

heat-related illness:

35%

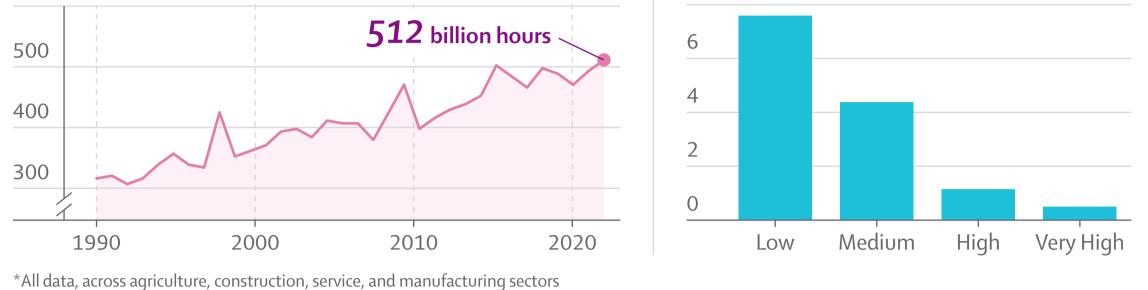
warning systems for mental and

And just 10% reported early

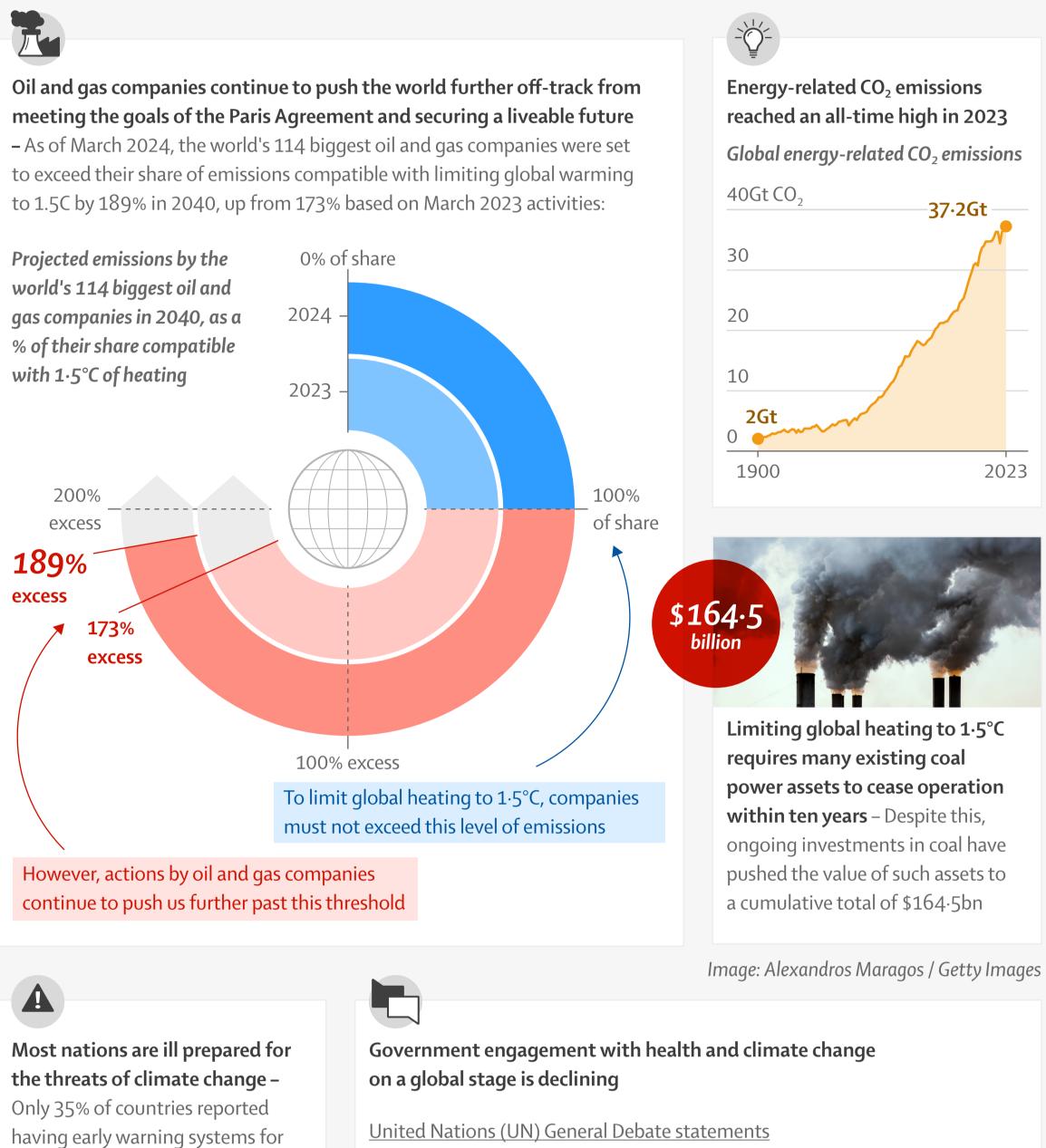
psychosocial conditions:

10%

2·3m



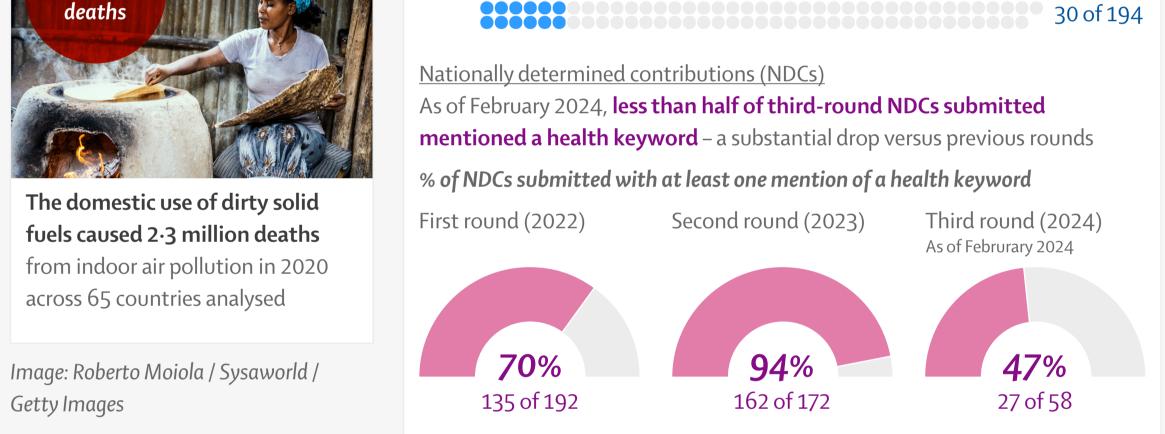
Despite years of warnings and numerous global commitments to the contrary, governments and companies continue to fuel the fire of global heating - increasing the risks to the health and survival of people worldwide



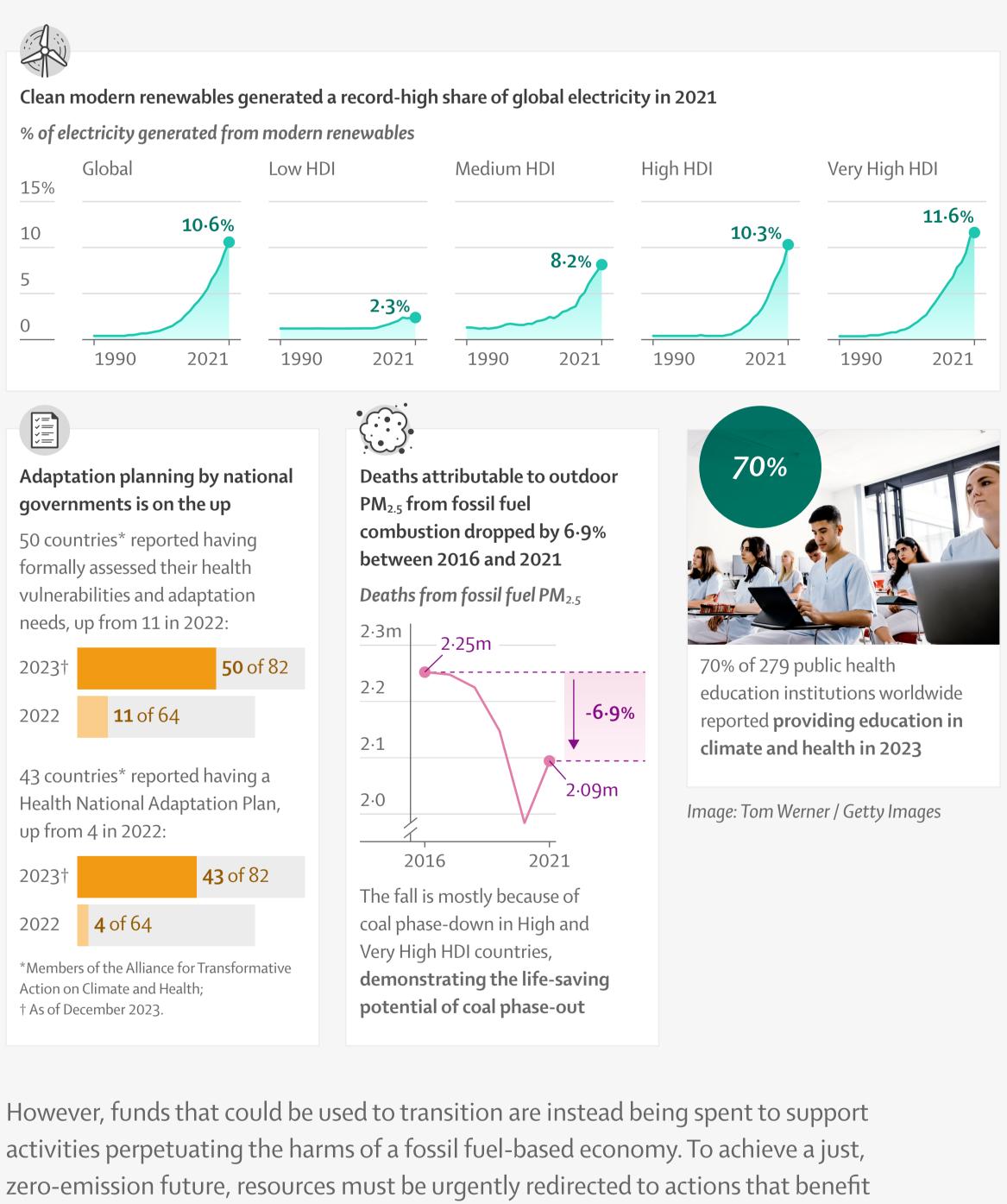
Just 35% of national governments mentioned the nexus of health and climate change in their annual UN General Debate statements in 2023. This is down from 50% a year before, but is still much higher than in 2016

Statements made and how many mentioned health and climate change

| Statements made and how many mentioned health and climate change |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| 2023   | <b>35%</b> 68 of 192    |
| 2022   | <b>50%</b> 97 of 193    |
| 2016   | <b>15%</b><br>30 of 194 |



# Evidence of progress shows that an equitable and healthy future is possible





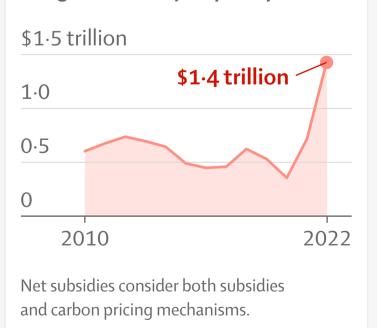
people's health and wellbeing



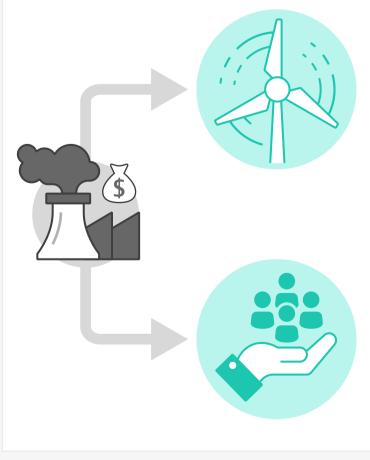
By phasing out fossil fuel subsidies, savings can be

### net government subsidies was allocated to fossil fuel companies in 2022

#### Net global subsidy to fossil fuels



reinvested directly into projects such as:



#### **Renewable energy projects**

Particularly those that support equitable access to, and uptake of, clean energy

#### Support for vulnerable groups that could be affected by subsidy removal

For example, cash transfers, social protection programs, and targeted subsidies for accessing clean energy

## The report identifies seven new opportunities to put health at the centre of the world's response to climate change

Put health at the centre of national commitments to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. Countries are due to update their nationally determined contributions by 2025 in response to the first Global Stocktake

Invest in a healthy future. Fossil fuel subsidies reached record-high levels in 2022 as energy prices soared, and fossil fuels still attract 36.6% of global energy investment—this funding could be redirected

Deliver climate finance commitments that promote human wellbeing and equity. At COP29, the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance is due to be adopted, and governing arrangements for the Loss and Damage fund will be considered and approved

Make protecting the health, wellbeing, and livelihoods of present and future generations the primary goal of climate action. The metrics to monitor progress against the Global Goal on Adaptation and Fourteenth General Programme of Work (GPW14) are being defined in 2024-25

Shape societies to promote health, equity, and climate justice. At COP28, parties agreed to hold biannual dialogues under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Just **Transition Work Programme** 

Build future-proofed health systems. WHO's GPW14 and 77th World Health Assembly (WHA77) resolution on health and climate change established responding to climate change as a core priority

Tackle climate change through public health interventions. WHO's GPW14 and WHA77 resolution established a priority to address health determinants and the root causes of ill health in key policies across sectors, including by tackling air pollution and unhealthy diets

Images: Luis Alvarez / Jia Yu / MoMo Productions / Bob Krist / Kseniya Ovchinnikova / Getty Images

Read the 2024 report of the Lancet countdown on health and climate change online at www.thelancet.com/countdown-health-climate

# THE LANCET

