

2024 AQI for Fine Particle Pollution
(Breakpoints are in micrograms per cubic meter)

AQI Category and Index Value	Previous AQI Category Breakpoints	Updated AQI Category Breakpoints	What changed?
Good (0 – 50)	0.0 to 12.0	0.0 to 9.0	EPA updated the breakpoint between Good and Moderate to reflect the updated annual standard of 9 micrograms per cubic meter
Moderate (51 – 100)	12.1 to 35.4	9.1 to 35.4	
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (101 – 150)	35.5 to 55.4	35.5 to 55.4	No change, because EPA retained the 24-hour fine PM standard of 35 micrograms per cubic meter.
Unhealthy (151 – 200)	55.5 to 150.4	55.5 to 125.4	EPA updated the breakpoints at the upper end of the unhealthy, very unhealthy, and hazardous categories based on scientific evidence about particle pollution and health. The Agency also combined two sets of breakpoints for the Hazardous category into one.
Very Unhealthy (201 – 300)	150.5 to 250.4	125.5 to 225.4	
Hazardous (301+)	250.5 to 350.4 and 350.5 to 500	225.5+	

USEPA Updated Annual PM2.5 Standard

Old Standard: 12.0 micrograms/cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

New Standard: 9.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

SBCAPCD's Design Value: 7.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (Santa Barbara monitoring station)

- Expected to be in Attainment of New Standard
- Updated AQI Values for PM2.5
- Will result in more Moderate AQI days