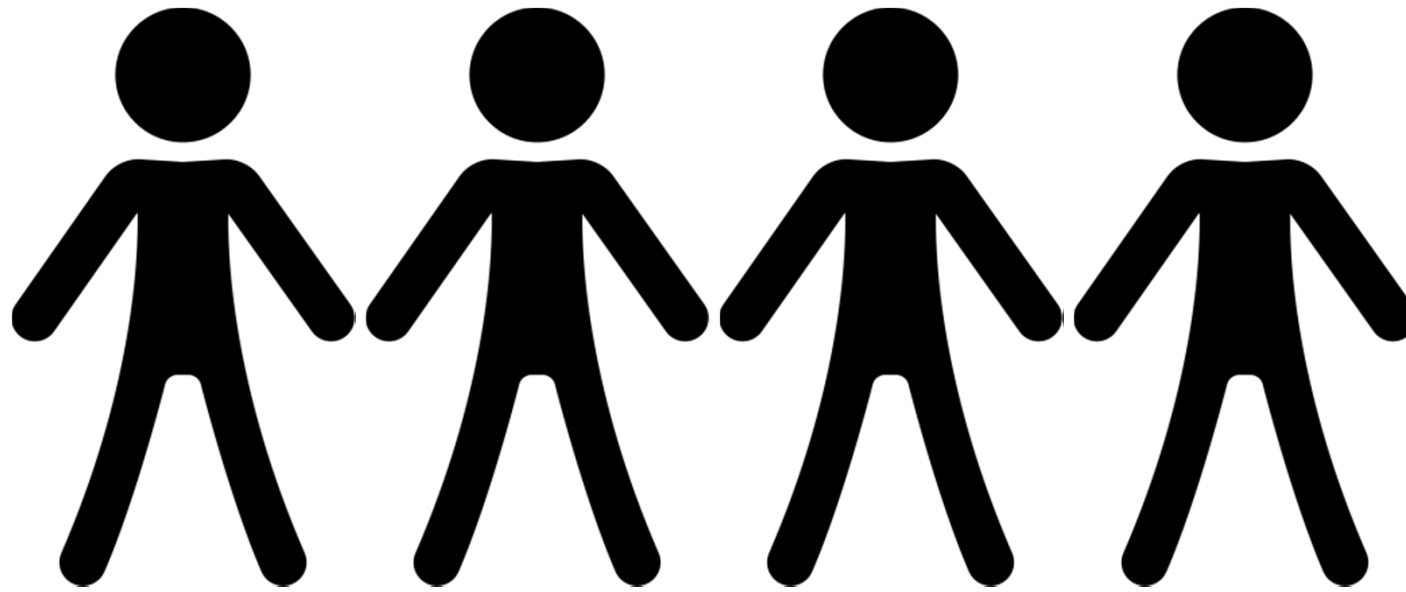
What do the richest one billion people cook with?



Gas or
electric
stoves

Plus





**~4 billion worldwide cook
with liquified petroleum gas,
natural gas, and electricity**

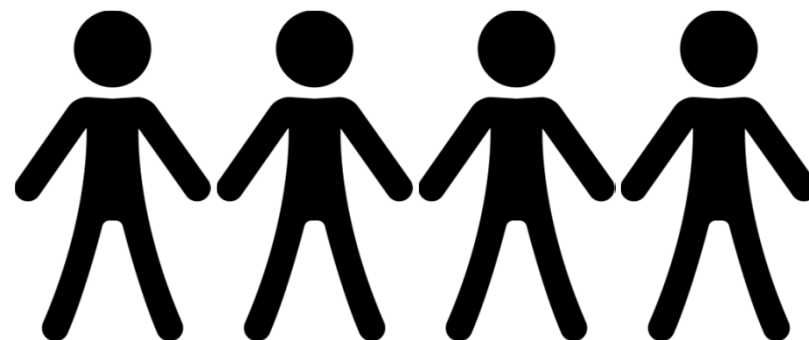




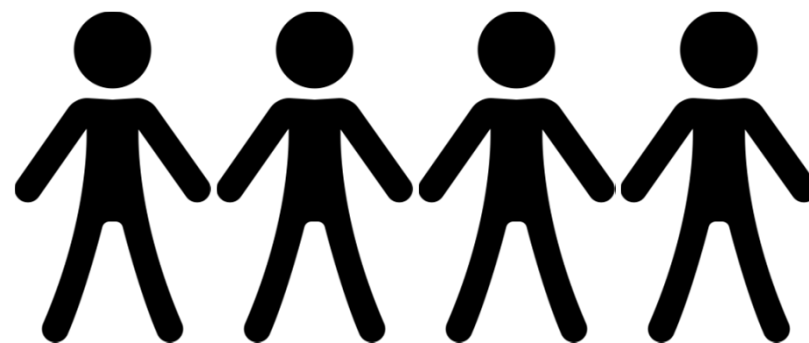
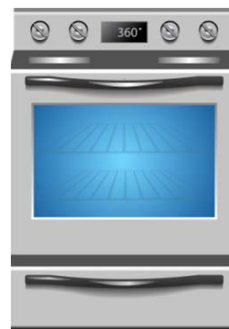
What about the
other 3 billion?



SMOKING SECTION



NON-SMOKING



LPG

Natural Gas

Electricity

MARKET BASED OPTIONS

NON-SMOKING

UNPURCHASED

Wood
Dung
Crop Residues



PURCHASED

Coal
Kerosene
Charcoal
Wood
Electricity



Around half have some
access to electricity



**UNPURCHASED
NO MARKET ACCESS**

**UNPURCHASED
BUT WILLING TO
USE THE MARKET**

**PURCHASED
MARKET USER**

SMOKING

NON-SMOKING



**UNPURCHASED
NO MARKET ACCESS**

**Utilize the health care system
through primary health and
antenatal care**



**UNPURCHASED
WILLING TO USE THE MARKET**



**ELECTRICAL
APPLIANCES**

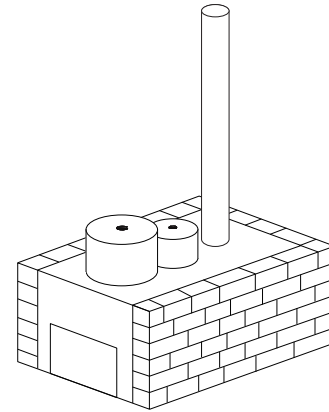
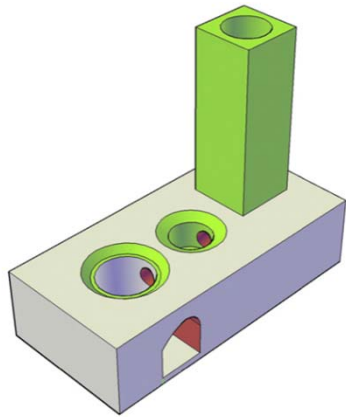


**PHILIPS
BLOWER STOVE**



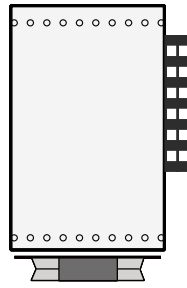
PELLETS

Market-ready advanced stoves + fuels

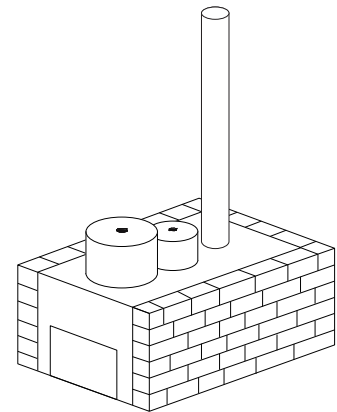
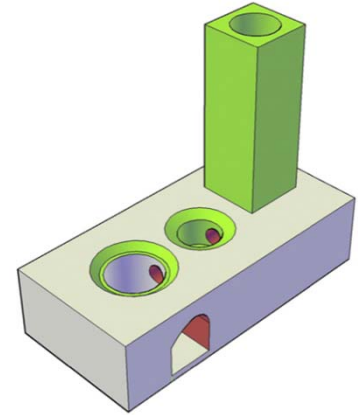


**Heavily utilized but only moderately
more clean**

heart of the hearth



**LONG-LASTING
LOW EMISSIONS
COMBUSTION UNIT**





**Multi-million Dollar Global Innovation
Prize for a Truly Clean
Biomass Combustion “Engine”
for Household Stoves**


Proposed by Ambuj Sagar and Kirk R. Smith,
Nature, May 2013

Newborn Stove (NBS) Project

SOMAARTH
Surveillance
Site – Haryana
~200,000 people

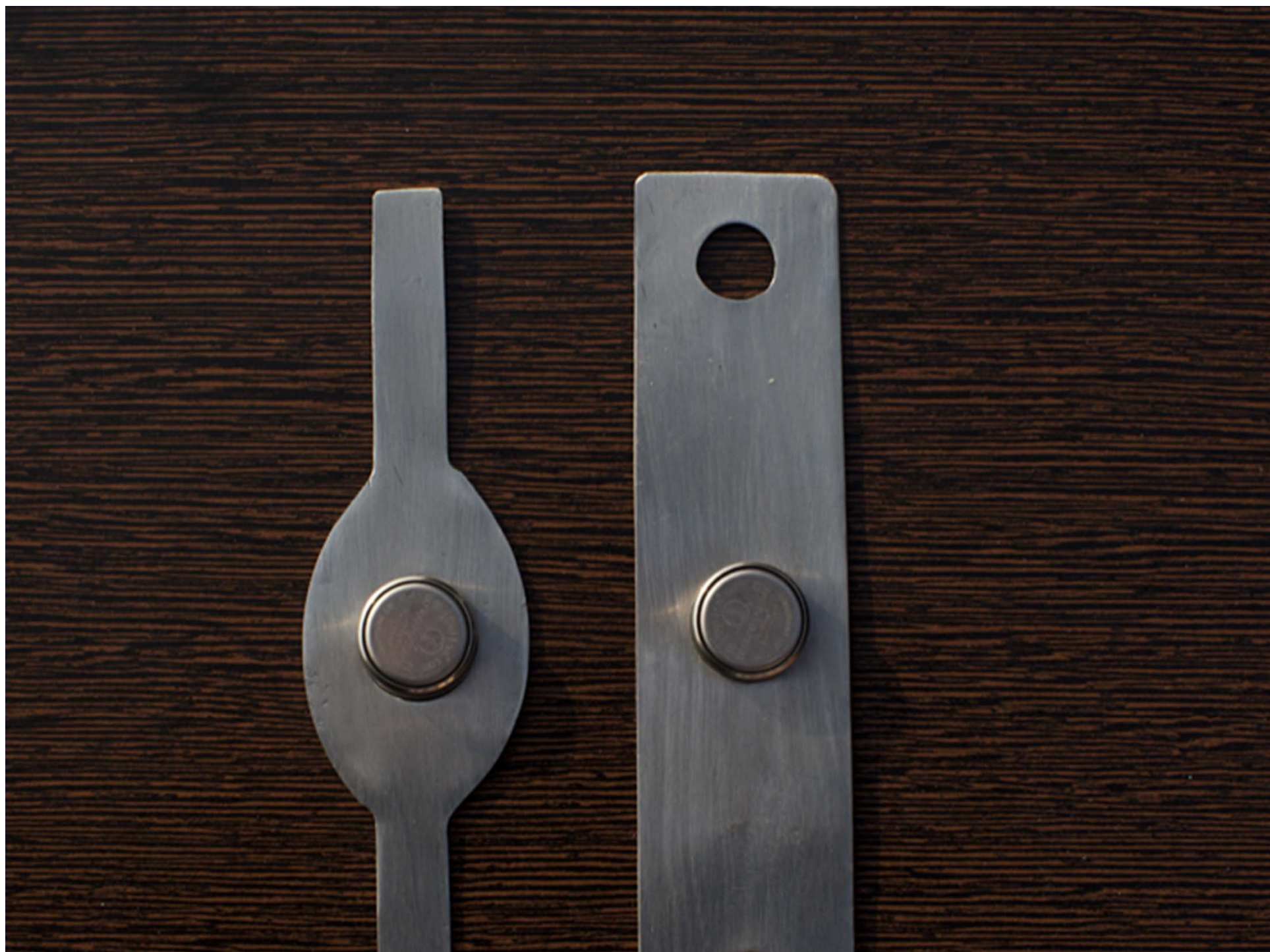
Berkeley, Columbia
INCLIN, SRU





NBS Project
Introducing advanced combustion
stoves to pregnant women through the
official ante-natal
care system in India

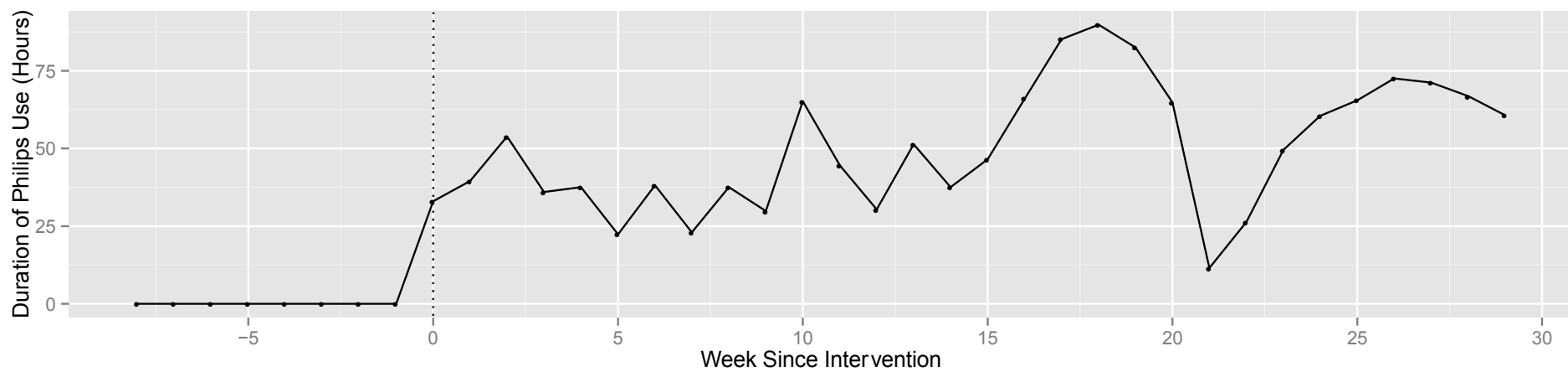
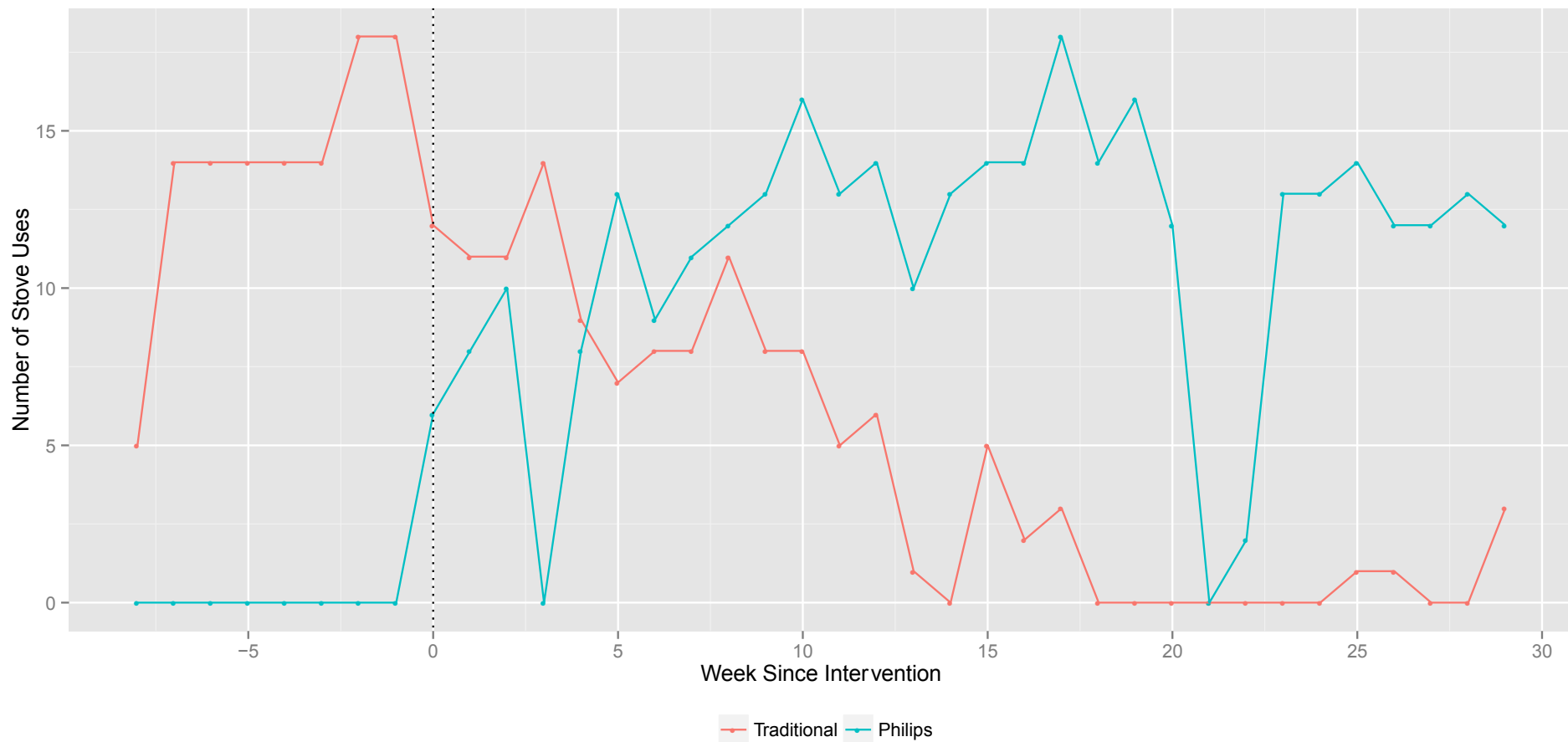
Monitoring air pollution, usage,
birth outcomes, and infant pneumonia

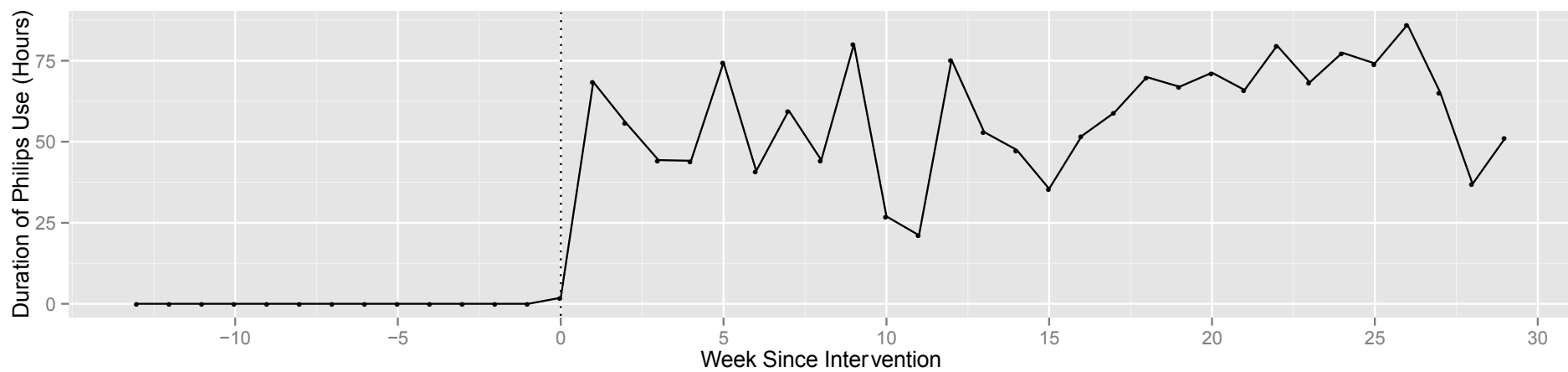
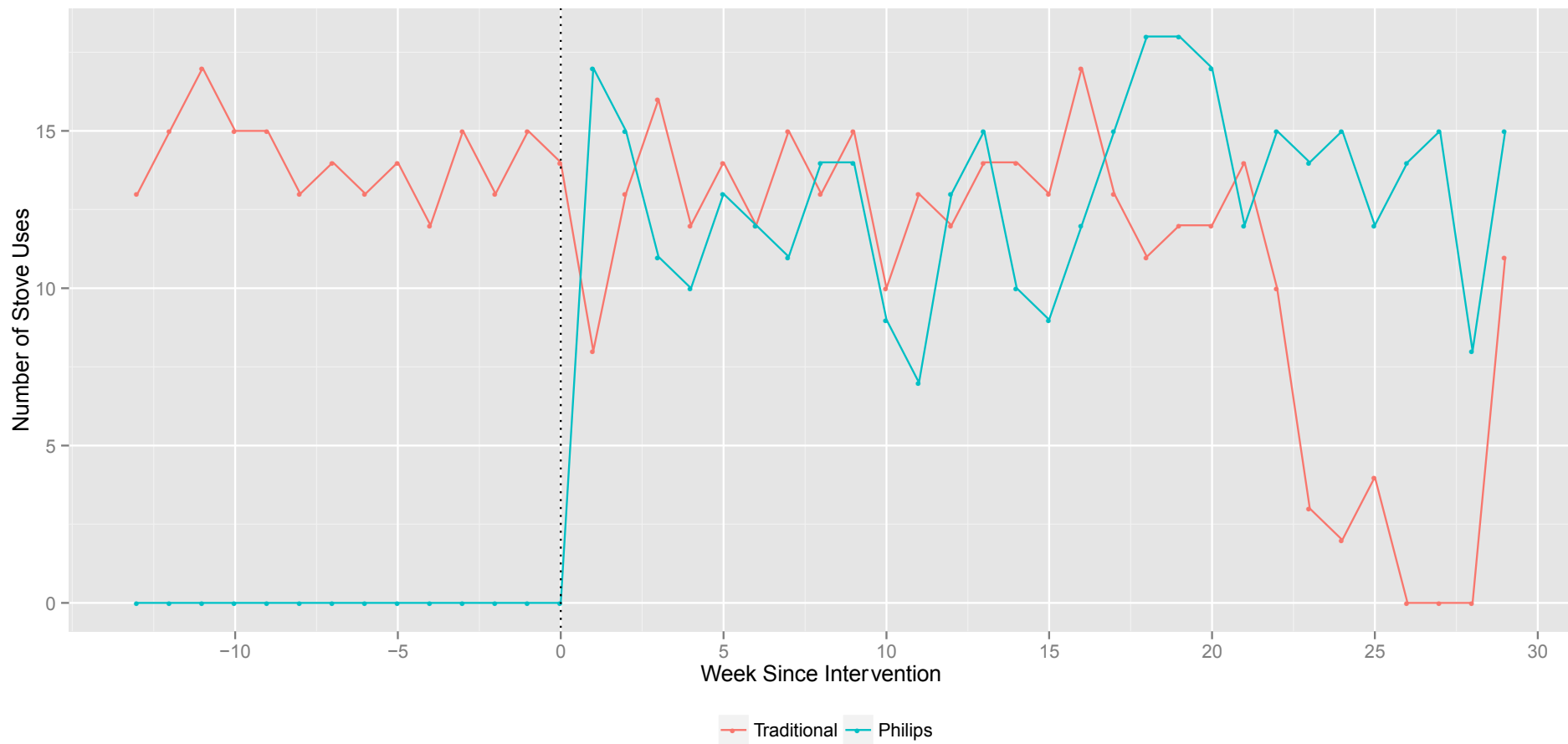


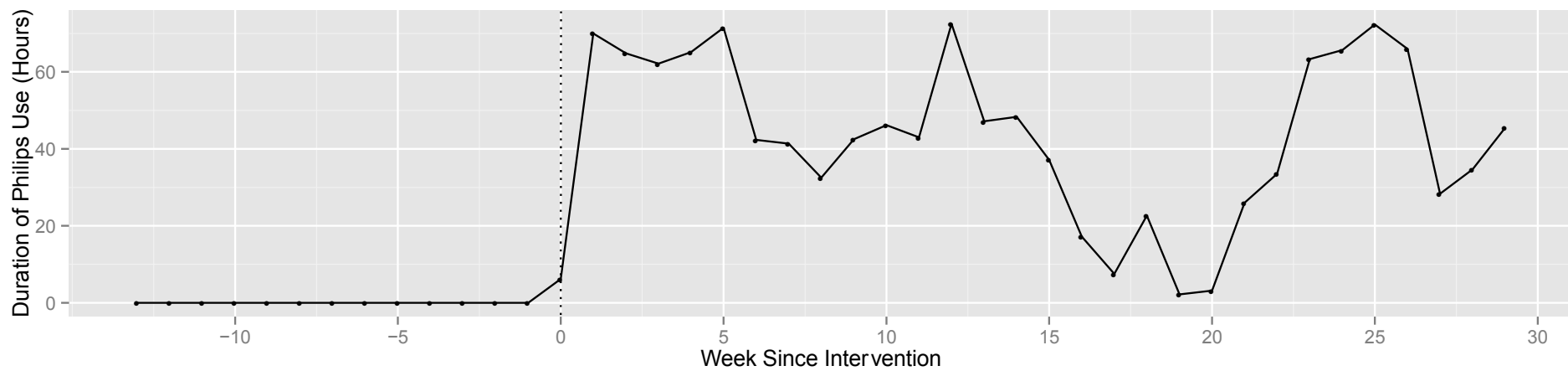
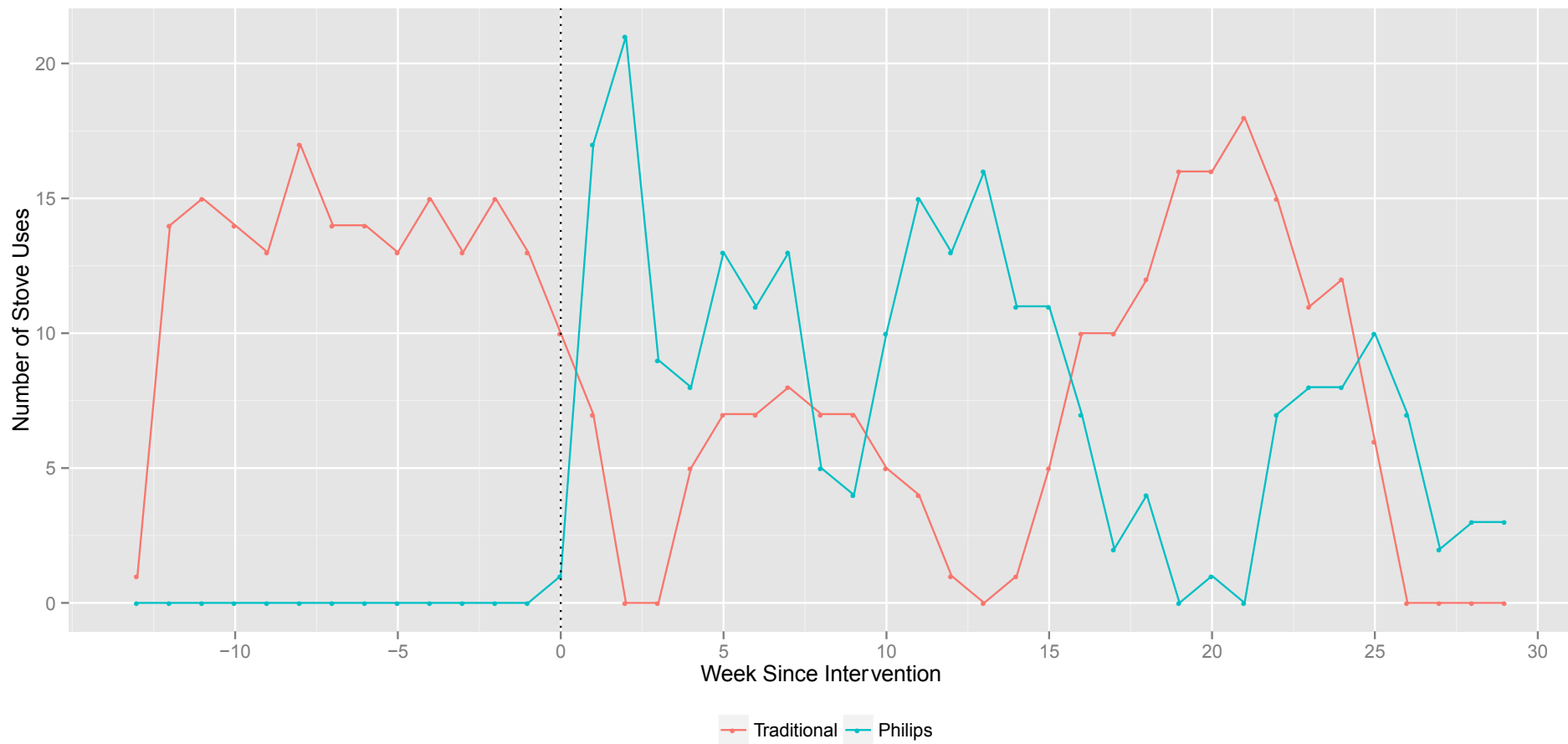


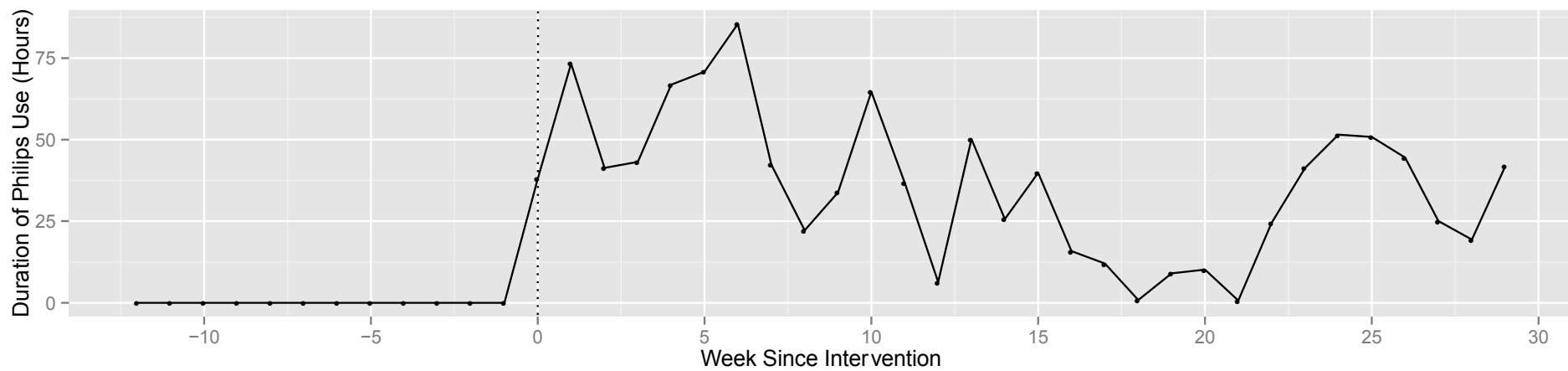
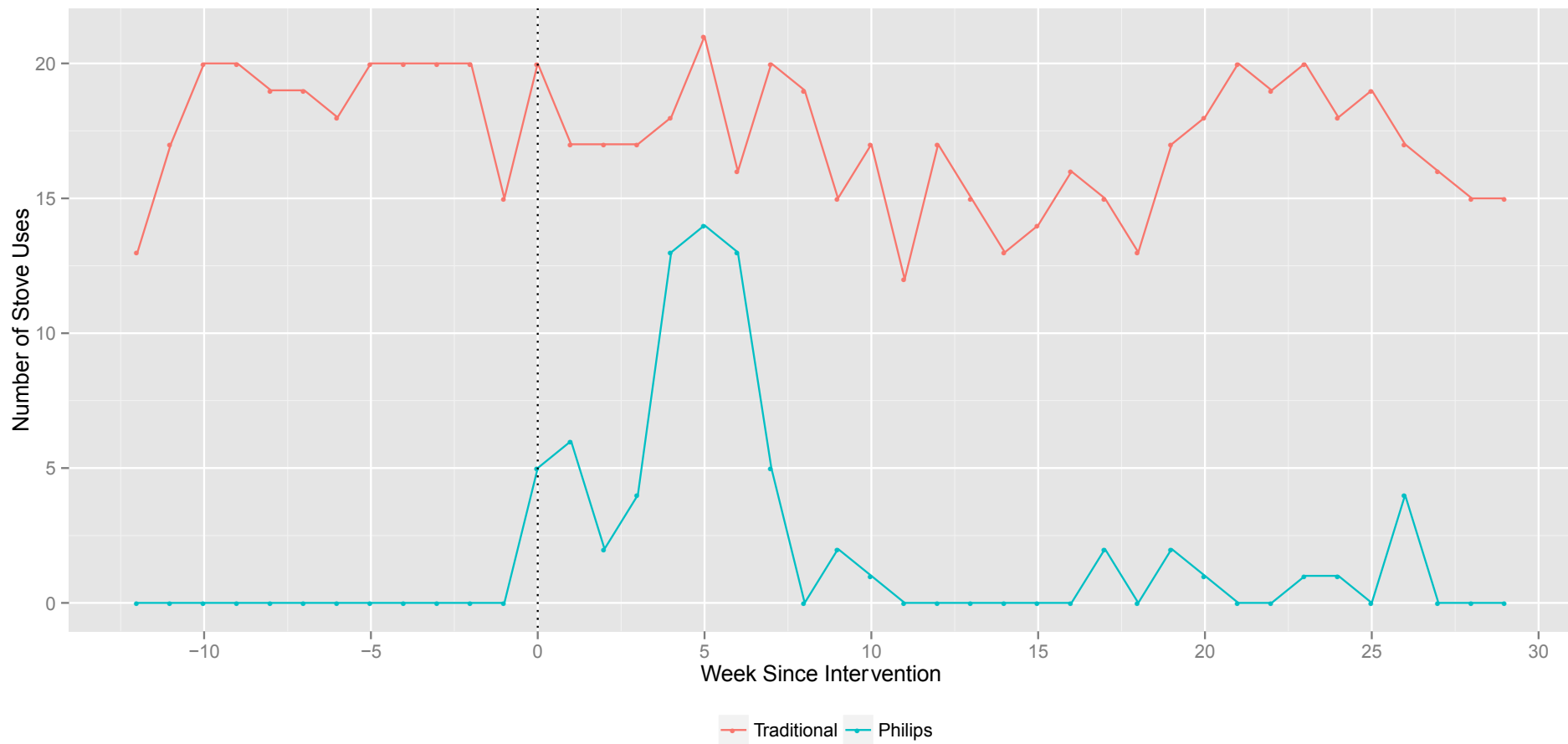














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Temperature dataloggers as stove use monitors (SUMs): Field methods and signal analysis

Ilse Ruiz-Mercado^{a,b,*}, Eduardo Canuz^c, Kirk R. Smith^b

^a Civil Systems, Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, 760 Davis Hall, Berkeley, CA 94705-1710, USA

^b Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, 50 University Hall, Berkeley, CA 94705-7360, USA

^c Centro de Estudios en Salud, Universidad del Valle, Guatemala City, Guatemala

2012

Lesson

You don't get what you
expect, but what you inspect

(No lograrás lo que esperás, sino
lo que inspeccionás)

Bottom Lines

- HAP a major health problem in poor populations
- Interventions must be very clean to make a difference
 - Exposure-response evidence – non-linear
 - Field performance does not come up to lab
 - Usage less than 100%
 - Traditional devices not given up 100%
- A very difficult problem – not amendable to simple technologies or dissemination schemes

Just because we know it's a risk,
does not mean we know how to fix it

- ~1900: Mosquito-born disease cause established, but still 1.4 million die of malaria today
- ~1890: causation of health risk from human waste in drinking water firmly established: still today one-third of world population without adequate sanitation/water

Why is it so hard?

- What we know works, but gas and electricity (piped water/flush toilets), not “affordable” by the poor.
- Other technologies difficult and less effective and insufficient profits for private sector to enter
- Particularly difficult because of the high component of behavioral change required
- Easy unhealthy alternatives available – gathered biomass (and open defecation)
- Yet, the fact that 60% of the world is now protected, gives us reason to think we can protect the other 40%

What to do

1. Expand use of what works – gas stoves and electric cooking appliances. Top priority.
2. Develop really clean biomass stoves– close to gas performance in the lab needed
3. Deploy with chimneys where at all possible
4. Upgrade kitchens – lift cooking off the floor – change social expectations of the kitchen
5. Treat seriously – big problems require big solutions – need best combustion, materials, manufacturing, marketing, financing solutions the world can find

Problem

- Word “improved” is highly misleading.
- Should be avoided as it is relative to something usually undefined.
- Absolute terms are needed
 - High efficiency
 - Clean or low emissions
- And, very unfortunately, the two often do not go together

International Standards Process

- International Standards Organization (ISO)
 - Preliminary standards now available for emissions, efficiency, etc. (IWA)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
 - Indoor air quality guidelines
 - Total and indoor emissions limits to be published late this year
- Final ISO standards to incorporate WHO AQGs

Pollutant Emissions and Energy Efficiency under Controlled Conditions for Household Biomass Cookstoves and Implications for Metrics Useful in Setting International Test Standards

James Jetter,^{*,†} Yongxin Zhao,[‡] Kirk R. Smith,[§] Bernine Khan,[†] Tiffany Yelverton,[†] Peter DeCarlo,^{||}
and Michael D. Hays[†]

EPA Testing Lab, North Carolina
Only Independent Stove Lab in the World at Present
Using Modern Methods

EPA Testing Lab Results 2012

Total Emissions: Woodstoves

Cookstove	Tier	CO				PM2.5			
		High Power		Low power		High Power		Low power	
		(g/MJ _{delivered})	Sub-Tier	(g/min/L)	Sub-Tier	(g/MJ _{delivered})	Sub-Tier	(mg/min/L)	Sub-Tier
3 Stone carefully tended	0	11.2	1	0.230	0	719	1	10.0	0
3 Stone minimally tended	0	15.1	1	0.288	0	1350	0	16.5	0
Berkeley Darfur	1	5.2	4	0.093	3	277	2	4.1	1
Envirofit G-3300	1	5.1	4	0.080	4	478	1	2.7	2
Envirofit G-3300, reduced fuel feed	2	3.4	4	0.070	4	300	2	2.2	2
Onil	1	5.7	4	0.109	2	793	1	5.7	1
Philips HD4012 fan	3	1.0	4	0.015	4	62	3	0.7	4
Philips HD4008 Natural Draft	1	5.2	4	0.044	4	702	1	6.8	1
Sampada	0	8.9	3	0.072	4	623	1	8.4	0
StoveTec GreenFire	2	6.3	4	0.062	4	377	2	3.2	2
StoveTec GreenFire, reduced fuel feed	2	4.3	4	0.060	4	351	2	3.4	2
Upesi Portable	1	10.9	2	0.143	1	914	1	7.7	1

Jetter et al., 2012

Many thanks to

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Publications and
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