

# **2015-24 Washoe County, Nevada Air Quality Trends Report**

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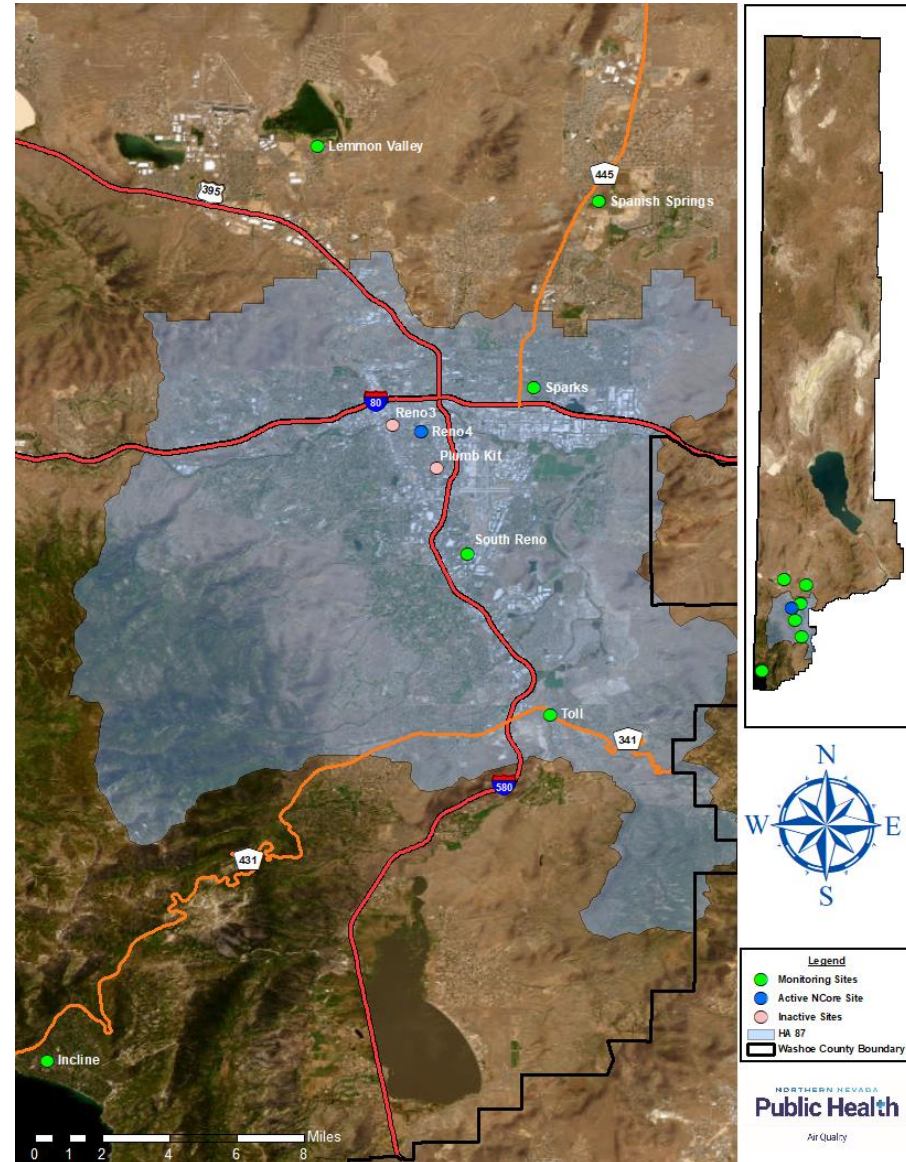
**NNPH - AQMD**

# National Ambient Air Quality Standards

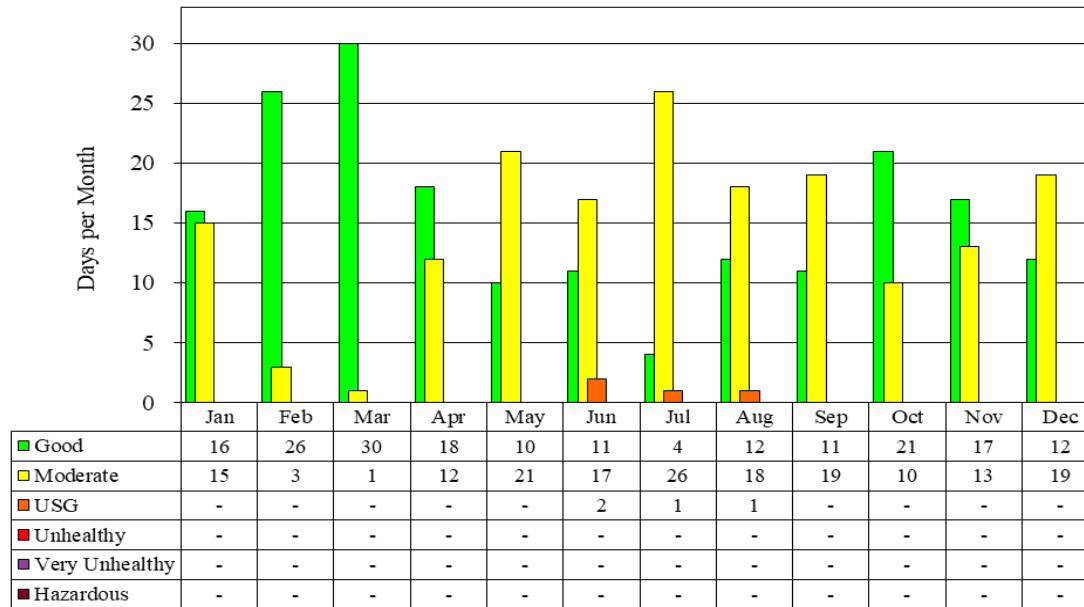
- The Clean Air Act requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment.
- Currently, there are six criteria air pollutants.
  - Five of those six are monitored every hour of every day in Washoe County.

# Background

- The Annual Trends Report is an ambient air monitoring project assessment report used to satisfy the requirements of the federally approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP).
- It has been published by AQMD every year since 1989.
- Details ambient air quality data and information for criteria air pollutants over the last year and trends in the data over the last 10 years.



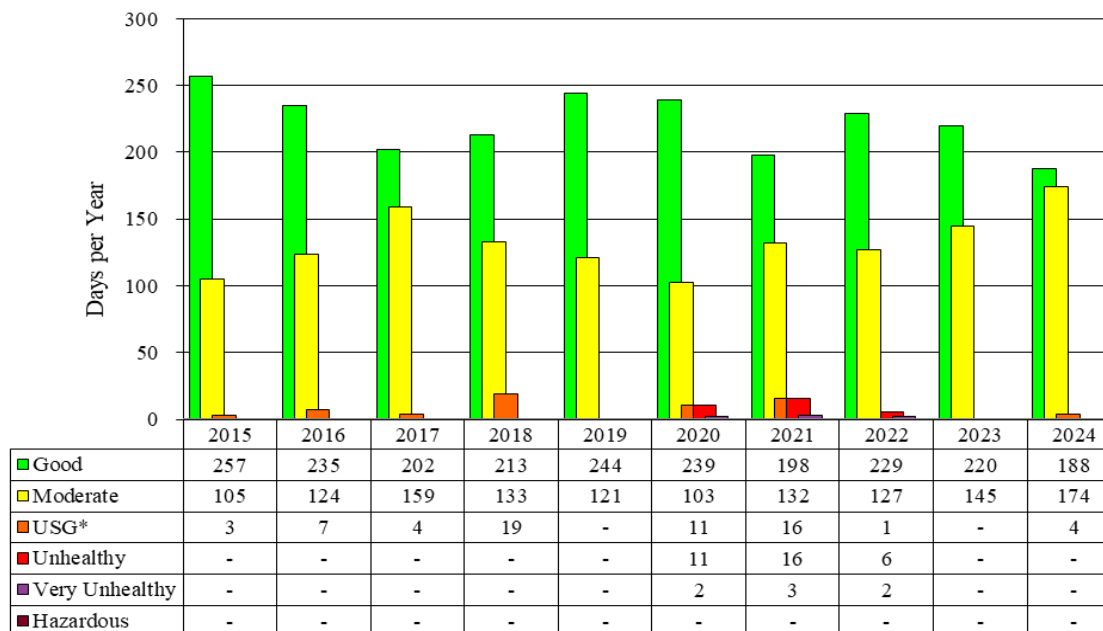
# Air Quality Index Monthly Summary for 2024



- In 2024, NNPH AQMD recorded four days at USG AQI or above.
- All USG AQI days were attributed to ground-level ozone pollution. Ozone pollution during July and August was influenced by wildfires like the Park, Thompson, and Crozier Fires.



# Ten-Year AQI Trend

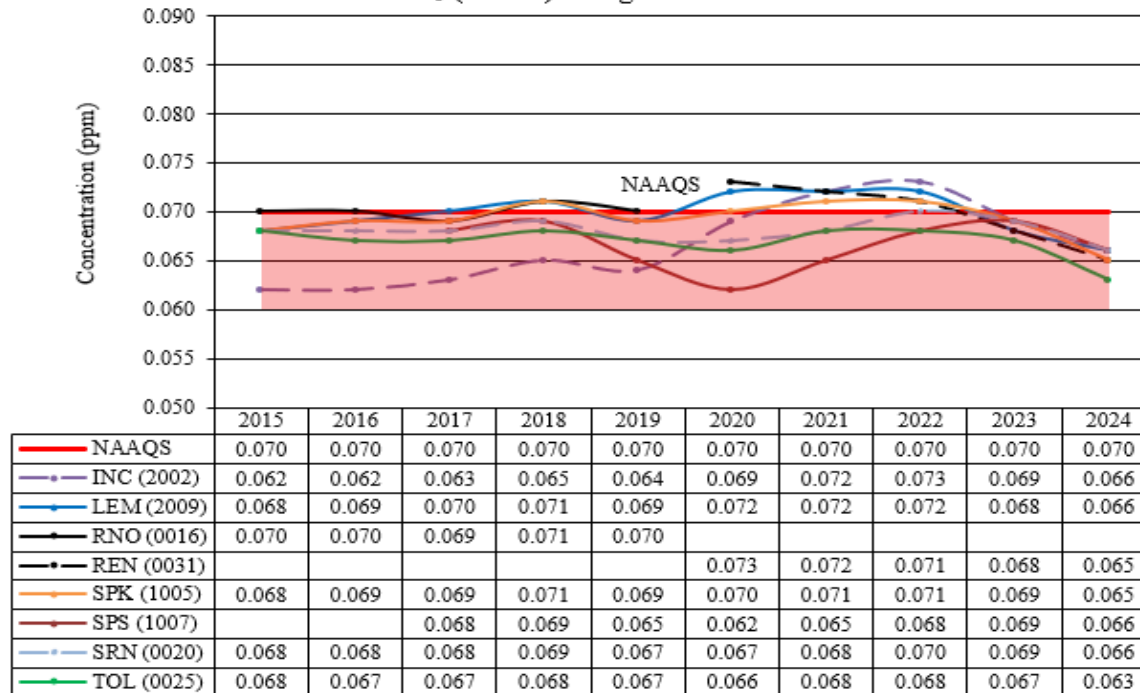


- The ten-year AQI trend continues to show improvements in the wintertime year over year but are outweighed by summertime wildfire impacts. Summertime wildfire impacts in the ten-year trend led to significant variability which makes it difficult to see AQI improvement over time.
- The greatest challenge to Washoe County's air quality from local sources is increasing vehicle miles traveled that contribute to summertime ozone.



# Ozone Design Values

Figure 13  
O<sub>3</sub> (8-hour) Design Values



- Washoe County is not violating the ozone NAAQS but remains close to violating.
- A proactive approach must be taken to ensure future attainment of the ozone NAAQS.





# Takeaways

- Air pollution levels in Washoe County continues to improve in the wintertime due to wood-burning device regulations and our Burn Code.
- Summertime air pollution like ozone is becoming more of an issue due to increasing vehicle miles traveled.
- The Trends Report continues to be a valuable resource to inform air quality planning decisions.

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