

OZONE SEASON SUMMARY 2026

Sunil Kumar
Principal Engineer (Air)

ACPAC
July 20, 2026

Peak 8-Hour Average Ozone Levels (ppb)

March 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
44	37	25	21	25	33	29
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
41	48	51	42	40	45	49
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
47	34	40	39	46	54	52
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
53	39	42	49	59	39	44
29	30	31				
48	45	48				

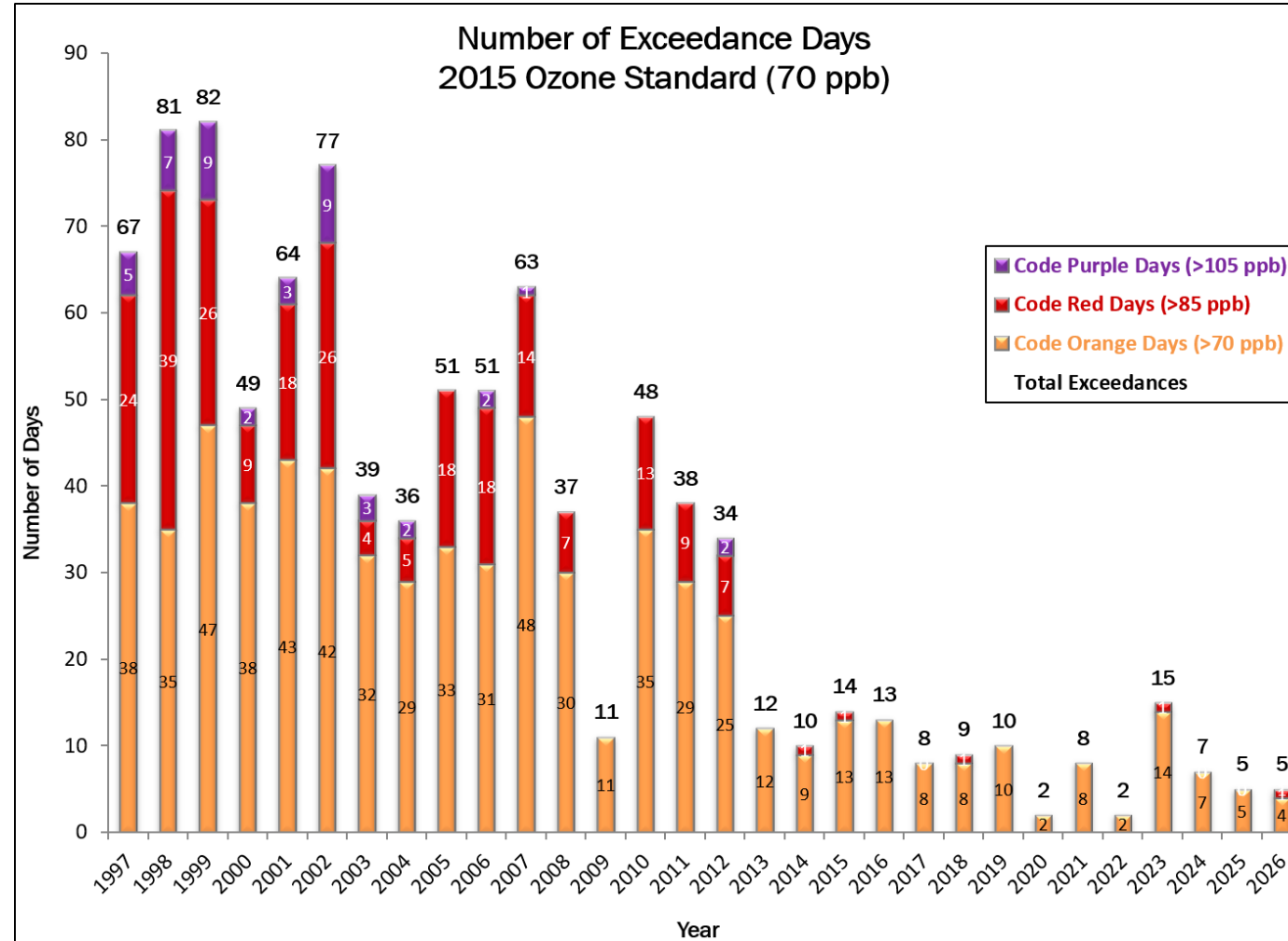
April 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	01	02	03	04
			49	27	42	49
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
39	49	50	51	50	56	54
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
52	52	54	53	64	61	59
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
48	48	52	55	67	62	45
26	27	28	29	30		
40	55	42	43	50		

May 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
					51	46
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
51	57	65	48	50	54	49
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
57	40	54	53	37	46	62
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
61	73	70	61	37	39	39
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
33	29	35	40	51	48	48
31						
59						

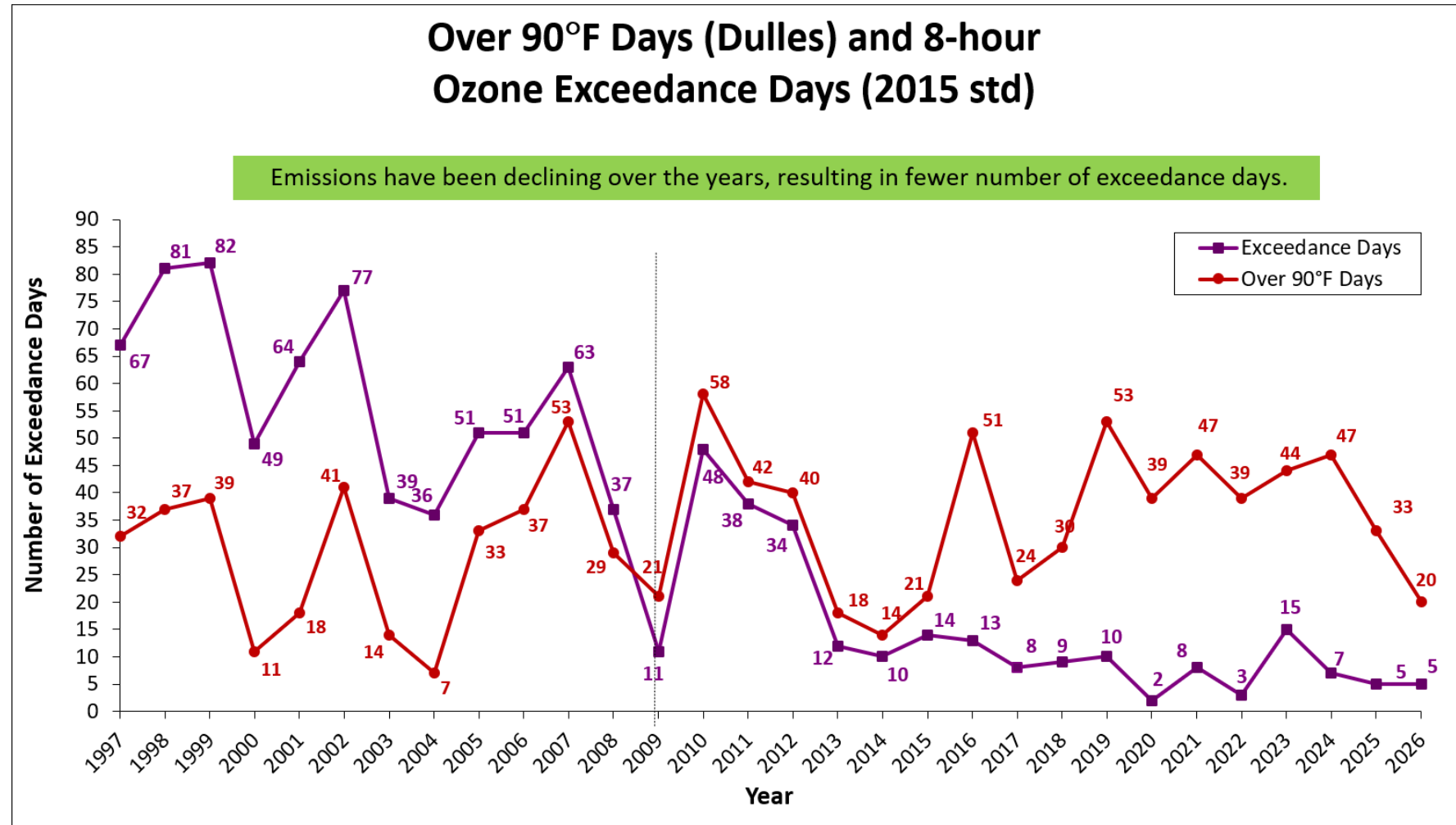
June 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	01	02	03	04	05	06
	59	52	57	64	79	60
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
62	42	51	40	50	52	65
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
54	52	57	59	53	54	55
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
58	53	36	49	55	62	51
28	29	30				
38	65	58				

July 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	01	02	03	04
			67	71	69	62
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
60	52	48	53	45	55	54
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
46	53	60	72	70	90	53
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

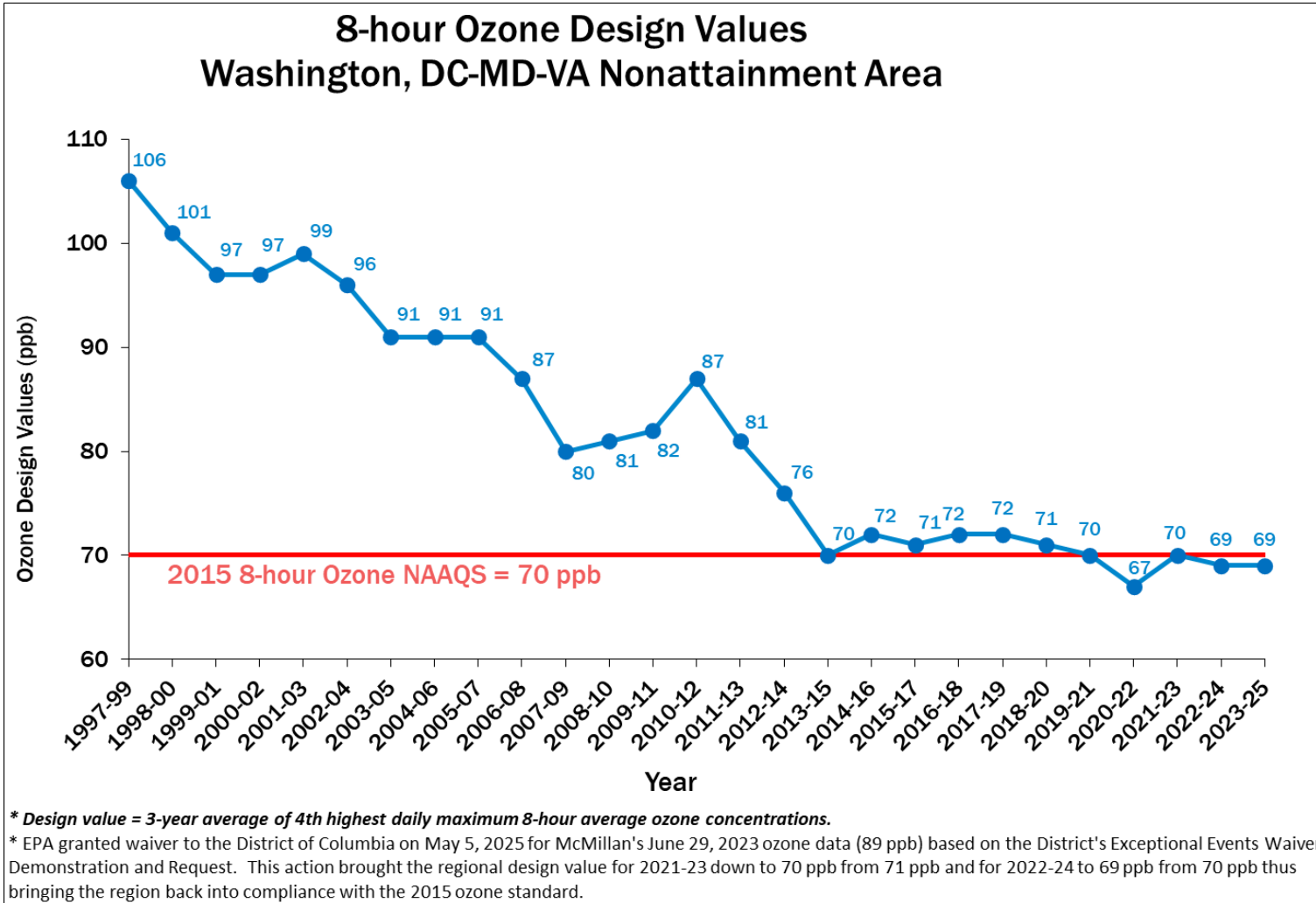
Ozone Exceedance Trend



Ozone & Temperature Trend



Ozone Design Value Trends



MWAQC scheduled to approve 2015 Ozone NAAQS Redesignation Request & Maintenance Plan on July 22 for public hearing and comment purposes.



Why Fewer Exceedance Days Now ?

Emission Control Programs

Federal	State	Local
Acid Rain Program (1996/2000)	Vehicle Inspection & Maintenance Programs	Renewable Energy Programs Regional Wind Power Purchase Program Clean Energy Rewards Program Renewable Portfolio Standards
Tier 2 (LD Vehicle) Rule (2004)	Maryland Healthy Air Act (2009/2012)	Energy Efficiency Programs LED Traffic Signal Retrofit program Building Energy Efficiency Programs
HD Diesel vehicle Rule (2004/2007)	Virginia CSAPR Rule	VRE Idling Reduction
NOX SIP Call (2004)	Ozone Transport Commission Rules	LOW VOC Paint
CAIR/CSAPR/CSAPR Update/Revised CSAPR Update (2009/2015/2017/2021)		Gas Can Replacement

24-Hour Average PM2.5 Levels (µg/m³)

March 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
8.8	7.4	13.8	17.3	24.2	18.7	8.4
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
9.7	9.9	10.9	13.5	4.1	4.5	4.4
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
5.8	4.5	2.5	5.2	7.2	10.1	9.1
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
12.2	6.2	4.2	7.1	14.6	7.3	4.4
29	30	31				
6.8	6.3	9.1				

April 2026						
Sunday						
29	30	31	01	02	03	04
			9.0	8.9	6.6	9.5
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
3.9	3.8	4.8	5.6	7.2	8.2	8.5
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8.5	10.2	11.1	9.7	13.4	6.0	10.0
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5.6	4.6	5.0	9.8	11.0	11.1	7.8
26	27	28	29	30		
4.2	7.3	5.0	5.5	4.0		

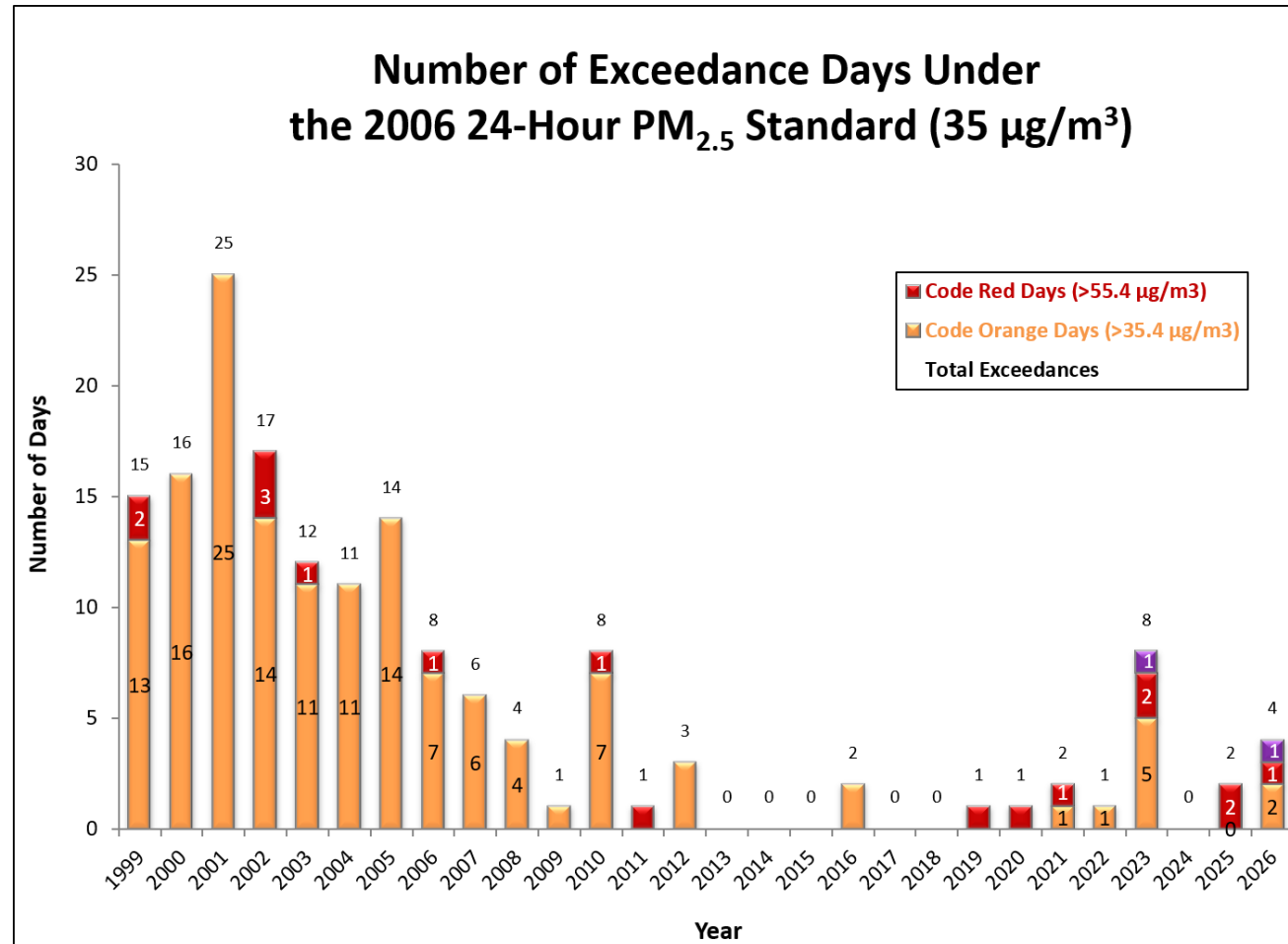
May 2026						
Sunday						
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
					3.4	4.1
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
3.5	5.4	8.0	7.6	5.1	5.7	9.2
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9.6	5.8	5.2	6.4	4.4	4.1	9.0
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
12.1	18.5	14.2	12.3	8.5	5.6	3.9
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
7.6	10.6	9.4	6.5	4.9	4.4	5.5
31						
6.1						

June 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	01	02	03	04	05	06
	6.1	6.0	6.5	9.2	12.3	13.1
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
9.5	5.4	6.4	11.2	11.0	8.1	6.6
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
13.3	6.6	5.6	9.9	10.5	4.8	10.7
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
12.5	13.4	5.0	6.3	9.5	11.5	10.5
28	29	30				
10.2	13.0	8.5				

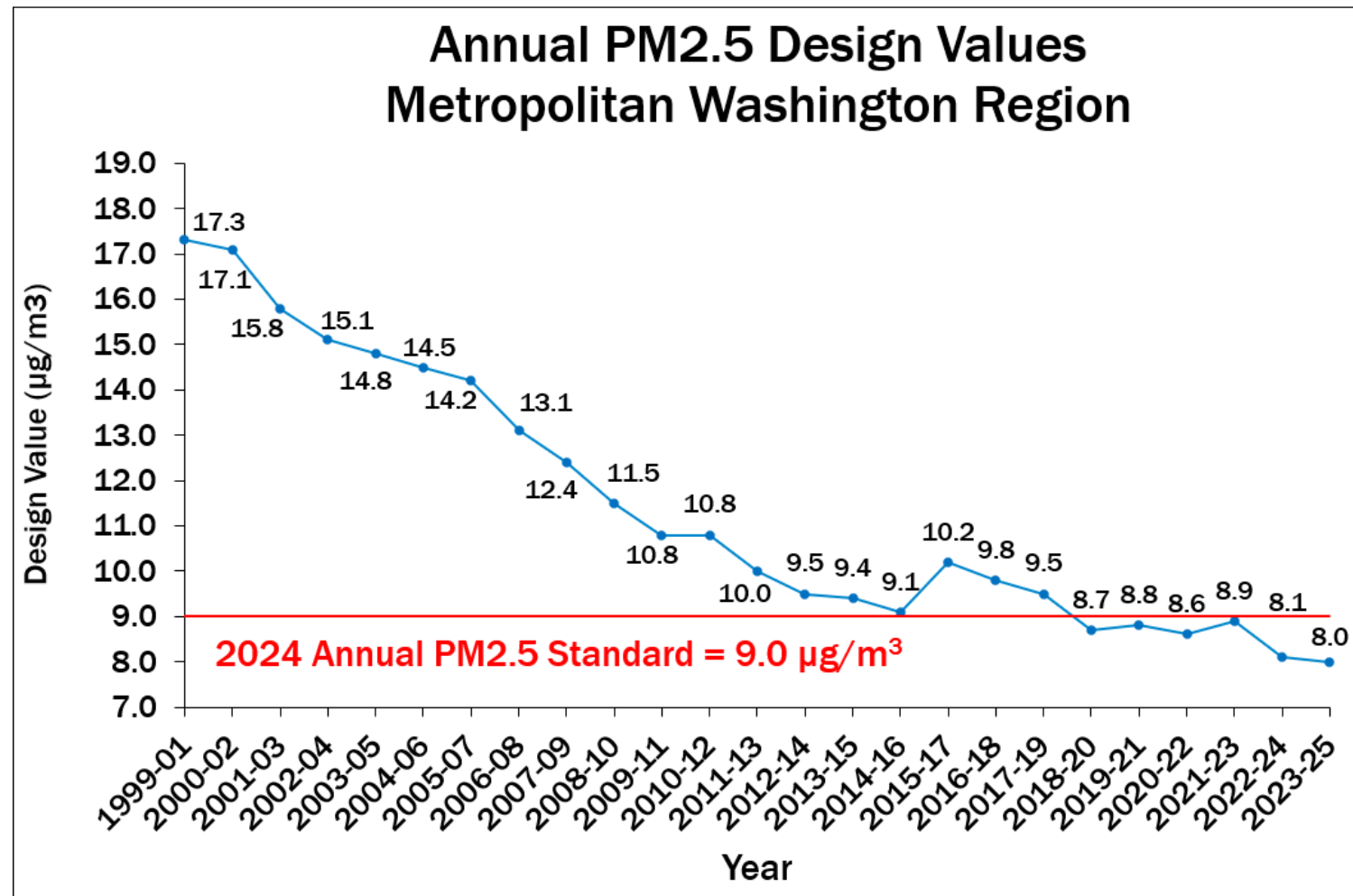
July 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	01	02	03	04
			23.8	26.4	22.7	38.2
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
54.7	11.3	13.5	9.0	8.9	12.1	10.5
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11.8	9.0	12.2	12.9	25.1	139.3	58.1
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



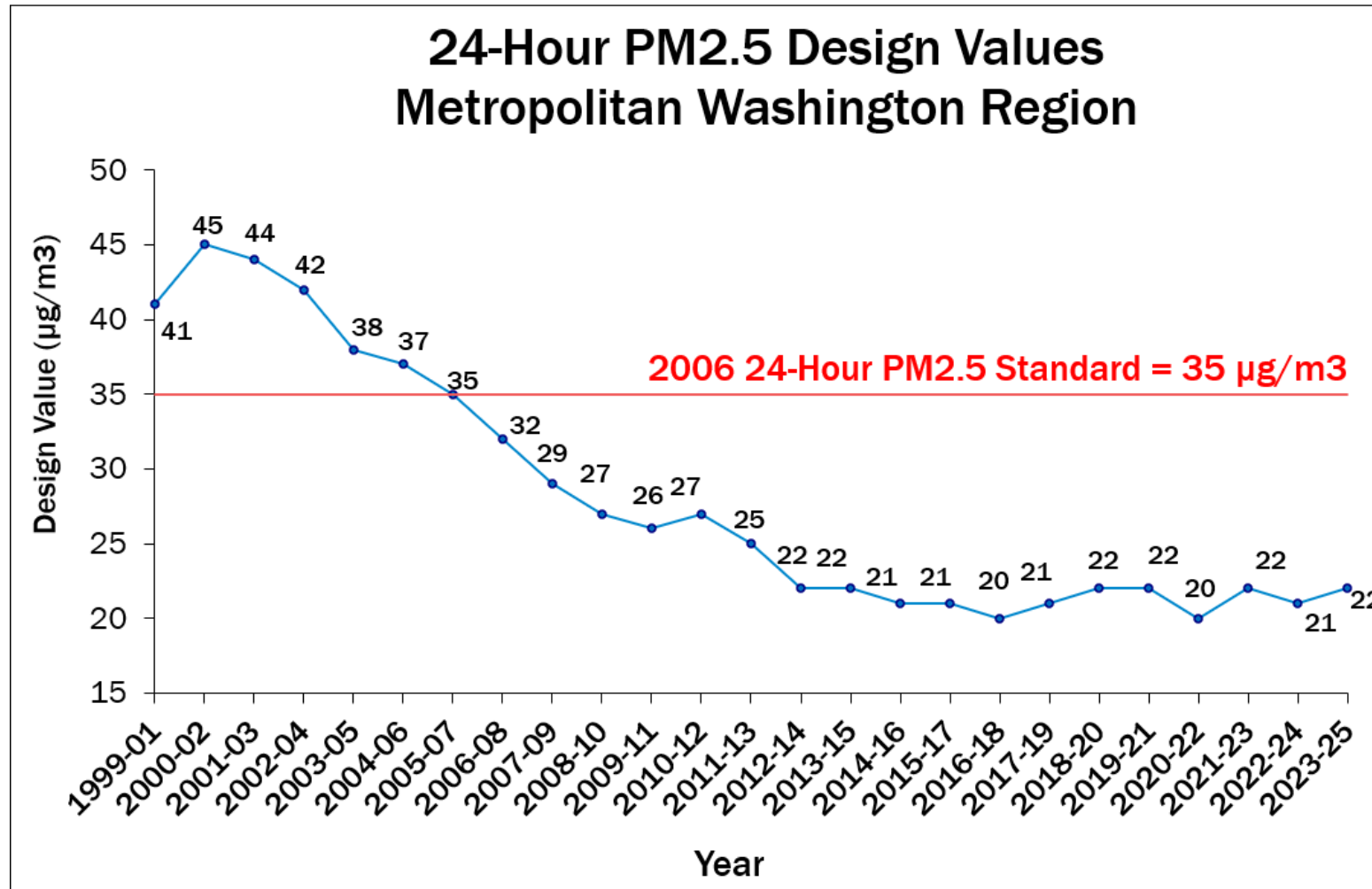
PM2.5 Exceedance Trend



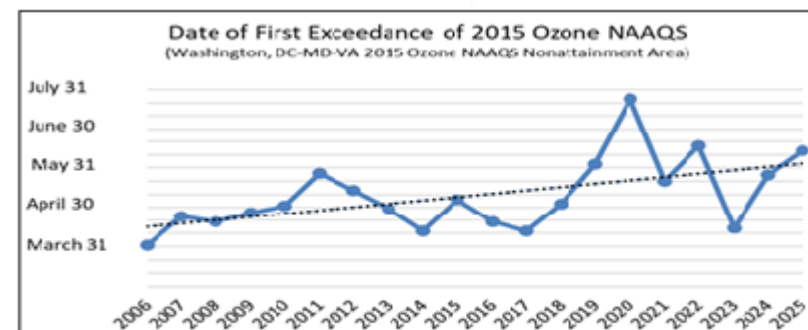
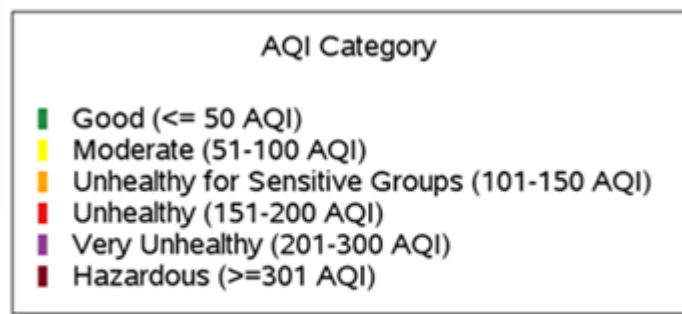
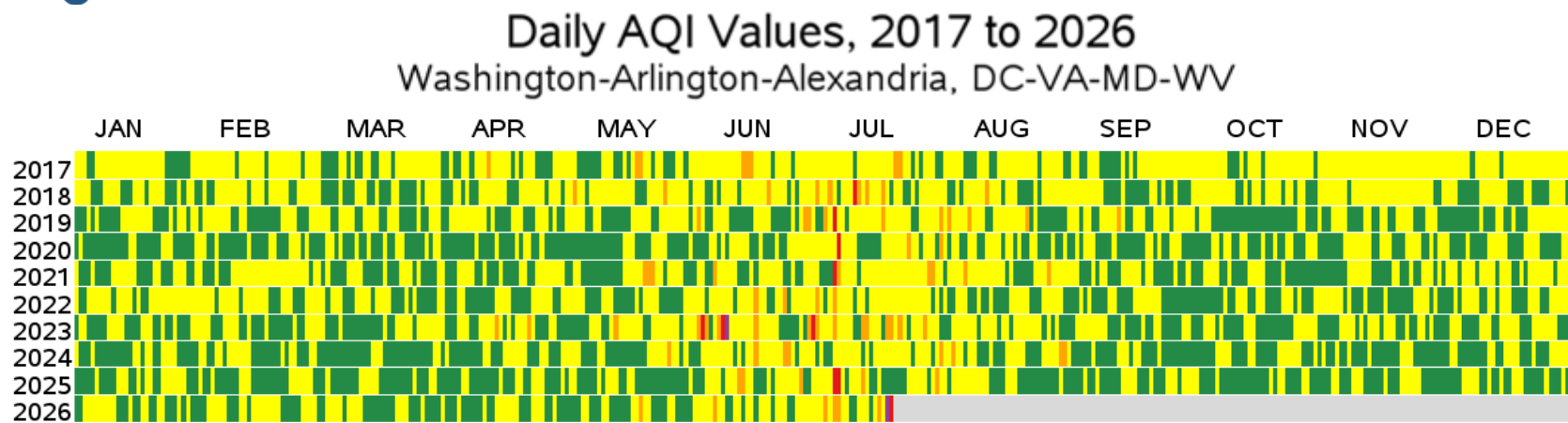
Annual PM2.5 Design Value Trend



24-Hour PM2.5 Design Value Trend



AQI Value Trends



Source: U.S. EPA AirData <<https://www.epa.gov/air-data>>

Generated: July 19, 2026

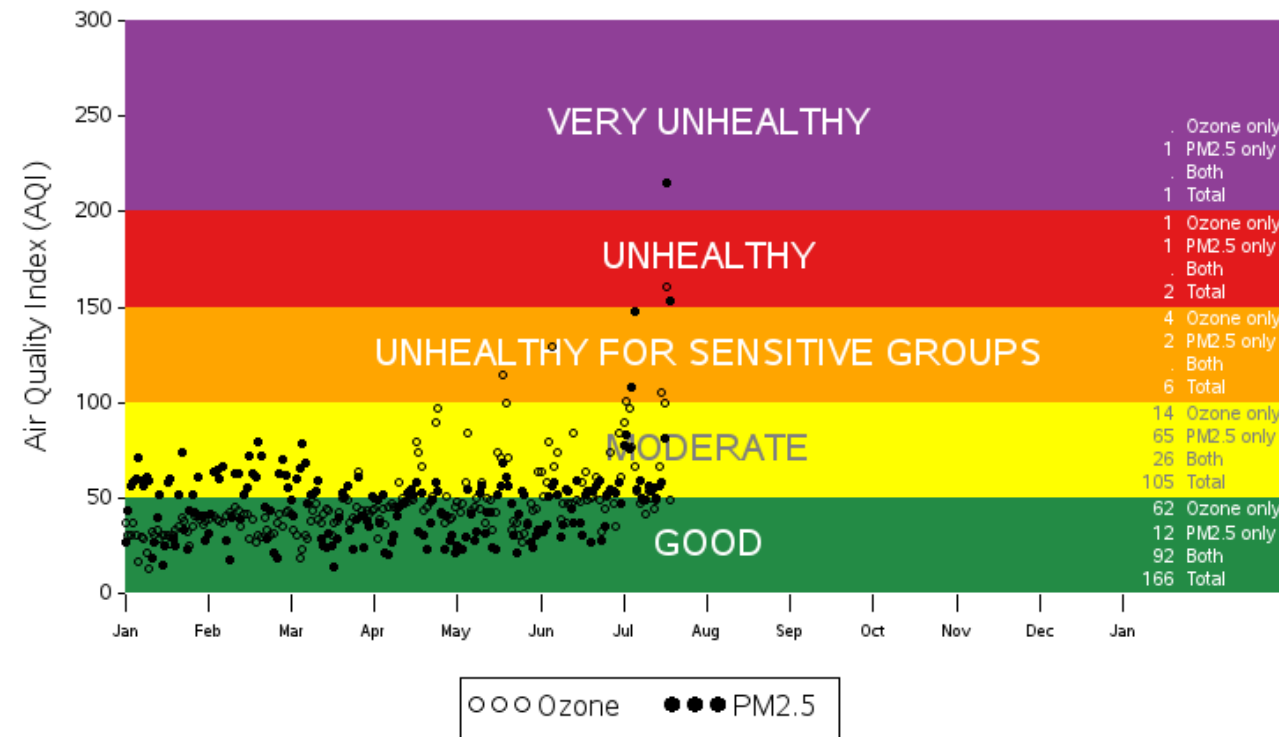
Note: Data shown above is for combined AQI values for ozone, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, CO, NO₂, and SO₂ for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria CBSA.



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

AQI Values - 2025

Daily Ozone and PM2.5 AQI Values in 2026
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV

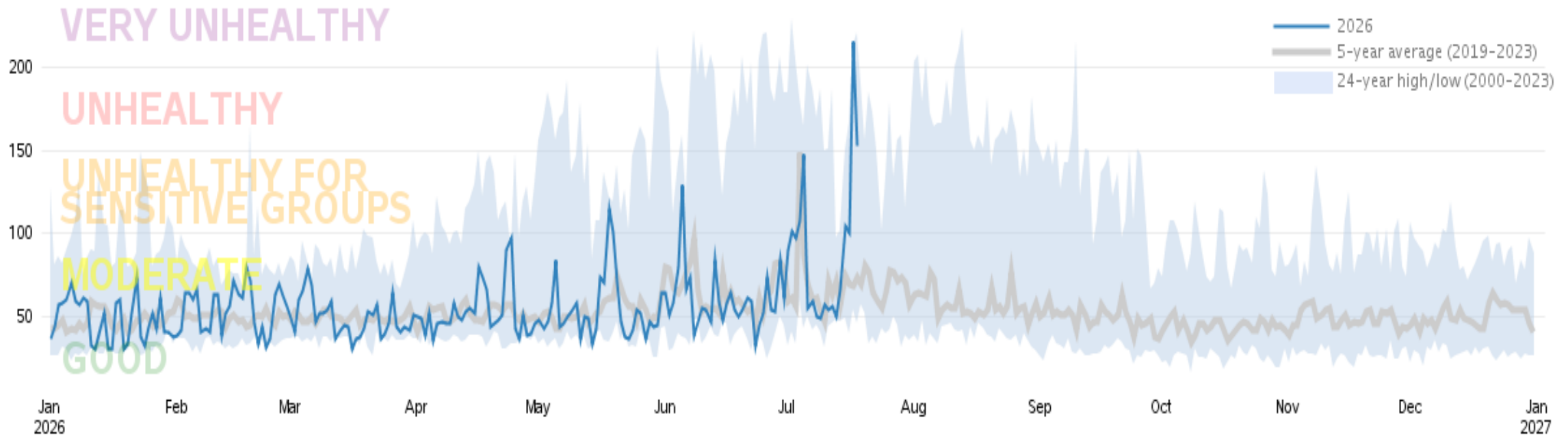


Source: U.S. EPA AirData <<https://www.epa.gov/air-data>>
Generated: July 19, 2026

AQI Value Trends

Combined Ozone and PM2.5 Daily AQI Values

Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV



Source: U.S. EPA AirData <<https://www.epa.gov/air-data>>

Generated: July 19, 2026

Note: Data shown above is for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria CBSA.

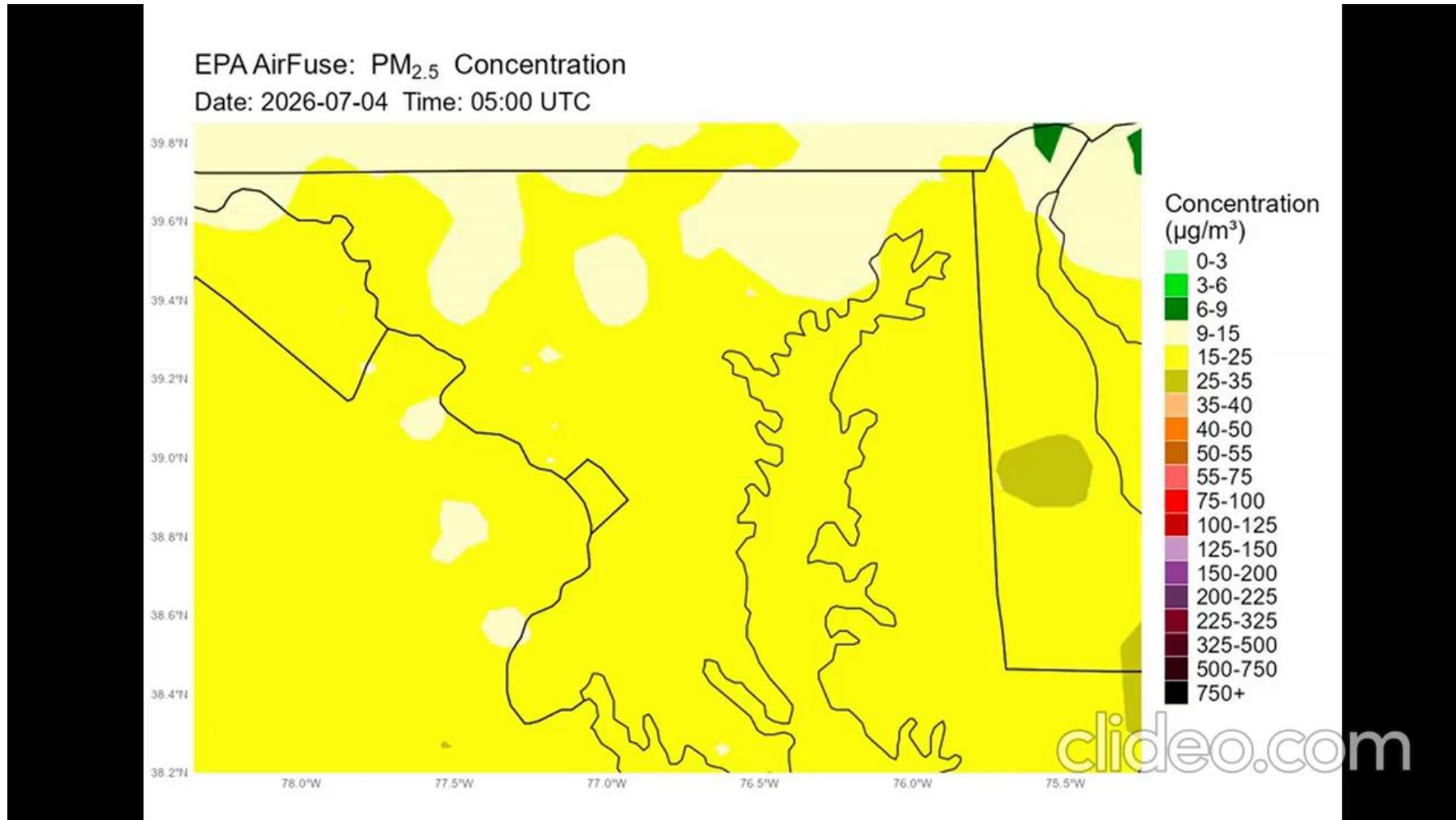
Air Quality - July 4/5 Fireworks

- July 4th fireworks were one of the largest fireworks in Washington, DC.
- Effect of fireworks is clearly visible in data between 6 pm on July 4th through 6 pm next day.
- EPA's Airnowtech data only shows code orange at DC near road monitor on 4th and 5th and at King Greenleaf and McMillan on 5th. However, including both 4th/5th data together for 24 hours shows code orange and red at 3 and 2 locations respectively.
- PM2.5 plume shown in next slide seems to have passed areas that don't have monitors, so the worse impact wasn't probably measured.

Site	Date (LST)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Monitor Location	State	24-Hour PM2.5 Avg (6pm-6pm)	Color Code
Ashburn	7/4/2026	16.3	16.1	15.8	14.2	11.7	10.2	7.8	8.2	10	9.8	8.3	8.7	10.1	11.4	11.8	12	14.1	11.8	9.4	6.6	8.2	20.9	15.1	10.9				
Ashburn	7/5/2026	9.3	11.9	12.4	10	10.2	9.9	10	9.2	9	8.9	9.1	9.7	10.2	10.6	11	11.9	13.4	16.1	12.4	10	10.4	8.6	6	5.7	Ashburn	VA	10.8	Yellow
Bald Eagle	7/4/2026	20.7	20.9	15.8	21.1	15	14.2	13.3	18.5	10.5	9	12.7	6.6	2.5	8	12.2	8.6	7.3	11.6		7.9	11	69.9	99.5	64.7				
Bald Eagle	7/5/2026	90.7	92.4	76.9	103.3	33.1	31.1	31.2	27.2	22.3	19.1	19.7	11.9	14.4	16.2	14.7	19.4	17	17.3	9.5	10.6	12.8	24.2	9.9	5.7	Bald Eagle	DC	39.4	Orange
DC Near Road	7/4/2026	23.2	16.5	20.2	14.9	11.7	10.8	14	12.2	14.7	17.2	10.2	7.8	7.3	10.6	13	12.3	16.4	17.7		24.6	83.3	167.2	202.4	191.5				
DC Near Road	7/5/2026	189	164.7	150.1	245.1	116.6	55	54.6	47.1	41	24.8	21.8	21.1	15.9	16.4	23.2	21.8	17.1	18.7	16.4	6.8	13.1	14.4	6.6	12.6	DC Near Road	DC	83.1	Red
Franconia	7/4/2026	19.5	18.5	17.5	15.9	14.4	14.1	13.6	10.8	8.5	7.4	7.7	8.2	8.4	9.4	10.8	11.5	12.3	10.8	4.9	10.5	10.6	21.3	27	26.1				
Franconia	7/5/2026	138.4	118.5	77.4	35	24.5	21.9	23	26.9	17	14.5	12.3	10.4	9.4	12.2	14.2	14.5	14.9	13.7	9.3	8.4	9.1	8.3	9.1	6.8	Franconia	VA	29.0	Yellow
HU-Belstville	7/4/2026	22	22	17	18	19	18	13	9	8	6	5	4	6	5	5	5	9	12	17	11	16	21	28	19				
HU-Belstville	7/5/2026	17	17	22	13	17	17	46	89	35	16	20	10	11	11											HU-Belstville	MD	22.1	Yellow
King Greenleaf	7/4/2026	20	16	18	16	16	13	18	19	14	9	11	9	12	11	15	15	16	13	0	36	42	109	108	101				
King Greenleaf	7/5/2026	61	56	248	268	54	55	52	37	37	33	26	21	14	17	20	19	22	25	13	6	7	25	10	10	King Greenleaf	DC	60.4	Red
McMillan	7/4/2026	19	16	16	16	14	15	15	21	10	10	11	11	11	11	14	17	9	11		7	18	74	68	36				
McMillan	7/5/2026	42	26	99	90	161	73	73	68	51	38	40	20	17	14	16	20	18	20	20	2	20	11	7	6	McMillan	DC	47.0	Orange
Springfield Near Road	7/4/2026	21	19.3	18.1	17	15.7	15.7	13.6	10	8.9	9.3	9	9.3	9.9	11	11.3	12.1	13	12.2	7.1	9.6	11.7	37.7	37.6	23.9				
Springfield Near Road	7/5/2026	27.9	67.5	38.5	17.6	19.3	18.4	16.6	18.8	18	15.3	13.6	12.8	11.1	12.4	14.6	15.6	16	15.1	10	8.7	8.8	10.2	9.1	6.5	Springfield Near Road	VA	20.6	Yellow
RIVER_Terrace	7/4/2026	23	19.7	15	16.4	14.7	15.3	18.1	13.3	15.5	3.6	9.8	6.9	8.6	14.6	9	11.7	14.1	8	0	17.1	17.3	156	112.7	108				
RIVER_Terrace	7/5/2026	94.3	77	79.1	141.4	57.5	34.4	34.2	55.9	52.2	21.5	16.4	13.1	13.2	14.3	18.2	17.7	14.9	18.3	11.4		6	11.4	2.9	6	RIVER_Terrace	DC	48.9	Orange
Rockville	7/4/2026	17	19	16	11	18	11	10	7	5	5	1		0	5	7	11	10	17	7	8	10	11	8	7				
Rockville	7/5/2026	17	12	12	10	11	11	9	12	8	9	13	16	22	19	14	13	12	16	6	6	5	3	3	4	Rockville	MD	12.0	Yellow

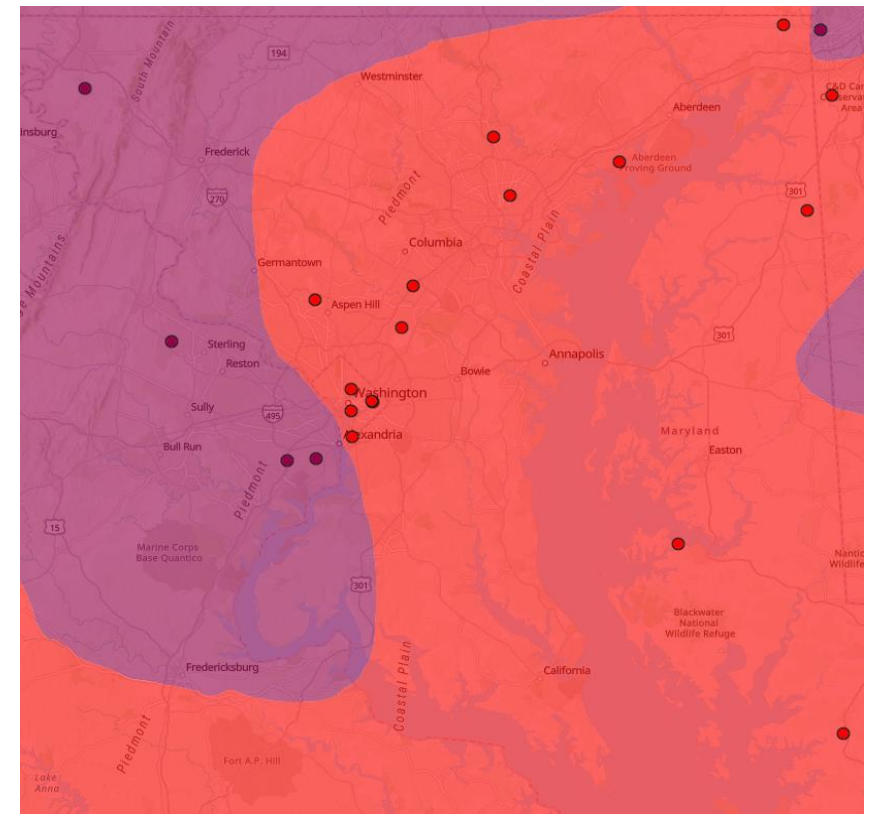
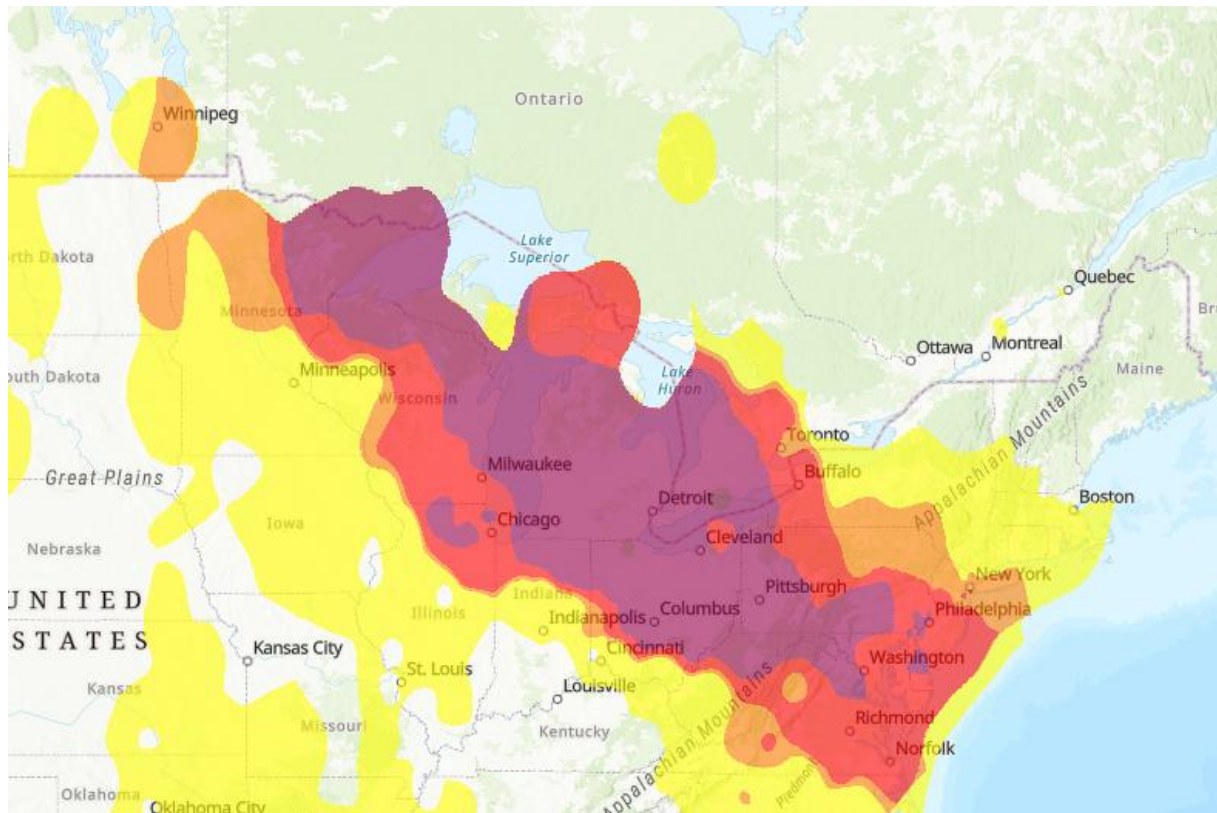


Air Quality - July 4/5 PM2.5 Plume



Wildfire & Air Quality - July 17/18

- Wildfires originating from SW Ontario in Canada affected air quality levels significantly on July 17/18.
- While the smoke caused Code Purple (Hazardous) levels of PM2.5 on July 17 and Code Red (Very unhealthy) levels on July 18, it also caused ozone levels to spike in Code Red levels on July 17.



Sunil Kumar

Principal Environmental Engineer
(202) 962-3244 / skumar@mwkog.org

mwkog.org

777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002