



# 2021 Annual Air Quality Report



San Diego County  
**Air Pollution  
Control District**





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# A MESSAGE FROM THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER

**On** behalf of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD), it is my pleasure to present our first Annual Air Quality Report since our reorganization. 2021 was a year of monumental change for the SDAPCD. Since its inception in 1955, SDAPCD operated within the structure of the County of San Diego, and was governed by the Board of Supervisors, acting as the Air Pollution Control Board. In March of 2021, state law reorganized SDAPCD. A new Governing Board was appointed for the District, with board members reflecting the diversity of our County. The new membership includes three public members, including an environmental justice member, which is a first for any local air district in California. We are proud of this new structure, as well as the renewed energy and refocused policy direction it has brought to our operations.

**The** separation from the County posed a lot of new operational challenges for the SDAPCD, in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Separation required SDAPCD to take on additional administrative, fiscal, budgeting, and accounting functions previously performed by the County. AB 423 also prescribed additional duties for the SDAPCD to promote increased transparency and community engagement. A state audit that followed AB 423 found the SDAPCD would benefit from restructuring its fees in a way that more accurately reflected the full cost of services provided, and taking additional actions to promote accountability and transparency. Finally, in addition to the new Governing Board, the transition created opportunities that resulted in entirely new executive and management teams.

**SDAPCD** staff rose to meet these challenges while continuing the critical work to maintain ongoing operations and meet existing mandates. One of the pivotal moments that signified the development of our new district was the adoption a new logo and website to better reflect our mission and promote public engagement and transparency. The implementation of our new logo and website created a sense of pride; not only did it mean that we would be recognized as an independent agency, but it was a testament to the numerous hours of staff time that were dedicated to make this transition a reality.

**As** part of the transition, we also completed a cost recovery study and increased permit fees on stationary sources for the first time in three years, to better reflect the true costs of permitting. We revamped the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program and updated Rule 1210 to provide better protection to local communities from air toxics emissions in our communities. Working with local community, agency and business partners, we also adopted the final Community Emission Reduction Plan for the Portside Environmental Justice Communities (Barrio Logan, Logan Heights, Sherman Heights, and West National City), which was lauded as the best in the state when adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

**We** are elated with all we have achieved during this year of unprecedented change and remain mindful there is much more work to be done in pursuit of our vision of Clean Air for All.

Respectfully,

Paula Forbis

# Governing Board

The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District is guided by its  
Governing Board.

The Board is comprised of eight elected officials from the County Board of Supervisors, cities within San Diego County, as well as three appointed public members that lead the District's vision of clean air for all.







Chair Nora Vargas  
San Diego County Board of Supervisors



Vice-Chair Esther Sanchez  
City of Oceanside Mayor



Terra Lawson-Remer  
San Diego County Board of  
Supervisors



Todd Gloria  
City of San Diego  
Mayor



Marcus Bush  
City of National City  
Vice Mayor



Jack Shu  
City of La Mesa  
Councilmember



Consuelo Martinez  
City of Escondido  
Councilmember



Sean Elo-Rivera  
City of San Diego  
Council President



Anne Marie Birkbeck-Garcia  
Physician/Public Health  
Professional



Georgette Gomez  
Environmental Justice  
Representative



Enrique Medina  
Scientific/Technical  
Representative

# About Us

Every breath you take outside is linked to the Air Pollution Control District. Our experts work to maintain and constantly improve our air quality. And you can breathe easier knowing it's the best it has been in the past six decades.

We ensure commercial, industrial, transportation and agricultural businesses are permitted and comply with air pollution control laws, and we incentivize cleaner technologies by offering grant funds. We monitor and record air quality using a network of equipment stationed around the county, and alert you to the conditions.

We work to help future generations have clean air through long-term regional plans to reduce unhealthful pollution levels and develop air quality rules.

We are here to help you thrive and look forward to serving you.





# THE DISTRICT CONSISTS OF SIX KEY PROGRAM AREAS:

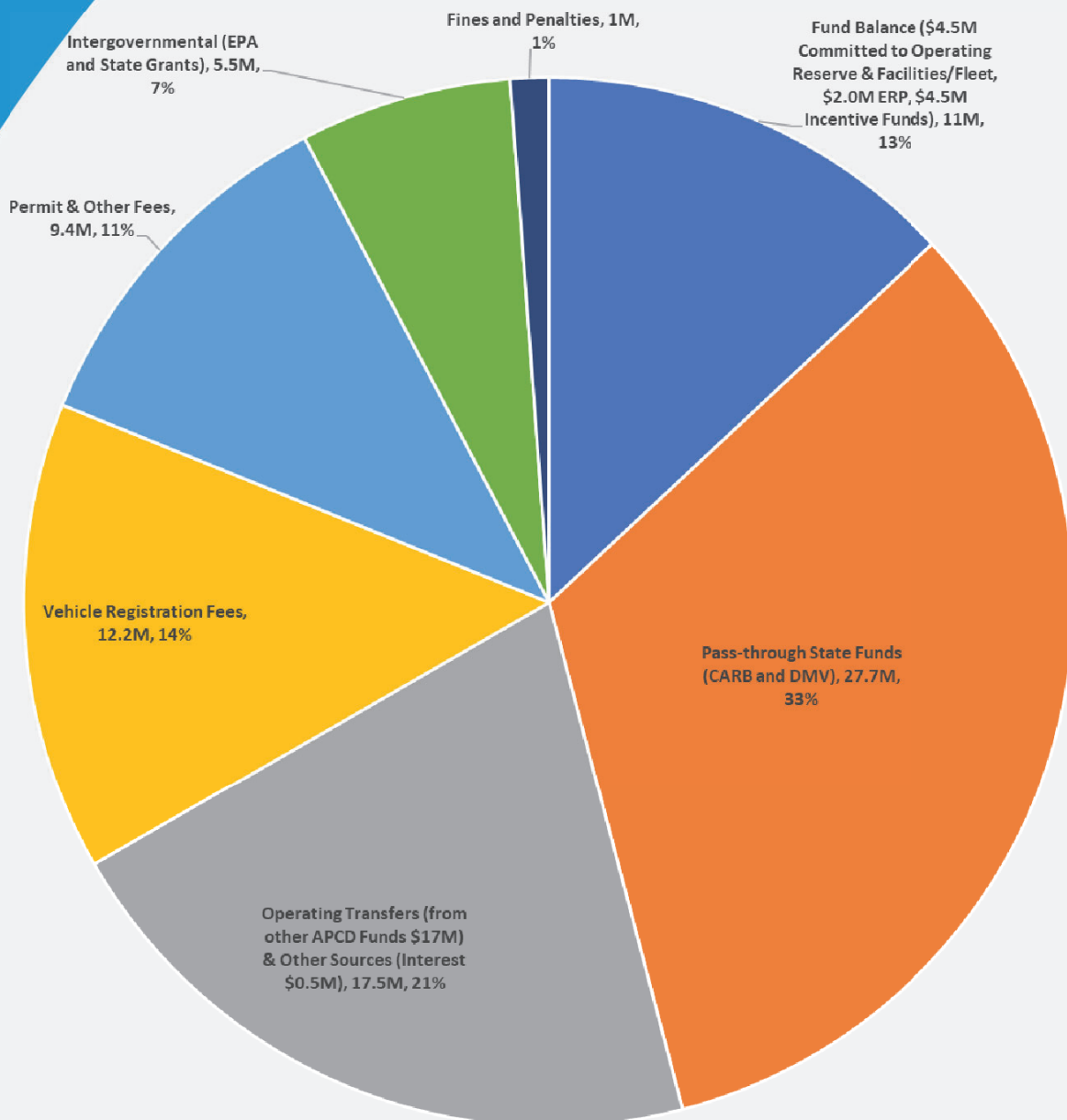
- **Monitoring and Technical Services** tracks air pollutants in the region by providing daily air quality forecasts, and tests emissions from our regulated businesses.
- **Planning and Rule Development** creates attainment plans for air quality standards and establishes criteria for emissions.
- **Engineering** issues permits, prepares emission inventories and evaluates health risk from toxic emissions for regulated facilities.
- **Compliance** ensures that air quality rules are followed.
- **Grants & Incentives** promotes the use of clean technology through financial assistance.
- **Environmental Justice** works to ensure that all communities have equal access to clean air.

The District has established 5 critical goals to guide our vision of clean air for all.

- **Air Quality** -Improve air quality in the region to attain all state and federal air quality standards
- **Public Health** -Promote healthy communities by reducing risks from air toxics emissions that can create adverse health effects
- **Environmental Justice and Equity** -Lift and address the needs of communities most impacted by air pollution by integrating environmental justice and equity across all services we provide
- **Public Engagement and Transparency** -Support informed decision-making and stakeholder confidence by promoting meaningful public engagement and transparency
- **Operational Excellence** -Ensure superior service delivery by providing innovative technology and appropriate resources, supported by resilient processes and controls, to accomplish our mission

# FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

**SDAPCD's annual budget** for Fiscal Year 2021-22 was \$84.3 million and the fiscal budget year runs from July 1 to June 30. SDAPCD funding comes from several sources, including State & Federal grants. Other funding sources include, permit and other fees from stationary sources, Department of Motor Vehicles registration fees, and pass-through grant funds for projects to improve air quality.





# CALIFORNIA

## ASSEMBLY BILL 423

**Assembly Bill 423 (AB 423)** was approved by the Governor of California in October 2019, and required that SDAPCD be separate from the organizational structure of the County of San Diego by March 1, 2021. SDAPCD has taken the steps necessary to separate from the County of San Diego, from creating its own website to creating internal protocols. The most notable change is the creation of its new Governing Board that leads SDAPCD efforts to maintain and achieve clean air standards for all of San Diego County.



# State of the Air





# ATTAINMENT STATUS FOR CRITERIA POLLUTANTS

**Attainment standards** are set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or California Air Resources Board (CARB) for the maximum level an air pollutant can exist in the outdoor air without unacceptable effects on human health or the public welfare.

The EPA has repeatedly tightened the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone over the past 40 years. The primary ozone standards were previously set as high as 120 parts per billion (ppb) in 1979, before being lowered to 84 ppb in 1997. Then, the primary ozone standards were reduced to 75 parts per billion (ppb) in 2008, and to 70 ppb in 2015. The 1979 and 1997 ozone standard have been revoked by the EPA for areas that have attained these standards, including San Diego County.

Below are the 2021 Attainment and Nonattainment designations in San Diego County.

| Criteria Pollutant | Federal Designation | State Designation |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Ozone (8-Hour)     | Nonattainment       | Nonattainment     |
| Ozone (1-Hour)     | Attainment *        | Nonattainment     |
| Carbon Monoxide    | Attainment          | Attainment        |
| PM10               | Unclassifiable **   | Nonattainment     |
| PM2.5              | Attainment          | Nonattainment *** |
| Nitrogen Dioxide   | Attainment          | Attainment        |
| Sulfur Dioxide     | Attainment          | Attainment        |
| Lead               | Attainment          | Attainment        |
| Sulfates           | No Federal Standard | Attainment        |
| Hydrogen Sulfide   | No Federal Standard | Unclassified      |
| Visibility         | No Federal Standard | Unclassified      |

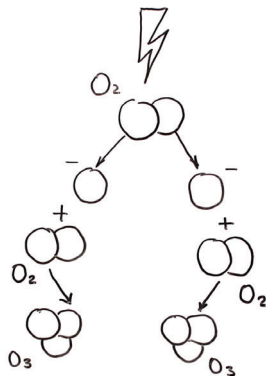
\* The federal 1-hour standard of 0.12 ppm was in effect from 1979 through June 15, 2005. The revoked standard is referenced here because it was employed for such a long period and because this benchmark is addressed in State Implementation Plans.

\*\* At the time of designation, if the available data does not support a designation of attainment or nonattainment, the area is designated as unclassifiable.

\*\*\* The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has not reclassified the region to attainment yet due to (1) incomplete data, and (2) the use of non-California Approved Samplers (CAS). While data collected does meet the requirements for designation of attainment with federal PM2.5 standards, the data completeness requirements for state PM2.5 standards substantially exceed federal requirements and mandates and have historically not been feasible for most air districts to adhere to given local resources. APCD has begun replacing most regional filter-based PM2.5 monitors as they reach the end of their useful life with continuous PM2.5 air monitors to ensure collected data meets stringent completeness requirements in the future. APCD anticipates these new monitors will be approved as "CAS" monitors once CARB review the list of approved monitors, which has not been updated since 2013.

# OZONE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

**What is Ozone?** It is a gas that occurs both in the Earth's upper atmosphere and at ground level. There is "good" and "bad" ozone, "good" ozone occurs naturally in the upper atmosphere and "bad" ozone is more commonly referred to as smog. Smog sits near the ground level and is harmful to breathe.



Ozone is not emitted directly into the air but is formed by chemical reactions between two common air pollutants, oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOC). This happens when the NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC emissions from motor vehicles, industrial plants, consumer products and other sources interact under the influence of sunlight and heat. Ozone levels are highest during the summer months when the influence of direct sunlight is greatest.

## What Happens with the Ozone in San Diego County?



Ozone pollution levels are continuously monitored by SDAPCD at several locations throughout the region. Ozone pollution is typically highest during hot summer days in the inland foothills areas of San Diego County because of how and where ozone is formed. Emissions from motor vehicles, factories and other sources in the populated coastal plain are blown inland by the onshore breeze, all the while chemically reacting under the abundant sunshine to form ozone. The onshore flows also create a temperature inversion, trapping the ozone pollution below it and against the lower mountain slopes, where it builds up.



# AIR QUALITY REVIEW

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## Sources of Emissions in San Diego County

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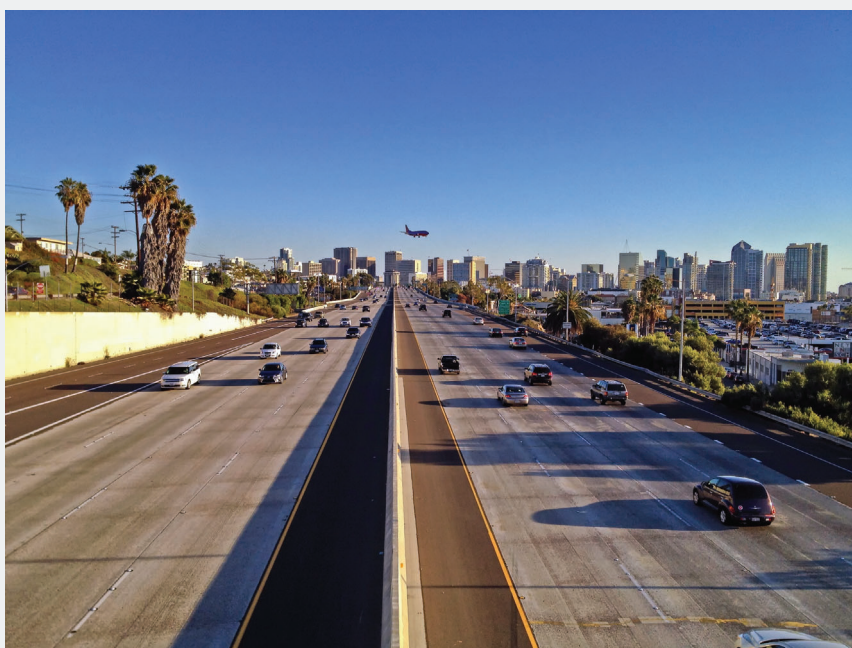
There are several sources that contribute to the air pollution in San Diego County. The SDAPCD monitors nitrogen oxide, volatile organic compounds, particulate matter 2.5, and other air pollutants to implement strategies at different levels to address harmful emissions.

### Terms to Know:

**Nitrogen Oxide:** NO<sub>x</sub> is a gas that is produced when fuel is burned at high temperatures.

**Volatile Organic Compounds:** VOCs are a group of gases that are emitted from products used to build structures and other household products.

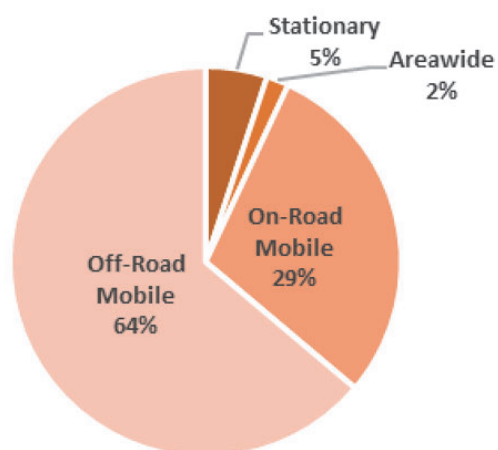
**Particulate Matter 2.5:** PM 2.5 are tiny droplets in the air that are 20 to 30 times smaller than a strand of hair.



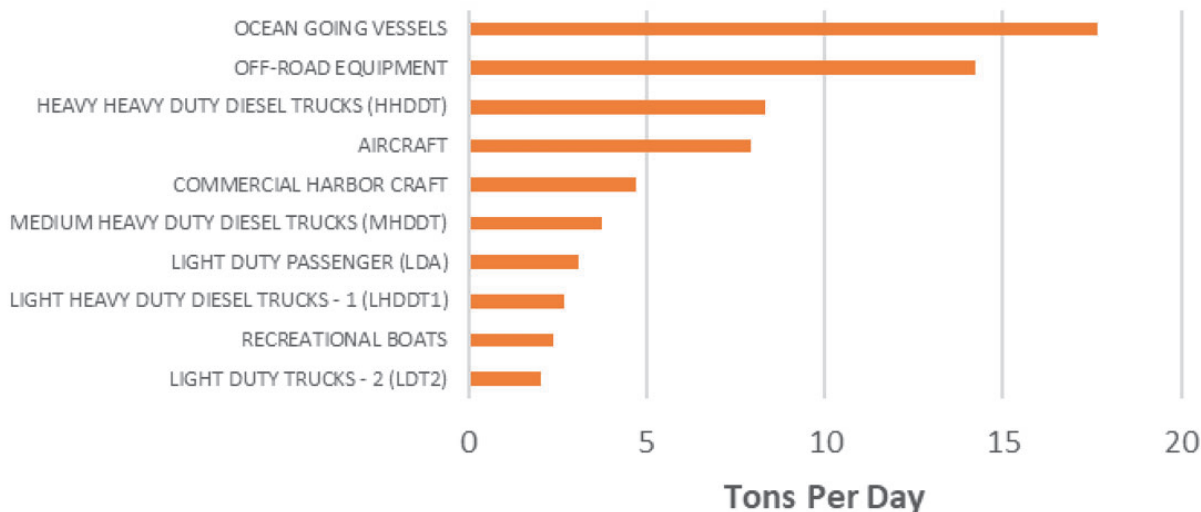
# Nitrogen Oxide Emissions

In 2021, 93% of nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions in San Diego County was emitted by cars, trucks, and other mobile sources (on-road and off-road). The remaining NOx was emitted by stationary sources (5%) such as factories, refineries, and powerplants, and areawide sources (2%) such as residential water heaters and furnaces. Some of the top sources of NOx emissions in San Diego County include ocean-going vessels (e.g. cargo/container ships), off-road equipment, heavy-duty/medium-duty diesel trucks, aircraft, and commercial harbor craft (e.g. tugboats, towboats, passenger, and commercial fishing boats).

Annual NOx Emissions - San Diego County (2021)



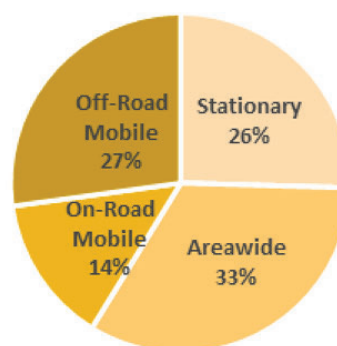
Top 10 Sources of NOx in San Diego County (2021)



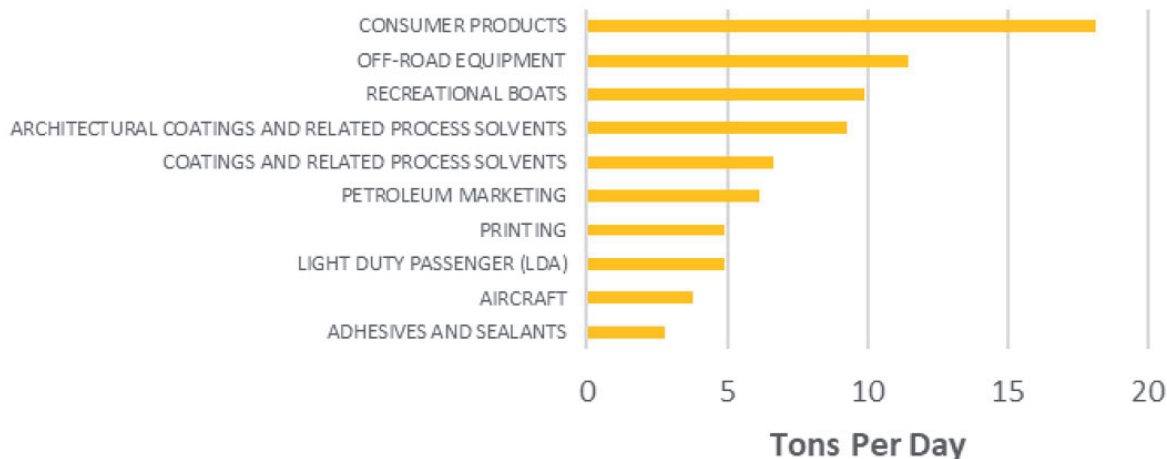
# Volatile Organic Compound Emissions

Volatile organic compounds (VOC) are generated by products or production processes. In 2021, 41% of VOC in San Diego County was emitted from mobile sources (on-road and off-road), 26% from stationary sources, and 33% from areawide sources such as consumer products. Some of the top sources of VOC emissions in San Diego County include consumer products (e.g. deodorants, hair spray, cleaning products, insecticides, etc.), off-road equipment, recreational boats, architectural coatings (such as paints, varnishes, and other household finishes), and other miscellaneous coatings/related solvents.

Annual VOC Emissions - San Diego County (2021)



Top 10 Sources of VOC in San Diego County (2021)

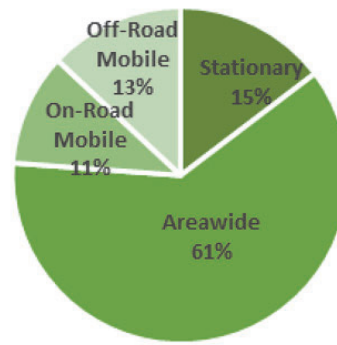




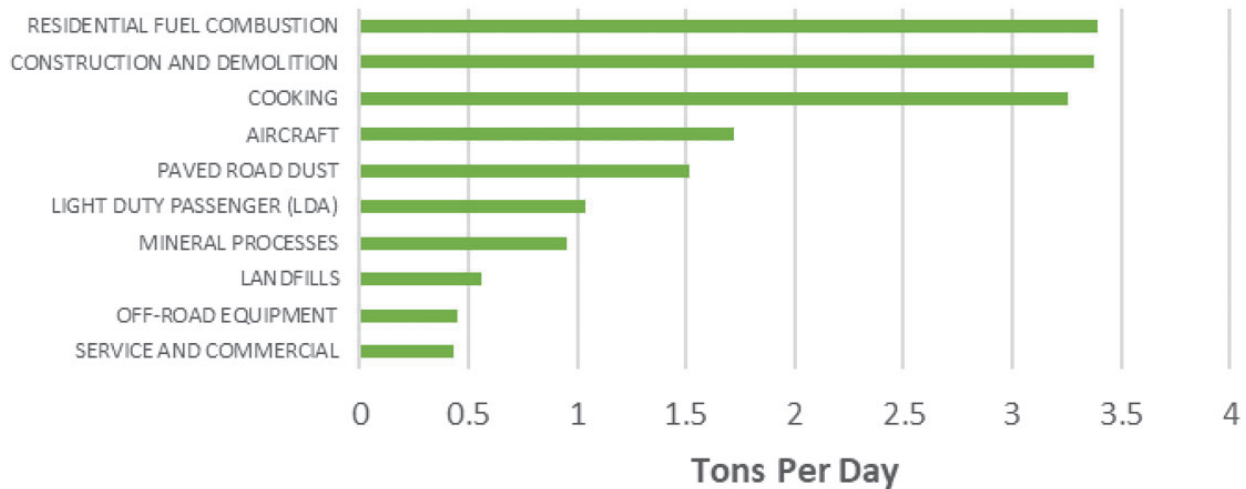
# Particulate Matter 2.5 Emissions

In 2021, 24% of PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions in San Diego County was emitted from mobile sources (on-road and off-road), 15% from stationary sources, and 61% from areawide sources, such as fireplaces, road dust, and cooking. Some of the top sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions in San Diego County include residential fuel combustion (i.e. woodstoves/fireplaces), construction and demolition dust, cooking, aircraft, and dust from paved roads.

Annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> Emissions - San Diego County (2021)



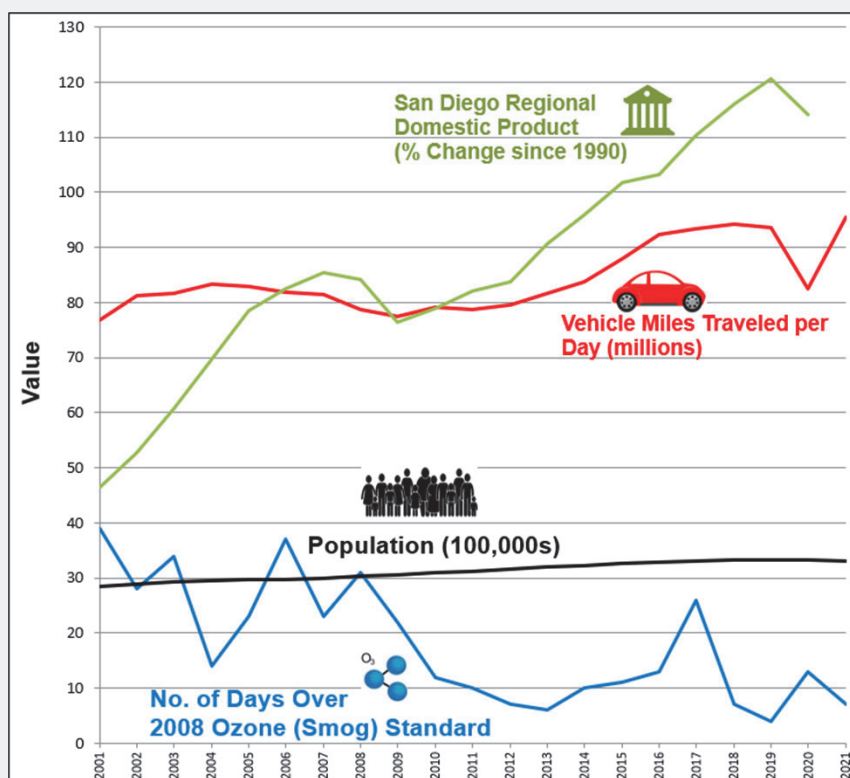
Top 10 Sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in San Diego County (2021)



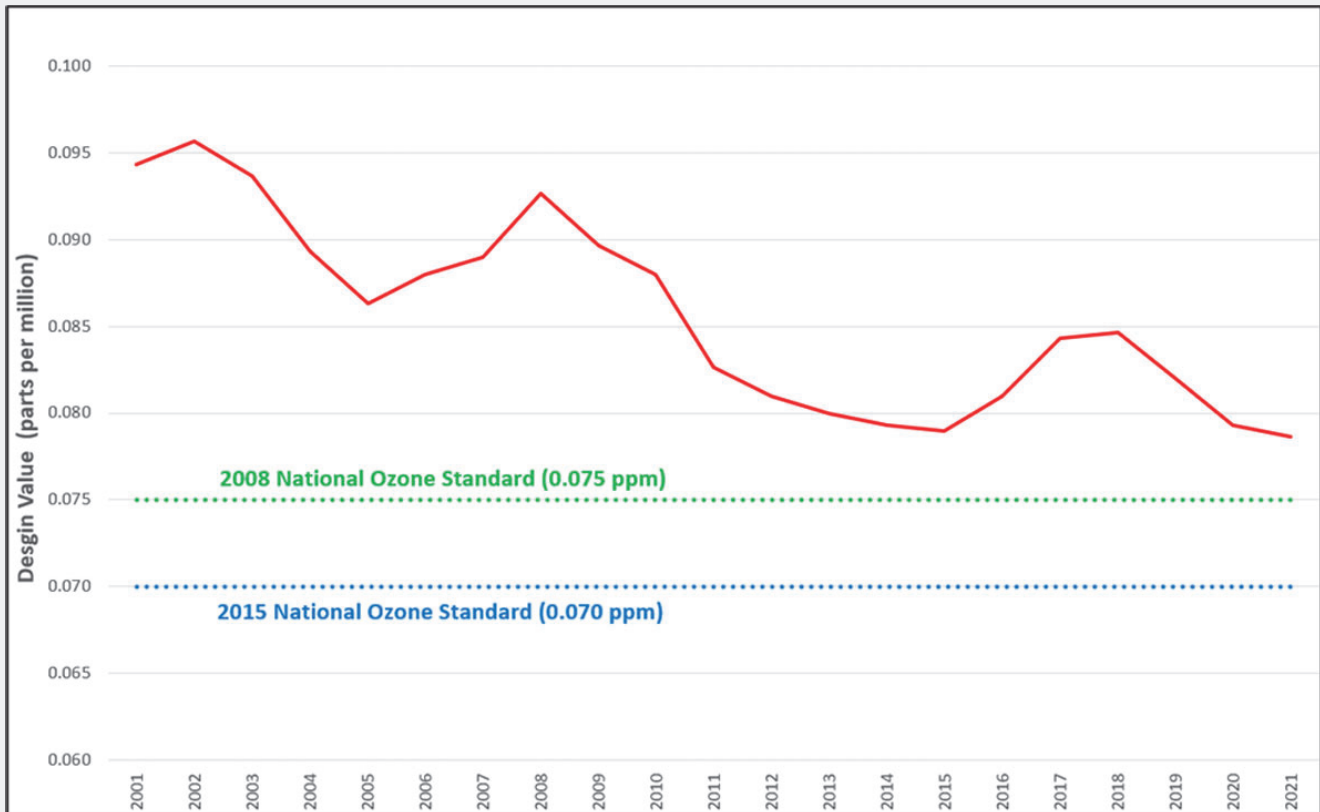
# AIR QUALITY TRENDS

## Air Quality Improvement Despite Growth

Since its formation in 1955, the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (District) has led the effort to reduce regional air pollution and protect public health. Over the past 67 years, the District has made extensive progress in improving air quality throughout San Diego County, while population, vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and economic output of the region have significantly increased, as shown in the chart below. Exposure to ozone air pollution and associated risks to public health and welfare have also significantly decreased.



# AIR QUALITY OVER THE YEARS



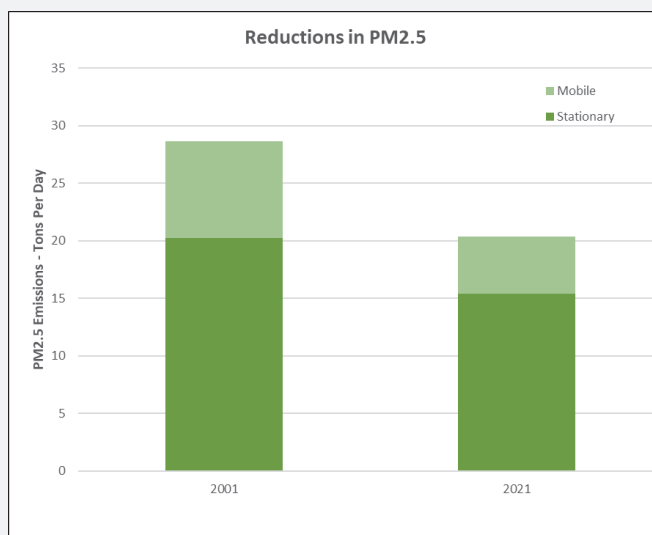
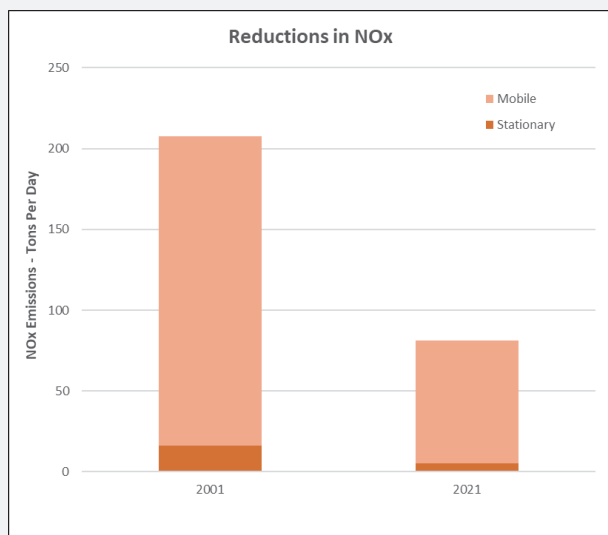
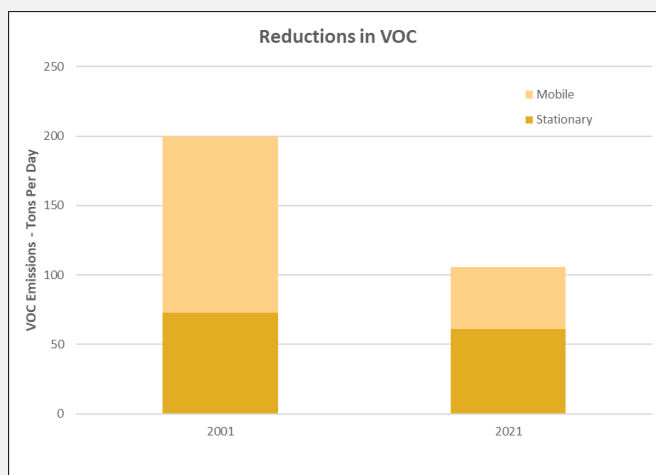
While much progress has been accomplished, the chart above clearly highlights that further improvements are needed. San Diego County still has not met state and national ozone standards, and communities of concern continue to be disproportionately impacted by air pollution. Scientific data and studies continue to document the harmful impacts of air pollution. Additionally, impacts of climate change, including more frequent wildfires and sea level rise, will continue to threaten the region. To further protect public health and stabilize the climate, the District and the region as a whole must continue to take actions to reduce emissions and decrease fossil fuel combustion.

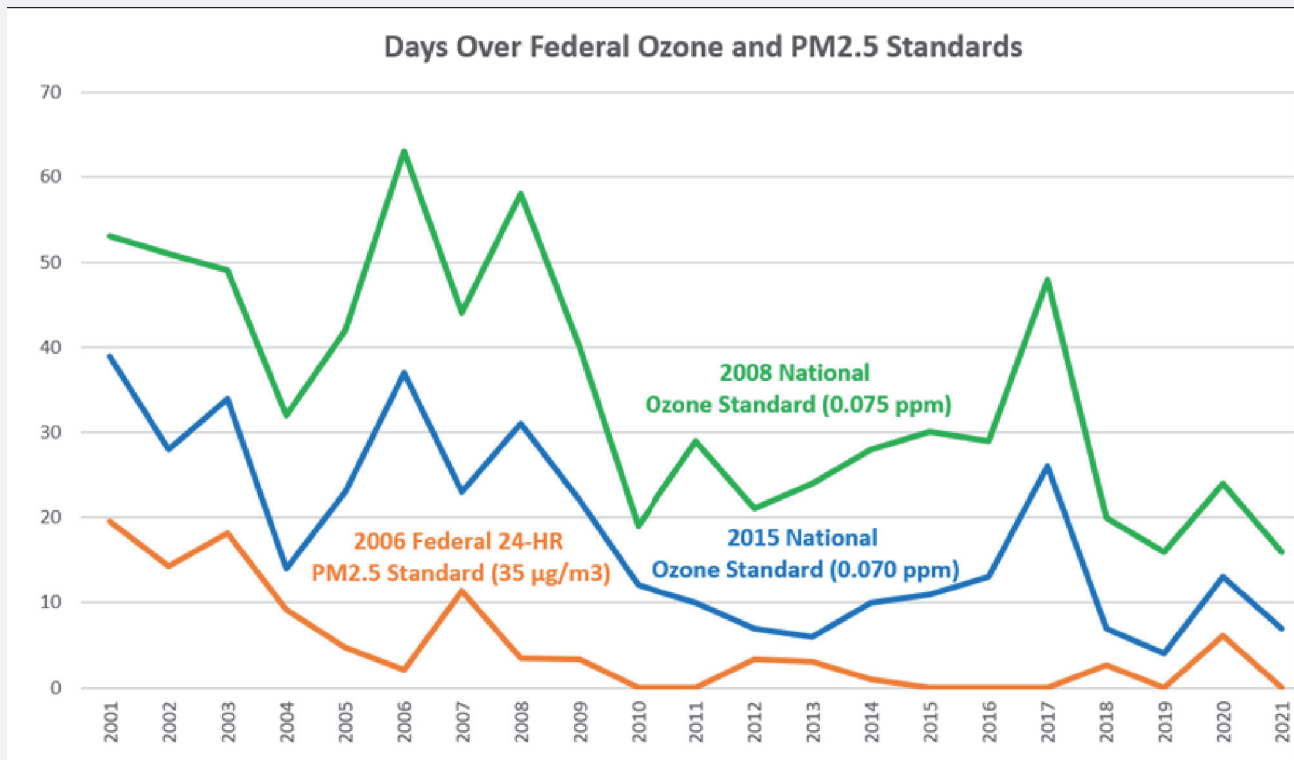


# PROGRESS TO DATE

To clean up our air and attain healthy standards, the SDAPCD has developed and expanded its regulatory programs to cut emissions from factories and other stationary sources. It has also grown its incentive-based programs to achieve emission reductions from mobile sources (such as cars, trucks, and off-road vehicles and equipment) beyond what is required by law or regulation. As a result of these ongoing efforts to improve air quality, in 2021 the region experienced low levels of ozone-forming emissions, and significantly reduced exceedances of both national and state ozone standards. However, further reductions in ozone-forming emissions are still needed in order to attain both the national and state ozone standards throughout the region.

Since 2001, emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, VOC, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> from stationary and mobile sources have been significantly reduced. In particular, NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (the primary precursor responsible for ozone formation in San Diego County) has been reduced by a total of 63% from stationary and mobile sources combined.





As shown in the chart above, the region has significantly reduced the number of days in which respective national ozone and 24-hour PM2.5 standards were exceeded since 1980.



The District prepared an updated attainment plan in 2020 to demonstrate how (and when) the region is expected to attain national ozone standards (in 2026 and 2032). The District is also in the process of updating its respective state ozone attainment plan (Regional Air Quality Strategy, or RAQS).



# Air Quality Rules





# REGULATORY ACTIONS

In order to meet healthy air quality standards, the District develops and amends air quality rules that businesses must comply with to reduce air pollution. Below are the regulatory actions taken in 2021.

1. Rule 67.6.1 - Cold Solvent Cleaning and Stripping Operations and Rule 67.6.2 - Vapor Degreasing Operations
2. Rule 67.0.1 - Architectural Coatings
3. Rule 61.2 - Transfer of Organic Compounds into Mobile Transport Tanks
4. Rule 12 - Registration of Specified Equipment
5. Rule 69.2.2 - Medium Boilers, Process Heaters, and Steam Generators
6. NSR Rules (20.1, 20.3 and 20.4) and Rule 1401 (Title V)
7. Rule 69.3.1 - Stationary Gas Turbine Engines-Best Available Retrofit Control Technology and Repeal of Rule 69.3 - Stationary Gas Turbine Engines-Reasonably Available Control Technology
8. Rule 40 - Permit and Other Fees and Rule 42 - Hearing Board Fees
9. Rule 19.3 - Emission Information

## Notable Rule Amendment

### **Rule 1210 - Toxic Air Contaminant Public Health Risks-Public Notification and Risk Reduction**

- Establishes thresholds and procedures for public notification and risk reduction requirements.
- Amendments improved public health by reducing the significant risk reduction threshold for cancer by 10 times (from 100 in a million to 10 in a million)
- Improves the public notification protocols and public meeting requirements to better communicate with the affected communities.

# Community



# OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) was established to ensure all communities in San Diego County, specifically those most burdened by poor air quality, have equitable support. The OEJ developed a framework that will uphold equity and environmental justice values and ensure access to decision making processes within SDAPCD.

In addition to the Framework, the OEJ is also working on programs that will improve air quality in communities with the highest pollution burden.



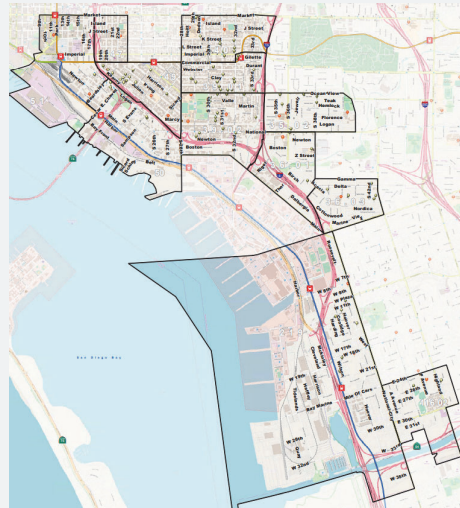


# COMMUNITY AIR PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Community Air Protection Program (CAPP) was established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in response to Assembly Bill (AB) 617. The purpose of this program is to reduce pollution exposure in communities that have been exposed to disproportionate levels of air pollution. Communities are designated by CARB based on environmental, health, and socioeconomic data. In San Diego County there are two areas designated by CARB as disproportionately impacted. In order to address these issues, Community Steering Committees are formed that are made up of residents, businesses, and impacted stakeholders.

The two Community Steering Committees are and encompass the following San Diego County communities:

Portside Community Steering Committee – Barrio Logan, Sherman Heights, Logan Heights, and West National City.



International Border Community Steering Committee - San Ysidro and East Otay Mesa.



The purpose of the committees is to educate the community, as well as develop strategies that could be implemented to help improve the air quality.

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) sets guidelines and strategies to ensure the community is involved in projects and decisions within SDAPCD. The intention is to create an inclusive and transparent environment between the San Diego County community and the SDAPCD. The PPP outlines SDAPCD's outreach goals for the next three years.

## Some highlights include:

- Building community relationships.
- Developing tools that create easy access to District information.
- Consistent engagement opportunities



# COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

SDAPCD works with multiple agencies and organizations at the local, regional, State, and federal levels to have a comprehensive approach to address air quality challenges. Through the CAPP, SDAPCD has strengthened its relationships with many of these organizations and is coordinating at an unprecedented level to develop and implement strategies that reduce air emissions and exposure to air pollution. Some of these agencies include local jurisdictions (cities), the Port of San Diego, the San Diego Association of Governments, Caltrans, the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), environmental justice organizations, research institutions, and the private sector.



SDAPCD also serves as a co-chair of the San Diego-Tijuana Air Quality Task Force, which is a group of agencies and stakeholders from both sides of the San Diego-Tijuana border with the objective of identifying air quality challenges in the shared air basin and exploring solutions that benefit communities on both sides of the border. This group operates within the framework of Border 2025, a binational environmental program administered by the EPA and Mexico's Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources, or SEMARNAT, as it's known in Mexico for its Spanish acronym.



# AIR TOXICS “HOT SPOTS” PROGRAM

The California Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Information and Assessment Act (Hot Spots Act), Assembly Bill 2588, was enacted in 1987 to address public health risks from toxic air contaminants emitted by stationary sources. The Hot Spots Act requires local air pollution control agencies in California to evaluate toxic air contaminant emissions from various stationary sources and determine which facilities generate emissions that may present public health concerns. It also requires facility operators to notify the nearby residents and/or businesses exposed to elevated health risks and develop and implement strategies to reduce their potential health risks when those health risks are above specified levels.



The SDAPCD prepares criteria pollutant and air toxics emission inventories for facilities, and is responsible for implementing the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program in San Diego County by:

- (1) Evaluating emissions of toxic air contaminants from facilities and other stationary sources permitted by the SDAPCD.
- (2) Categorizing and prioritizing toxic emissions from stationary sources to determine which facilities must conduct a Health Risk Assessment to quantify the health risks.
- (3) Implementing public notification and risk reduction requirements through SDAPCD Rule 1210, which establishes public notification and risk reduction thresholds and procedures.

# Grants & Incentives

A collage of various mechanical gears and parts, including a large gear with a cross-like internal structure, several smaller gears of different sizes, and a wooden clothespin. The background is a solid blue color. In the center, there is a dark, irregularly shaped cutout of paper with the word "FUNDING" written in a bold, white, serif font.

**FUNDING**



**In 2021 the Air District provided \$17 million** in incentive funding for heavy duty diesel equipment replacement and repower projects. These projects improve air quality, protect the public, and support local businesses' transition to cleaner equipment. The programs target nitrogen oxide and reactive organic gas emissions, which contribute to ozone pollution, and diesel particulate matter; a toxic air contaminant. These projects will result in over 1,500 tons of pollution reductions over their lifetimes.

## Incentives Distribution



### Carl Moyer Program

The most widely known incentive program in San Diego is the Carl Moyer Program. Now in its 24th year, this program focuses on reductions from heavy duty diesel equipment such as tractors, off-road construction equipment, trucks, and marine vessels. In 2021 this program provided over \$2.2 million in funding and will achieve 51 tons of NO<sub>x</sub>, 7.8 tons of reactive organic gases (ROG), and 4.5 tons of particulate matter reductions over the lifetime of the projects.

### Community Air Protection Program

The Community Air Protection Program focuses investment in disadvantaged communities specified by the state of California. This program is intended to reduce emissions specifically for those communities most affected by air pollution, which in San Diego includes the Portside Environmental Justice Community and surrounding neighborhoods, and parts of San Ysidro, National City, Chula Vista, and El Cajon. In 2021 it provided \$600,000 in funding for projects that will reduce 14 tons NO<sub>x</sub>, 0.7 tons ROG, and 0.4 tons of PM.



### Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions

The FARMER program is specifically for equipment used in agriculture. This sector, vital to San Diego's economy, has many pieces of equipment that directly affect agricultural workers, and is not subject to as much regulation as other sectors. In 2021 this program provided \$682,000 for projects reducing 32 tons of NO<sub>x</sub>, 15 tons of ROG, and 3.3 tons of PM.





### Goods Movement Emission Reduction

The Goods Movement Emission Reduction Program provides funds specifically for equipment used to move freight. For San Diego, that meant \$4 million in funding in 2021 to replace older diesel trucks with low NOx natural gas trucks, reducing NOx emissions in that sector by 106 tons over the lifetime of those projects.

## Grants Awarded

The largest project that came to fruition in 2021 was a partnership with North County Transit District (NCTD) to replace five diesel locomotives with newer cleaner engines. The SDAPCD provided \$10 million in Moyer and DMV funding to help NCTD invest over \$33 million in total to replace their older Coaster engines. This project will help ensure NCTD can provide efficient, reliable transit service for the people it serves while reducing 1243 tons of NOx, 126 tons of ROG, and 69 tons of particulate matter over the lifetime of those locomotives.



## Other Partnerships



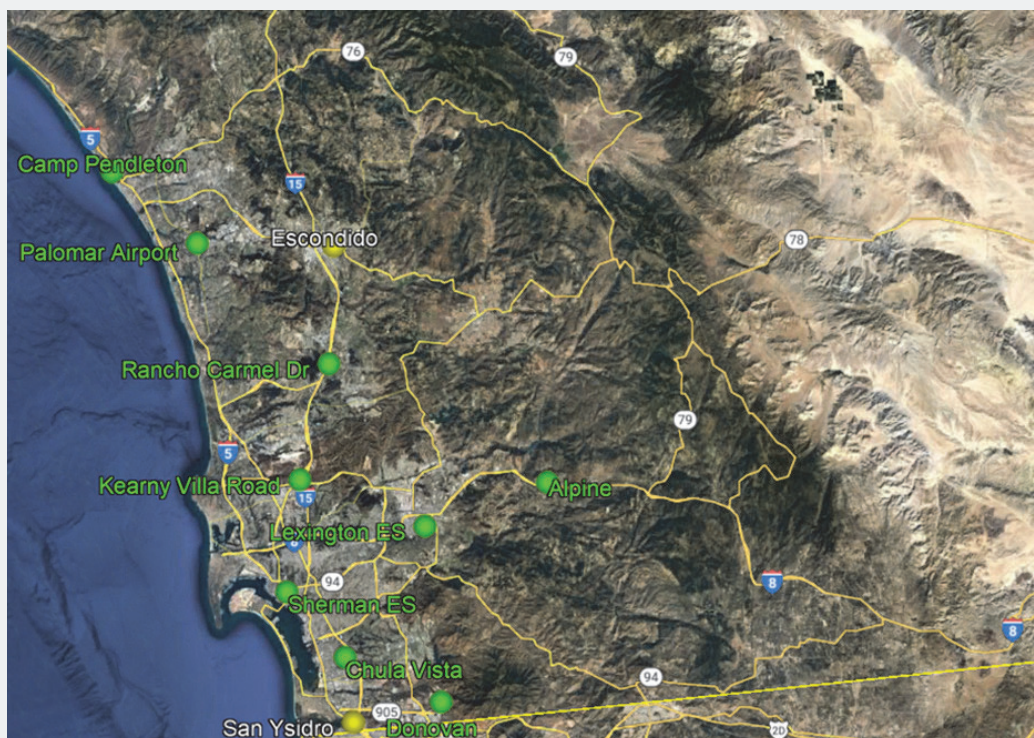
The SDAPCD is working with SANDAG and the California Energy Commission on the CALeVIP program to provide incentives for installing electric vehicle chargers in public accessible locations and multi-unit housing. CALeVIP will provide over \$19 million in funding for level 2 and DC fast chargers, and is an example of how cross-agency partnerships can leverage funding for the entire region while simplifying the application and administrative requirements, making it easier for more businesses to participate in these programs and help the transition to clean transportation.

# Air Quality Monitoring



# REGIONAL AIR MONITORING STATIONS

SDAPCD's air monitoring stations are found between the coast and the mountain foothills up to approximately 2000 feet. The monitoring network needs to be large enough to cover the diverse range of topography, meteorology, emissions, and air quality in San Diego, while adequately representing the large population centers. This monitoring network plays a critical role in assessing San Diego County's clean air progress and in determining pollutant exposures throughout the County.



Ambient concentration data are collected for a wide variety of pollutants in our air basin. These pollutants are:

- Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)
- Fine particulate matter 2.5 micrometers and less in diameter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)
- Particulate matter 10 micrometers and less in diameter (PM<sub>10</sub>)
- Nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)
- Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)
- Lead (Pb).

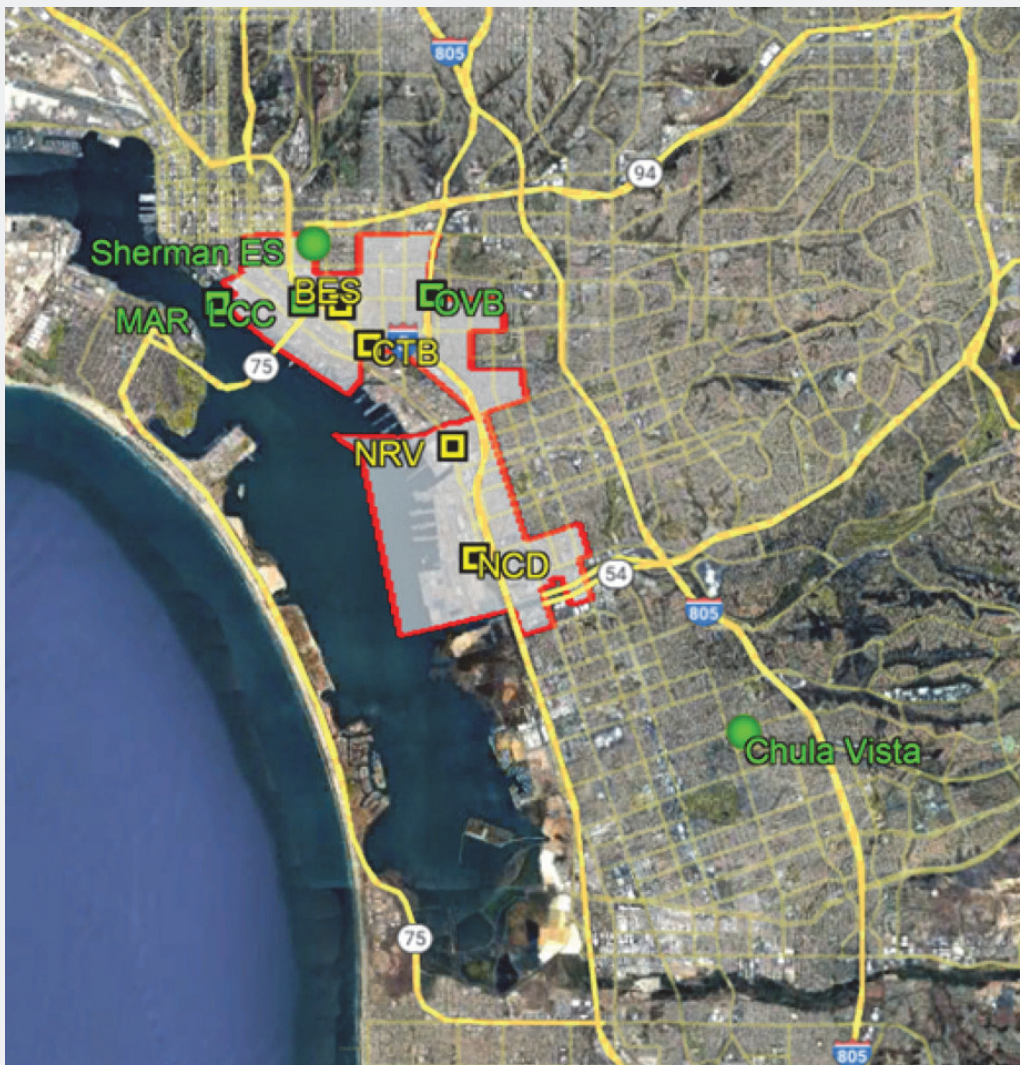
The District also measures additional compounds, including reactive oxides of Nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>), carbonyls, and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), metals, hexavalent chromium, black carbon, organic and elemental carbon, and ions.



# AB 617 AIR MONITORING SITES

The Portside Communities (Sherman Heights, Logan Heights, Barrio Logan, and West National City) are located adjacent to numerous stationary sources of air pollution along the waterfront of San Diego Harbor, as well as smaller sources interspersed within the communities. Mobile sources in the area include ships on the harbor, trains, and automobile and heavy-duty diesel truck traffic along the nearby freeways and local roadways located throughout the communities.

SDAPCD collaborated with community stakeholders to develop a Community Air Monitoring Plan that resulted in the monitoring locations below. Sites in green are operational, while sites in yellow are still in the permit processing/ construction, installation of power phase. The areas outlined in red are the boundaries of the Portside communities.





# Program Data



# AIR QUALITY

## COMPLAINTS PROGRAM

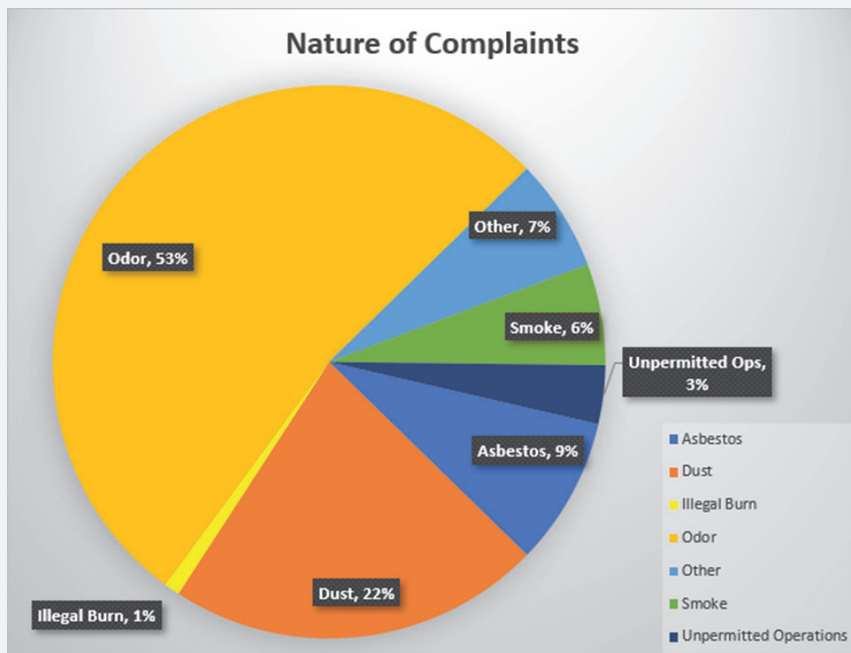
The District investigates all air quality complaints received by the public that fall under SDAPCD jurisdiction. This Program assists SDAPCD in accomplishing its mission of clean air for all.

### Complaint Investigations



This graph represents the number of complaints received and the number of investigations conducted. The number of complaints differs from the number of complaint inspections because one inspection can address multiple complaint investigations. Conversely, some complaints require multiple investigations.

### Nature of Complaints



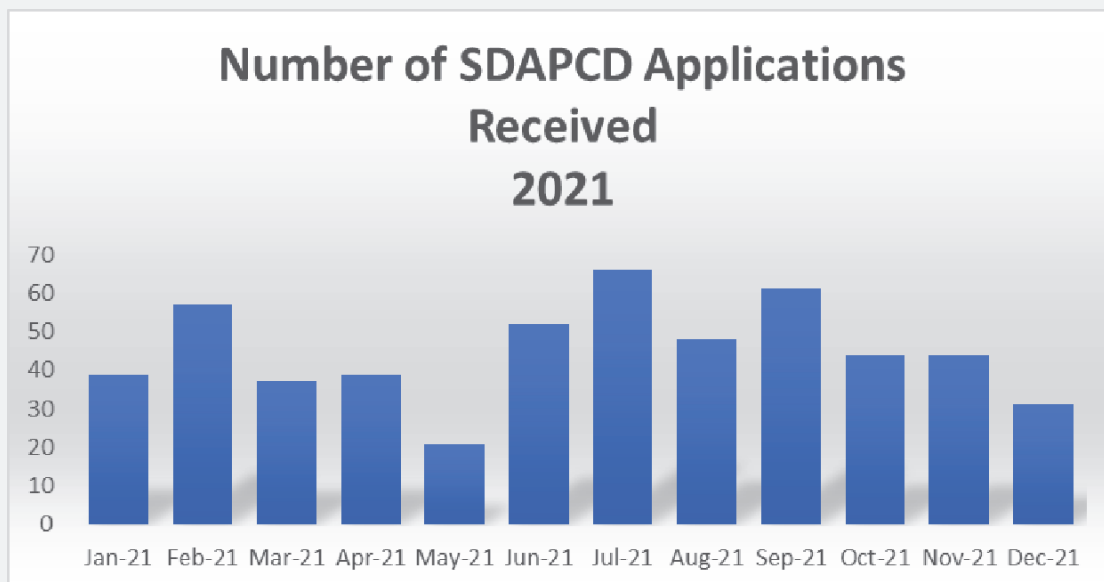
The nature of complaints can vary, but overall, most complaints are related to odors and dust. Typically, complaints involving improper asbestos removal result in more severe violations due to the potential impact on public health. The chart shows the composition of the complaints received during 2021.



# PERMITTING PROGRAM

The SDAPCD evaluates and processes permits for new, modified, relocated or ownership changes for operations that can emit air contaminants. Operations regulated by the SDAPCD can be located at stationary sources or can be portable and relocate within the County. Stationary Sources and other operations in SDAPCD include:

- large industrial facilities, such as factories, landfills, and power plants.
- smaller commercial establishments, such as gas stations and dry cleaners, and a wide range of other facilities operating equipment such as boilers or emergency back-up generators.
- Portable operations, typically involving sources of air pollution such as internal combustion engines (used for power generation, pumps, and compressors), abrasive blasting, and rock crushing and concrete recycling operations.



In 2021 the SDAPCD received and took the following actions on applications:

| No. of Permit Applications Received | No. of Registration Applications Received | No. of Authorities to Construct (ATCs) Issued | No. of Permits to Operate (PTOs) Issued |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 517                                 | 270                                       | 358                                           | 329                                     |

# ENFORCEMENT & COMPLIANCE

To ensure compliance with air quality regulations, the SDAPCD conducts periodic inspections of regulated sources of air pollution and responds to air quality complaints. This includes operations and businesses that are fixed sources of air pollution, such as gas stations, coating operations, combustion equipment, power plants, landfills, and many others.

## Compliance Inspections



Air quality complaint investigations which relate to the number of air quality complaints we received, increased up until 2020, and decreased last year, most likely a factor of the pandemic.

The graph above includes other inspections Compliance conducts, such as asbestos inspections as they relate to renovation and demolition projects (colored in green), air quality complaint investigations (blue), and inspections of portable equipment under the portable equipment registration program (orange). In 2018, asbestos inspections from notified projects increased with the adoption of the District's asbestos Rule 1206. Since then, this increased trend continued.

This graph represents the number of annual stationary source inspections conducted by District inspectors in recent years and shows that these numbers remain consistent from year to year.

## Stationary Source Inspections



# REPORTS AND POLICY INFORMATION

## **Air Quality Planning Reports:**

<https://www.sdapcd.org/content/sdapcdplanning.html>

## **Rules & Regulations:**

<https://www.sdapcd.org/content/sdapcd/rules.html>

## **Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Reports:**

<https://www.sdapcd.org/content/sdapcd/permits/toxics-emissions/hot-spots.html>

## **Community Reports:**

<https://www.sdapcd.org/content/sdapcd/community.html>



# CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Follow Us:



# HOW CAN YOU HELP ACHIEVE CLEAN AIR FOR ALL?

## At Home:

- Conserve energy using energy efficient appliances labeled ENERGY STAR
- Set air conditioners no lower than 78 degrees.
- Use environmentally safe paints and cleaning products.
- Mulch or compost leaves and yard waste.
- Reduce or eliminate fireplace and wood stove use.
- Avoid burning leaves, trash, and other materials.
- Avoid using gas-powered lawn and garden equipment.



## Out and About:

- Carpool, use public transportation, bike, or walk whenever possible.
- Be sure your tires are properly inflated.
- Don't top off at the gas pump and always tighten your gas cap securely.
- Combine trips and errands to drive less.