

What's at Stake for Ohio 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 Ohio, 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 42 counties in Ohio exceed the EPA's new standards, counties that are home to 419,191 manufacturing jobs. The barriers created by nonattainment are impacting manufacturers today.

Local Voices Disregarded. Ignoring pleas from leaders in Ohio, 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Outdated Law Ignores Current State of the Environment, Lacks Flexibility.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.

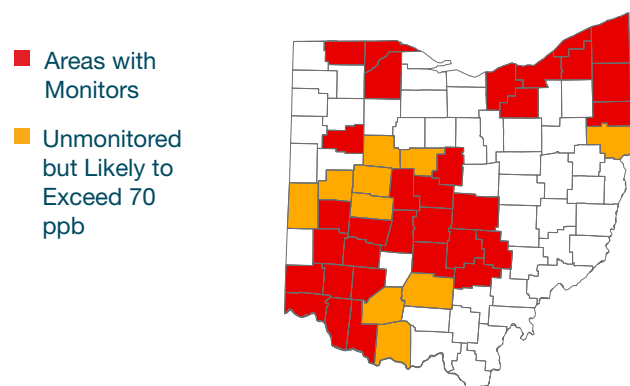
Rigid and Unrealistic Deadlines Rarely Met, Make Little Sense. Unrealistically short five-year "review cycles" for ozone and other air quality standards lead to overlapping regulations. The EPA regularly exceeds these five-year deadlines, opening the door to lawsuits and creating an uncertain regulatory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

"Ohio is in the process of implementing dozens of massive new regulations put in place by your agency over the past several years...they will also drive major reductions in the emissions that cause ozone, making a new NAAQS even less necessary."

— Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor, Comments on the EPA's Proposed National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone (March 17, 2015)

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



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

Counties in Ohio Exceeding the EPA's Ozone Standards

at Risk to Be No-Grow Zones

County	Ozone Level (ppb)
Cuyahoga	78
Geauga	78
Lake	78
Lorain	78
Medina	78
Brown	75
Butler	75
Clermont	75
Hamilton	75
Warren	75
Delaware	75
Fairfield	75
Franklin	75
Hocking	75
Licking	75
Madison	75
Morrow	75
Perry	75
Pickaway	75
Union	75
Mahoning	75
Trumbull	75
Clinton	73
Highland	73
Ashtabula	72
Greene	72
Miami	72
Montgomery	72
Adams	72
Ross	72
Champaign	71
Shelby	71
Allen	71
Clark	71
Fulton	71
Lucas	71
Wood	71
Logan	71
Marion	71
Columbiana	71

County	Ozone Level (ppb)
Hardin	71
Darke	71

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