

What's at Stake for Michigan with New Ozone Regulations?

Manufacturers Face Billions in Costs for Ozone Regulation. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone regulation is one of the most expensive regulations in U.S. history. We have made incredible progress over the past 35 years, cutting ozone levels by one-third nationwide. This progress will continue without the new ozone rule.

No-Growth Zones Expand in Michigan, Growth Stifled. Despite decades of air quality improvements, the administration decided to throw hundreds of counties into nonattainment, stifling growth in many parts of the country. Up to 61 counties in Michigan exceed the EPA's new standards, counties that are home to 506,387 manufacturing jobs. The barriers created by nonattainment are impacting manufacturers today.

Local Voices Disregarded. Ignoring pleas from leaders in Michigan, the administration chose to set new targets before communities across the country could come into compliance with the 2008 ozone standards.

Outdated Law Ignores Current State of the Environment, Lacks Flexibility. The administration set ozone standards so strict that many communities find themselves in nonattainment despite the fact that the majority of their ozone comes from natural sources or sources in foreign countries.

Rigid and Unrealistic Deadlines Rarely Met, Make Little Sense. Unrealistically short five-year "review cycles" for ozone and other air quality standards lead to overlapping regulations. The EPA regularly exceeds these five-year deadlines, opening the door to lawsuits and creating an uncertain regulatory landscape for manufacturers.

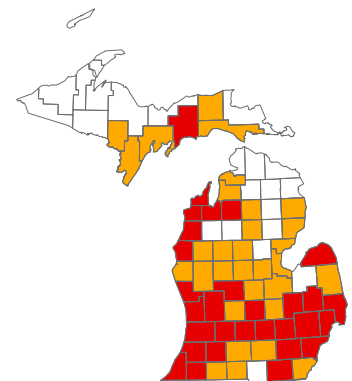
Time for Congress to Restore Balance. Manufacturers need Congress to step up, provide much-needed implementation relief and revise this decades-old policy to give states more flexibility and adopt a policy that better reflects manufacturing and the 21st-century economy.

"Ozone levels in our region and throughout the country have improved significantly over the last 15 years and will continue to improve over the next decade due to stricter regulations on motor vehicles and industry that are just beginning to take effect. This improvement will occur irrespective of the standard."

— Kathleen Lomako, Executive Director, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, Comments on the EPA's Proposed National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone (March 6, 2015)

Figure 1: Areas Exceeding the EPA's 2015 Ozone Standards (70 ppb)

- Areas with Monitors
- Unmonitored but Likely to Exceed 70 ppb



Based on a three-year period, 2012–2014.
Sources: URS, August 3, 2015; ESRI

Counties in Michigan Exceeding the EPA's Ozone Standards

at Risk to Be No-Grow Zones

County	Ozone Level (ppb)
Allegan	83
Muskegon	79
Berrien	79
Kalamazoo	76
Van Buren	76
Oceana	76
Barry	75
Kent	75
Montcalm	75
Ottawa	75
Lapeer	74
Livingston	74
Macomb	74
Oakland	74
St. Clair	74
Wayne	74
Mason	74
Newaygo	74
Ionia	74
Clinton	73
Eaton	73
Ingham	73
Lake	73
Lenawee	73
Washtenaw	73
Schoolcraft	73
Cass	73
Benzie	73
Grand Traverse	73
Kalkaska	73
Leelanau	73
Menominee	73
Delta	72
Mecosta	72
Osceola	72
Calhoun	72
Isabella	72
Genesee	72
Manistee	72
Gratiot	72

County	Ozone Level (ppb)
Sanilac	72
Jackson	71
Saginaw	71
St. Joseph	71
Shiawassee	71
Antrim	71
Monroe	71
Charlevoix	71
Branch	71
Crawford	71
Huron	71
Iosco	71
Alcona	71
Roscommon	71
Midland	71
Clare	71
Mackinac	71
Arenac	71
Luce	71
Bay	71
Dickinson	71

Based on a three-year period, 2012–2014; modeled and interpolated data.
Sources: URS, August 3, 2015; ESRI