



EPA Region 7 NAAQS Update

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PM NAAQS Update

- On January 6, 2023, EPA announced its proposed decision to revise the primary annual PM_{2.5} standard from its current level of 12.0 µg/m³ to within the range of **9.0 to 10.0 µg/m³**. EPA proposed to retain the 24-hour PM_{2.5} at the current **35 µg/m³**.
- EPA also proposed revisions to other key aspects related to the PM NAAQS, including revisions to the Air Quality Index (AQI) and monitoring requirements for the PM NAAQS, with a focus on communities with environmental justice concerns.
- EPA received comments and will be addressing them in the final rule.
- We do not have a specific timeframe on when the final rule will be published.

Designations & SIP Development Process

- **Within 2 years after revising a NAAQS:**
 - EPA must complete initial designations with input from states and tribes.
 - Designations are based on the most recent three years of air monitoring or modeling data.
- **Within 18-24 months after designations:**
 - SIPs for areas designated as nonattainment for PM_{2.5} are due no later than 18 months.
 - Each nonattainment area SIP must outline the strategies and emissions control measures.
 - In addition, the Clean Air Act mandates that areas adopt certain specified control requirements.

Area Designations

Attainment: meeting the standard

Nonattainment: not meeting the standard

Unclassifiable: not enough data to make a determination

Ozone NAAQS Revisions Update

- On August 21, 2023, EPA announced we would initiate a new review process for the Ozone NAAQS, which was last revised in 2015 to the current NAAQS of 70 ppb for 8-hour ozone.
- EPA will incorporate the ongoing reconsideration into the new review process and will consider the advice and recommendations of the CASAC in that review.
- A call for information was published in the Federal Register on August 25, 2023, and is open until **October 24, 2023**.
- Then EPA plans to host a public workshop in **Spring 2024** to continue gathering information.

How 2023 Ozone Exceedances Have Affected Region 7

- 396 Total Ozone Exceedances in Region
- Every Ozone Monitor in Region 7 has had at least one daily monitor exceedance
- Source of Ozone for these events is being analyzed at this time, but most are expected to be impacted by meteorology and potentially influenced by emissions from Canadian wildfires interacting with other emissions
- St. Louis, MO-IL, R7's only Nonattainment Area for ozone, has had 132 exceedances at 10 monitoring sites, so far this year.



Region 7 States Experienced High Ozone and PM Concentrations in Summer 2023

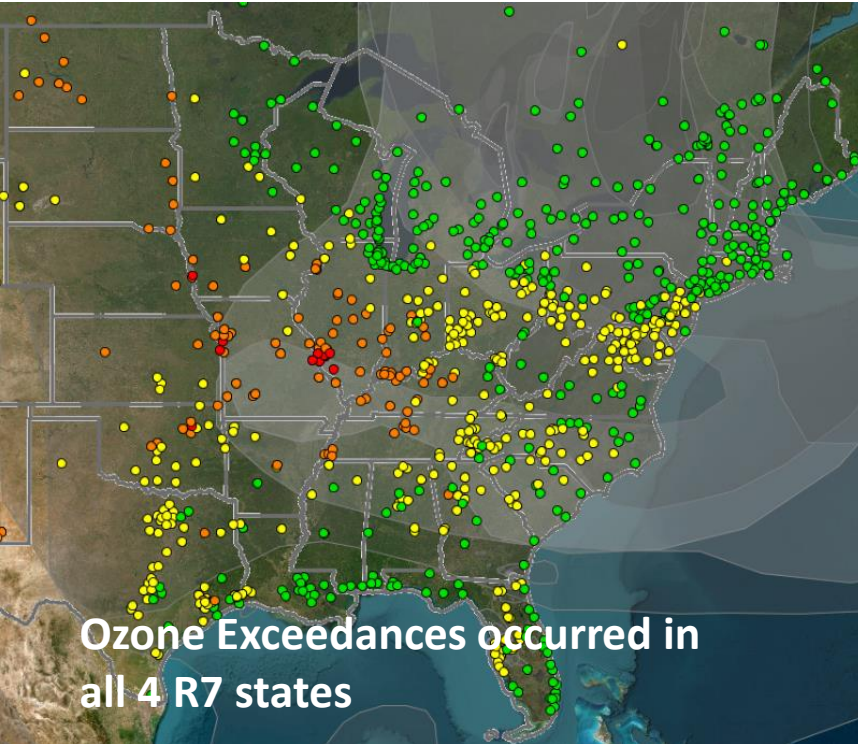
Note, these numbers are based on preliminary 2023 data that has not yet been certified.

For PM2.5, Region-wide there were 31 exceedances of the 24-hr NAAQS as of mid-August

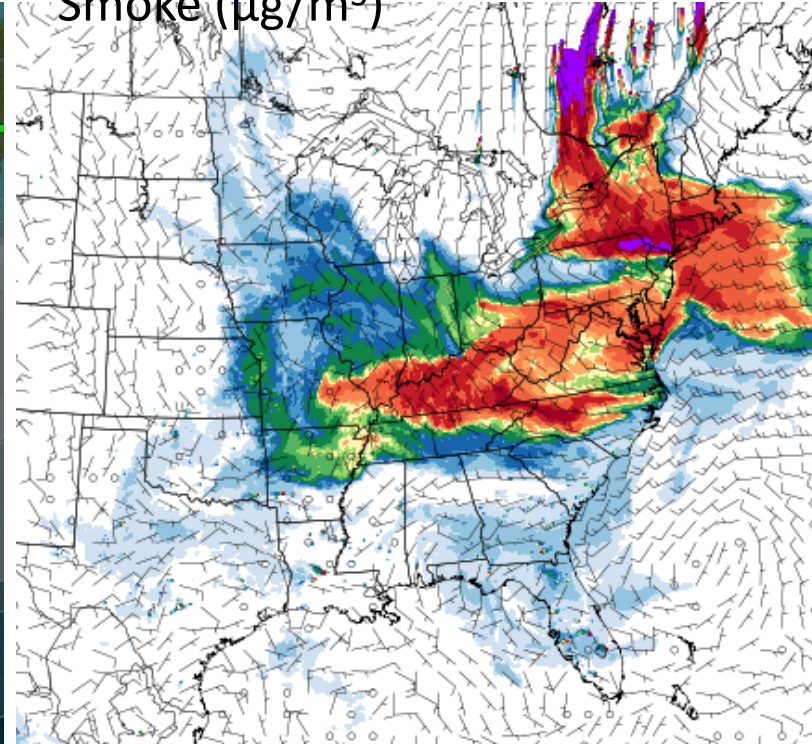
Individual Monitor Exceedances of the 2015 Ozone Standard		
State	2022	2023
Iowa	0	122
Kansas	12	46
Nebraska	1	52
Missouri	18	176
St. Louis, MO-IL Bi-State Area	28	132

Example Event: June 6, 2023 Midwest Ozone and Eastern U.S. PM Event

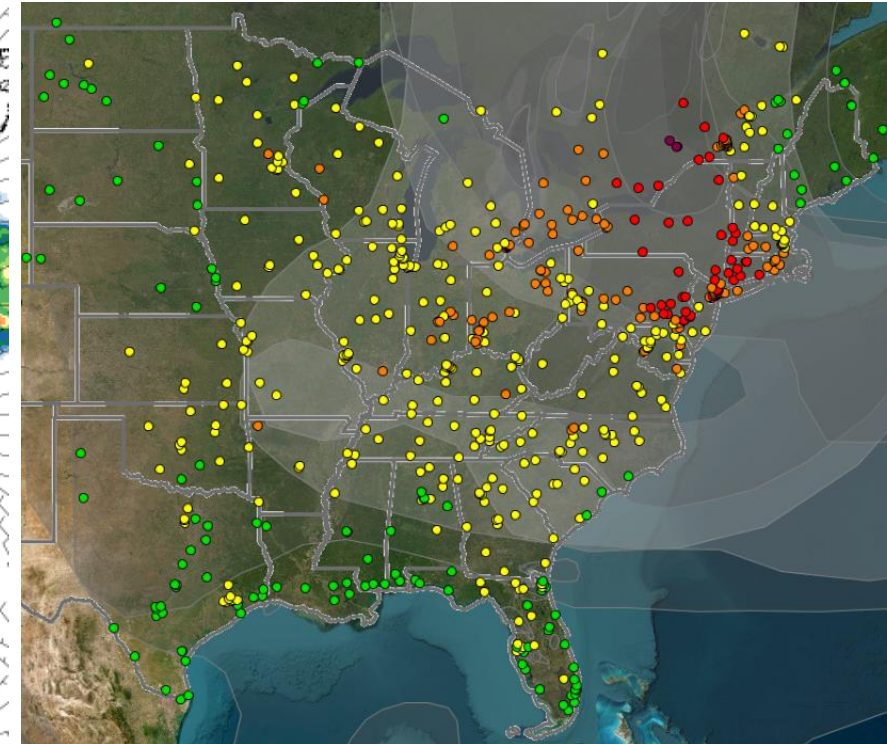
8-HR Max Ozone



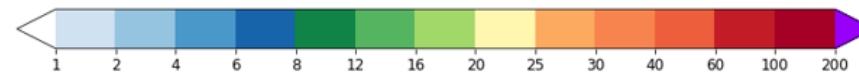
Modeled forecast of Near-Surface Smoke ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)



24-HR PM2.5



- Kansas City: 92 ppb
- Saint Louis: 99 ppb
- Omaha: 93 ppb
- Rural Nebraska: 71 ppb



HRRR-NCEP: 20230606 15 UTC
Fcst Hr: 6, Valid Time 20230606 21 UTC

East coast PM2.5 values > 300 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



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