Ground Zero
Each Of Us Breathes About 3,000 Gallons of Air Every Day
NOIR

The cigarette that makes your lungs as black as a night in the naked city.
Trends of ozone in the troposphere


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Total ozone (DU) / Ozone total (UD), 2004/01/11
FIGURE 2. Estimated annual prevalence* of asthma — United States, National Health Interview Survey, 1980–1999

*Per 1,000 population; age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. population.
FIGURE 4. Estimated annual rate* of emergency department visits for asthma as the first-listed diagnosis, by region and year, National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey — United States, 1992–1999

*Per 10,000 population; age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. population.
FIGURE 1. Geographical regions of the United States* as used in this report

West

Midwest

Northeast

South
Surveillance for Asthma --- United States, 1980--1999

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National Center for Environmental Health
Asthma and Air Pollution
Persons Diagnosed with Asthma, by Age and Sex, 1999

Source (II.20): National Health Interview Survey
## Asthma In New Jersey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Wgt. Avg.</th>
<th>Orange Days</th>
<th>Red Days</th>
<th>Purple Days</th>
<th>Years in Previous Reports</th>
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<td>F</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camden</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gloucester</td>
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<td>16.3</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>Hudson</td>
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<td>9.8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middlesex</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How is ground level ozone created?

Three things are necessary to create ground level ozone—volatile organic compounds (VOCs), oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and sunlight. Cars, power plants, industrial boilers, refineries, chemical plants and other sources emit VOC and NOx. Sunlight "cooks" VOC and NOx, creating ground level ozone.
Knoxville, TN - A new study* released today by the American Lung Association (ALA) finds that ten cities in the Southeast rank in the top 25 for worst ozone pollution. In addition, ten counties in the Southeast with ozone monitors received a "Failing" grade from ALA for air quality. The report ranks four Tennessee cities, two Georgia cities, and three North Carolina cities in the top 25. Eleven counties in Florida

* 2002 study by ALA
Case Study: North Carolina
New Study Shows Southeast Cities Worst in Nation for Air Pollution

Groups Call for Senators to Support Power Plant Clean Up

The Southeast cities ranking in the top 25 worst polluted in the U.S. are as follows:

#6 Atlanta, Georgia
#8 Knoxville, Tennessee
#13 Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, North Carolina
#18 Nashville, Tennessee
#19 Memphis, Tennessee
#21 Birmingham, Alabama
#21 Greensboro-Winston-Salem-Salem-High Point, North Carolina
#24 Macon, Georgia
#24 Chattanooga, Tennessee
Ozone and Your Health

When people think of air pollution affecting human health, they probably think of southern California or other highly urbanized areas. But air pollution can be a problem in North Carolina. In 1999, ozone levels reached unhealthy levels at least somewhere in the state on 68 days -- which means North Carolina ranks fifth among the 50 states for unhealthy ozone.
- The average adult breathes over 3,000 gallons of air a day.
- Almost 4 million North Carolinians live in counties with air quality not meeting Federal clean air standards.
- Up to 70% of air pollution in North Carolina’s cities is caused by cars and trucks.

  The traffic really is getting worse every day. The number of miles we drive in our state is increasing three times as fast as the population.

- Air Pollution aggravates asthma and may cause asthma in children.(2)
- One in ten North Carolina 7th and 8th graders has diagnosed asthma. One in four 7th and 8th graders has either diagnosed asthma or asthma symptoms.(3)
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Ozone Standards Pose Health Risks, Scientists Report

WASHINGTON - The air Americans breathe contains more ozone from pollution than the Environmental Protection Agency estimates, Harvard scientists report. Ozone can cause pain, breathing difficulties, and coughing. It can damage the lungs, EPA warns on its Web site, and it can also make one susceptible to respiratory infections. Those active outdoors are particularly at risk for exposure, the agency says.