

2021 STATE OF THE AIR REPORT (AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION)

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May 11, 2021



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments



Introduction

- Provides the status of the air quality for the whole country every year.
- Provides weighted scores and grades for each county.
- Reports top 25 most polluted cities for ozone and PM2.5 (24-hour & annual).





Methodology

ALA Methodology

Used number of code orange and above days and factors assigned by ALA to those days instead of the Design Value to calculate Scores/Grades/Ranks for Ozone & 24-Hour PM2.5 for cities.

Used Design Value to assign grades/ranks for Annual PM2.5 for cities.

EPA Methodology

EPA uses Design Value for evaluating attainment status for ozone and PM2.5 standards for an area.



Air Quality Rankings

ALA published list of top 25 most polluted cities in the 2021 report

- City here refers to the Combined Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA).
- Rankings were provided for the Combined Washington-Baltimore-Arlington region. (Baltimore is not part of the Washington, DC ozone nonattainment area. It was also never part of the Washington, DC PM2.5 nonattainment area.)

ALA Rankings for Washington CMSA - Top 25 Most Polluted Cities		
Ozone	24-Hour PM2.5	Annual PM2.5
22	Not listed	Not listed





Ozone Rankings

Grades based on the number of code orange days and above and NOT on the Design Value.

Jurisdiction	Grade (Wt. Avg Score)
District of Columbia	F (4.8)
Calvert	B (0.7)
Charles	B (0.3)
Fredrick	C (1.0)
Montgomery	C (1.0)
Prince George's	F (6.8)
Arlington	D (2.3)
Fairfax	C (1.3)
Loudoun	B (0.3)
Prince William	A (0.0)

* No ozone monitoring in Alexandria city.



PM2.5 Rankings

24-Hour PM2.5 – Grades based on the number of code orange days and above and NOT on Design Value.

Annual PM2.5 - Grades are based on the Design value.

Jurisdiction	24-Hour PM2.5 Grade (Wt. Avg Score)	Annual PM2.5 Grade
District of Columbia	B (0.5)	P
Montgomery	A (0.0)	P
Prince George's	A (0.0)	P
Arlington	A (0.0)	P
Fairfax	A (0.0)	P
Loudoun	A (0.0)	P

* No PM2.5 monitoring in Charles, Calvert, Fredrick, and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria.

