



New Ozone Standard

MWAQC Meeting, COG

May 28, 2008



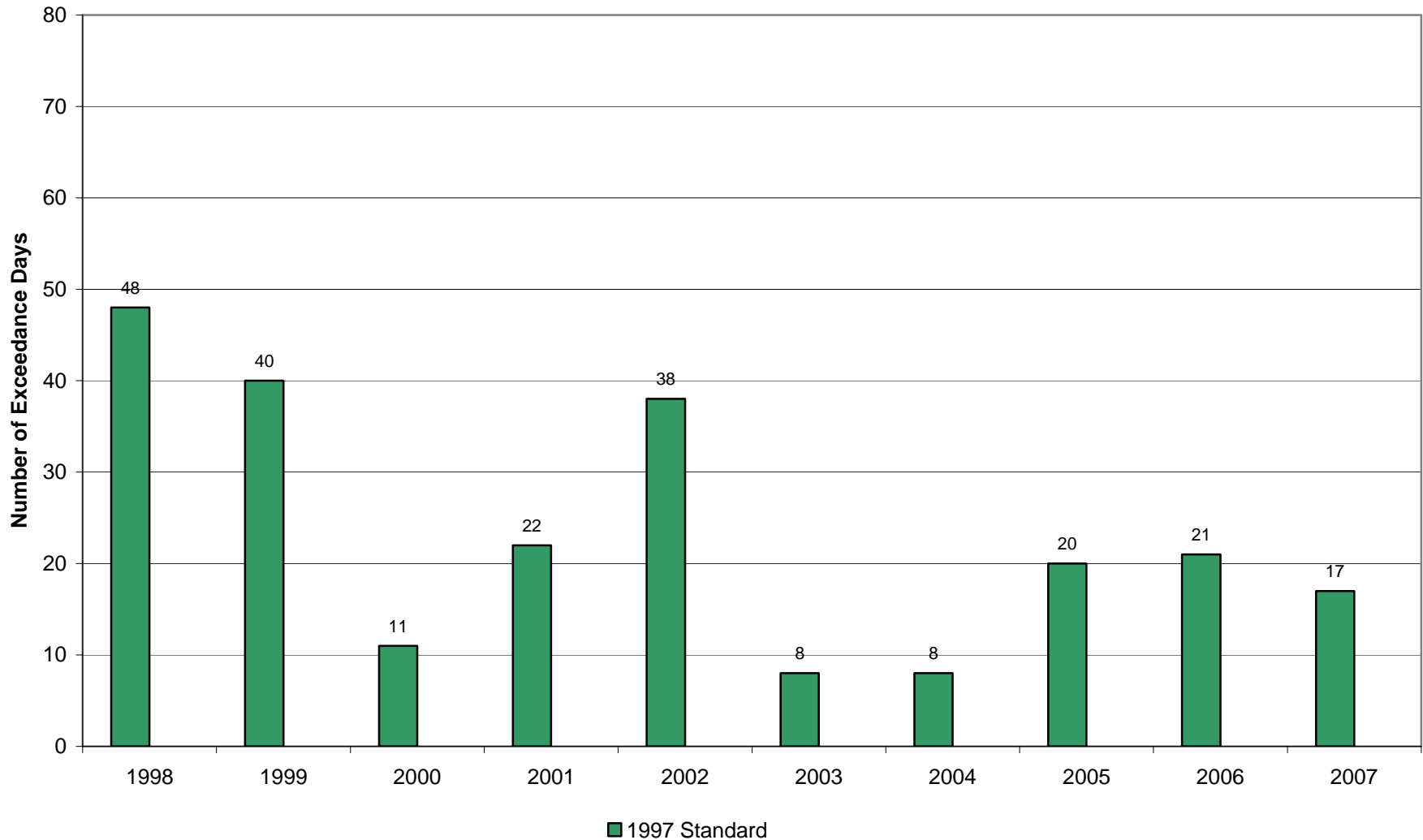
New Ozone Standard

- 1997 ozone standard: 0.084 ppm
- 2008 ozone standard: 0.075 ppm
- Both are 8-hour average concentrations
- Also, EPA is revising the Air Quality Index (AQI) to reflect the new standard.



Air Quality is Improving

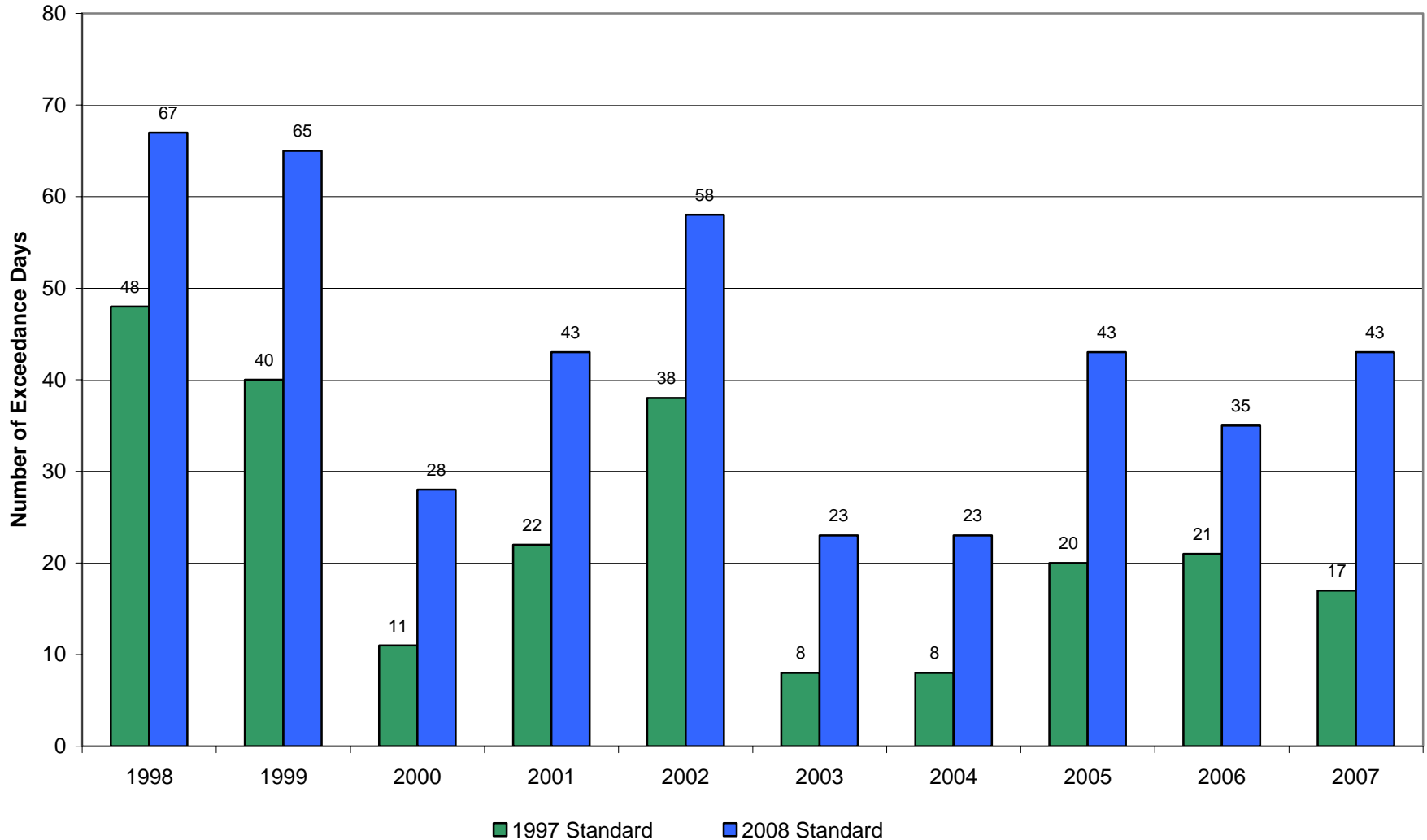
Metropolitan Washington
Ozone Exceedance Day Comparison between the Old and New Standards
(1998 - 2007)





Comparing the Standards

Metropolitan Washington
Ozone Exceedance Day Comparison between the Old and New Standards
(1998 - 2007)



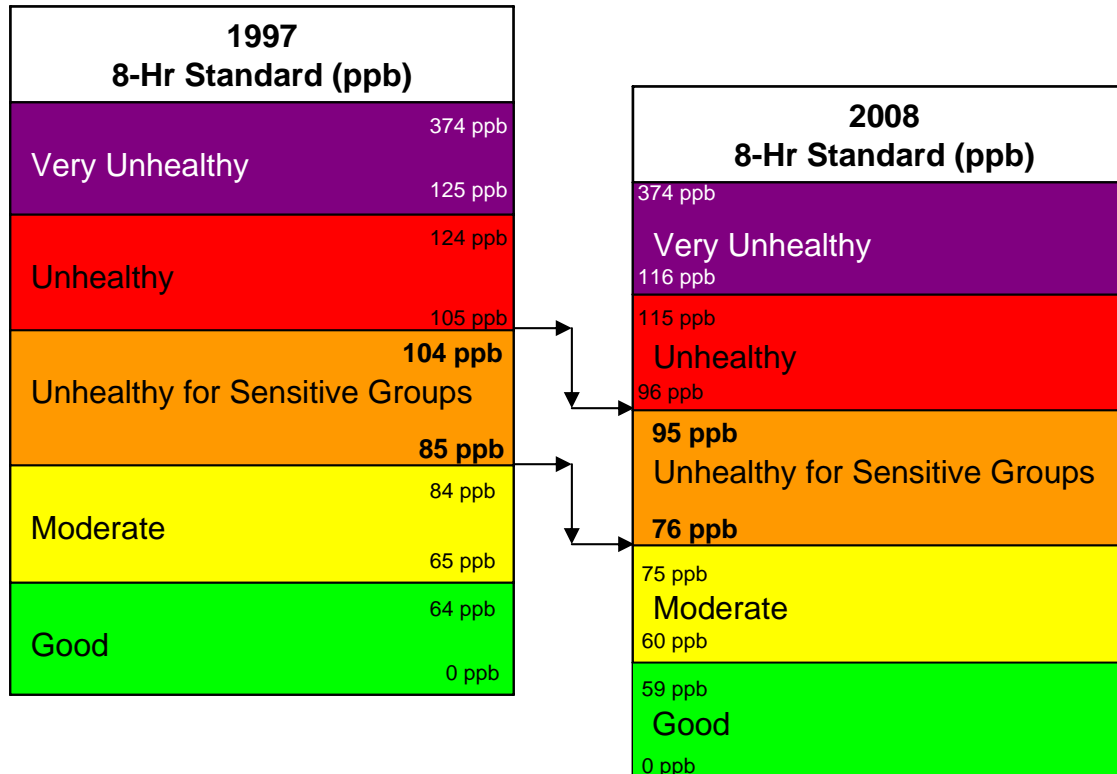


Revised Air Quality Index

- On March 12, 2008, EPA revised the Air Quality Index to reflect changes in the ozone NAAQS.
- Upper-end of the moderate range is set at the new standard (75 ppb) and made proportional changes to the other categories.
- Ozone set at 75 ppb is considered Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups – Code Orange.
- Cities of 350,000 or larger are required to use the new AQI 60 days after the revised ozone standards are published in the Federal Register.
- Washington Metro region began forecasting and reporting the new AQI on May 1, 2008.



Air Quality Index Breakpoints





How Many More Orange and Red Days?

Comparison of the Number of Observed Days Between the Old and New Ozone Standards
(2005 - 2007)

