

For more information about National Park Service air resources, please visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/air/>.

2015 Ozone Standard Exceedances in National Parks

The National Park Service (NPS) actively monitors ozone at its parks from April to October. Ozone measurements are compared with the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets this standard as the level at which the ozone in the air becomes unhealthy.

The level of the NAAQS for ozone in 2015 was 75 part per billion (ppb), daily maximum 8-hour average. The NPS tracks the days when the standard is exceeded in the parks. The table below displays the parks and the ozone values along with the number of days where the daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration exceeded 75 parts per billion (ppb)[†]. The thumbnail on the right links to a map of parks with 2015 ozone exceedances.



Map of 2015 Ozone Exceedances (Click photo to enlarge)

National Park	2015 Season								Total Count	Max 8-hr O ₃ (ppb)	4 th highest max. 8-hr O ₃ (ppb)
	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.				
Acadia– Cadillac Mountain	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	83	70	
Acadia– McFarland Hill	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	76	65	
Cape Cod– Cape Cod	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	77	71	
Joshua Tree National Park– Black Rock	6	4	8	1	4	0	0	23	91	85	
Joshua Tree National Park– Pinto Wells	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	5	84	77	
Joshua Tree National Park– Cottonwood Canyon	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	85	74	
Mojave National Preserve– Kelso Mountains	0	0	7	0	1	0	0	8	82	78	
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks– Ash Mountain	1	4	15	6	17	9	1	53	90	88	
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks– Lower Kaweah	0	1	10	2	9	1	0	23	86	83	
Yosemite National Park– Turtleback Dome	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	83	73	
<i>Validation Level</i> [*]	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	

^{*}Validation level 0 indicates raw data. Validation level 1 indicates preliminary data. Validation level 2 indicates final, validated data. Counts of days with 8-hr average ozone greater than 75 ppb may change after the data is fully validated. The ozone season runs from April to October for the detailed current ozone conditions. During the winter, more limited numbers of locations and web products are available.

[†]This page references the 2000 NAAQS of 75 ppb, daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration. The ozone standard is violated when the 3-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration is greater than 75 ppb, which occurs when the 3-year average exceeds 75 ppb. An exceedance occurs when the daily maximum 8-hour average is greater than 75 ppb.

- Good
- Moderate
- Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
- Unhealthy
- Very Unhealthy

Annual Exceedance Summaries

[2015](#) | [2014](#) | [2013](#) | [2012](#) | [2011](#) | [2010](#) | [2009](#) | [2008](#) | [2007](#) | [2006](#) | [2005](#) | [2004](#)

[2003](#) (pdf, 137 KB) | [2002](#) (pdf, 146 KB) | [2001](#) (pdf, 136 KB) | [2000](#) (pdf, 133 KB)

Compiled Exceedance Summaries

- Exceedance days in parks; 1989–2010 ([pdf, 273 KB](#)) ([csv, 7 KB](#))
 - Annual maximum ozone concentrations; 1989–2010 ([pdf, 314 KB](#)) ([csv, 10 KB](#))
 - 3-year average maximum ozone concentrations; 1991–2010 ([pdf, 301 KB](#)) ([csv, 9 KB](#))
-

Related Links

- [Ozone Health Advisories](#)
- [Current Ozone & Weather Data](#)
- [Map of current ozone conditions across the United States](#)
- [Ozone Health Effects](#)

Last Updated: March 16, 2016