New National Air Quality Standard: Fine Particulate Matter

Public Meeting • May 13, 2024

Daniela Tower, Air Quality Planner



EPA Revision of the PM2.5 Annual Design Value

PM_{2.5} Primary Annual Standard

- Former Standard: 12.0 μg/m³ annual mean, averaged over 3 years
- New Standard as of February 7, 2024: 9.0 μg/m³

PM_{2.5} 24-hour Standard

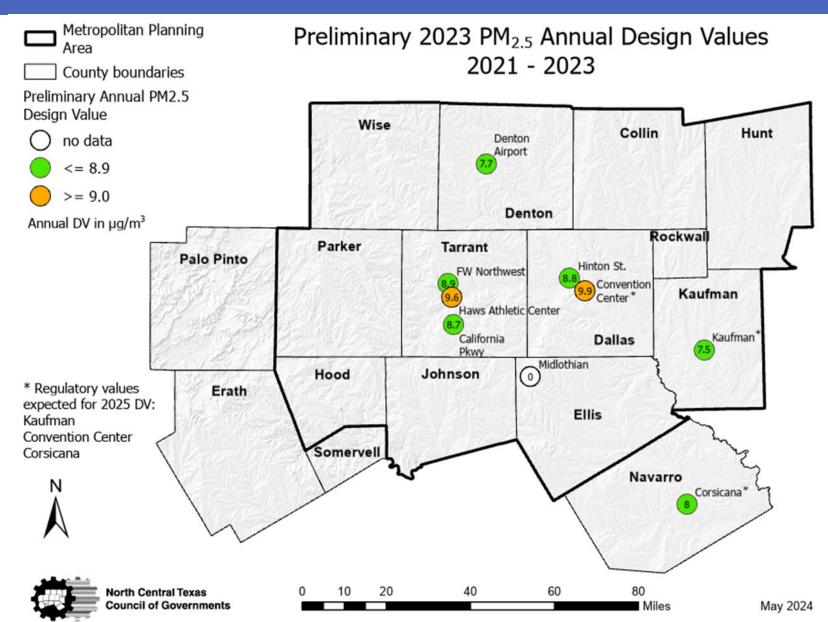
- Current: $35 \mu g/m^3 98^{th}$ percentile, averaged over 3 years
- Standard retained: 35 μg/m³

PM₁₀ 24-hour Standard

- Current: 150 μg/m³ 98th percentile, averaged over 3 years
- Standard retained: 150 μg/m³

EPA Revision of the PM2.5 Annual Design Value

On February 7, 2024, EPA changed the PM_{2.5} NAAQ Standard from 12.0 µg/m³ to 9.0 µg/m³.



Implications of the Decision

PM_{2.5} Primary Annual Standard Potential for Dallas and Tarrant Counties to be in Nonattainment

County – Monitoring Station 2020 - 2022		County – Monitoring Station 2021 - 2023	Preliminary Data
Dallas – Convention Center	9.4 μg/m³	Dallas - Convention Center	9.9 μg/m ³
Tarrant – Fort Worth NW	$9.1 \mu g/m^3$	Tarrant – Haws Athletic Center	$9.6 \mu g/m^{3}$

112 counties nation-wide do not meet 9.0 µg/m³

EPA projections show 51 would not meet 9.0 μ g/m³ in 2032

PM_{2.5} 24-Hour Standard None

PM₁₀ 24-Hour Standard None



Designation Process

Designations will be based on a "5-Factor Analysis"

- 1. Air Quality Data NAAQS Annual Design Value
- 2. Emissions and emissions-related data identified both direct and precursors of PM_{2.5} Precursors: SO₂, NO_x, total VOC, and NH₃
- 3. Meteorology weather patterns and transport
- 4. Geography/Topography physical regional features and transport
- 5. Jurisdictional Boundaries planning and organizational structure of the area

Schedule of Revised PM_{2.5} Primary Annual Standard

TCEQ's 2023 data certification letter due to EPA by May 1, 2024

TCEQ public outreach meetings in June or July 2024

TCEQ solicits informal comments from the public in July or August 2024

Designation package to the Commission for consideration at the end of 2024 (based on 2021-2023 data)

Designation package to the Governor's Office for consideration

State's designations to EPA due by February 7, 2025

EPA sends 120-day letter by October 2025 indicating its intended designations if different from TCEQ (data may be based on 2022-2024)

State opportunity to respond prior to EPA finalizing its designations in 2026



Impacts and Opportunities

Initial area designations 2 years after final rules – by February 6, 2026 based on 2022–2024 or early-certified 2023–2025 data, nonattainment as "Moderate"

State Implementation Plan revisions (18 months after area designations)
Updated Emission Inventories, Control Strategies, Reasonable Further Process

Rider 7 Planning Funds (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality)

Modeling, Monitoring

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (EPA CPRG)

Project and Measure Development and Implementation Funding to Reduce Greenhouse Gases and Other Harmful Air Pollutants

PM Advance Program (EPA)

Voluntary Support, Technical Assistance



Sample of Mobile Source Air Quality Initiatives



















FREIGHT

NORTH TEXAS































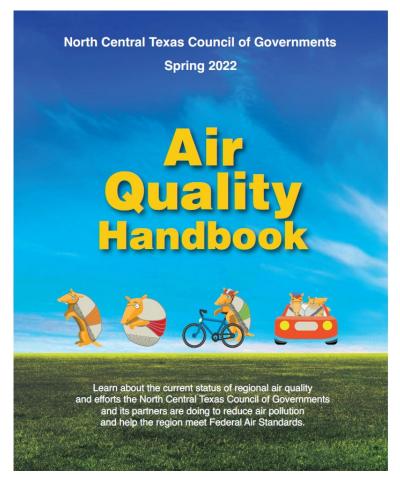




Air Quality Handbook

Multilingual

English



https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/3e4466f8-aad7-4979-b336-d0b79c6fd10e/aq2022printer_spring.508e33.pdf?lang=en-US

Spanish



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Vietnamese



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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