

World Health Organisation global air quality guidelines (AQG) 2021

Particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀), ozone O₃, nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and carbon monoxide (CO)

Recommended AQG levels and interim targets

| Pollutant | Averaging time | Interim targets | | | | AQG level |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----|------|----|-----------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| PM _{2.5} , µg/m ³ | Annual | 35 | 25 | 15 | 10 | 5 |
| | 24-hour ^a | 75 | 50 | 37.5 | 25 | 15 |
| PM ₁₀ , µg/m ³ | Annual | 70 | 50 | 30 | 20 | 15 |
| | 24-hour ^a | 150 | 100 | 75 | 50 | 45 |
| O ₃ , µg/m ³ | Peak season ^b | 100 | 70 | – | – | 60 |
| | 8-hour ^a | 160 | 120 | – | – | 100 |
| NO ₂ , µg/m ³ | Annual | 40 | 30 | 20 | – | 10 |
| | 24-hour ^a | 120 | 50 | – | – | 25 |
| SO ₂ , µg/m ³ | 24-hour ^a | 125 | 50 | – | – | 40 |
| CO, mg/m ³ | 24-hour ^a | 7 | – | – | – | 4 |

^a 99th percentile (i.e. 3 - 4 exceedance days per year).

^b Average of daily maximum 8-hour mean O₃ concentration in the six consecutive months with the highest six-month running-average O₃ concentration

Air quality guidelines for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and carbon monoxide (CO) (short averaging times)

| Pollutant | Averaging time | Air quality guidelines |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| NO ₂ , µg/m ³ | 1-hour | 200 |
| SO ₂ , µg/m ³ | 10-minute | 500 |
| CO, mg/m ³ | 8-hour | 10 |
| | 1-hour | 35 |
| | 15-minute | 100 |

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240034433>

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240034228>