

## Drastic changes by the strong leadership in China for air pollution

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Joshua Graff Zivin et al. wrote an article entitled "Air pollution's hidden impacts" (1). Although Xi Jinping emphasized improving the living environment including air quality in the first presidential period, it failed because of uncontrolled bureaucrats (2). However, near the end of the first period and the beginning of the second presidential period, Xi Jinping has begun succeeding in solving air pollution problems dramatically. After environmental regulations strengthened by Xi Jinping, more than eighty thousands of factories have been shut down by unprecedented pollution crackdowns in the past year (2). The result of the double crackdowns means that 40 percents of all factories in China have been temporally suspended with fined or jailed in the latest spate of inspections (2). Although Xi Jinping knew the economically negative effects by air pollution crackdowns, people in China can observe the visible changes in air pollution by restoring the blue skies. The strong leadership of Xi Jinping has drastically improved the air quality in China. Air quality data in China are accessible at the following site:

<https://www.aqistudy.cn/historydata/>

### References:

1. Joshua Graff Zivin et al., "Air pollution's hidden impacts," *Science*, 05 Jan 2018: Vol. 359, Issue 6371, pp. 39-40
2. Yuhan Xu, "China shuts down tens of thousands of factories in unprecedented pollution crackdown," October 23, 2017  
<http://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2017/10/23/559009961/china-shuts-down-tens-of-thousands-of-factories-in-unprecedented-pollution-crack>