2025 OZONE SEASON REVIEW AND A LOOK INTO 2026

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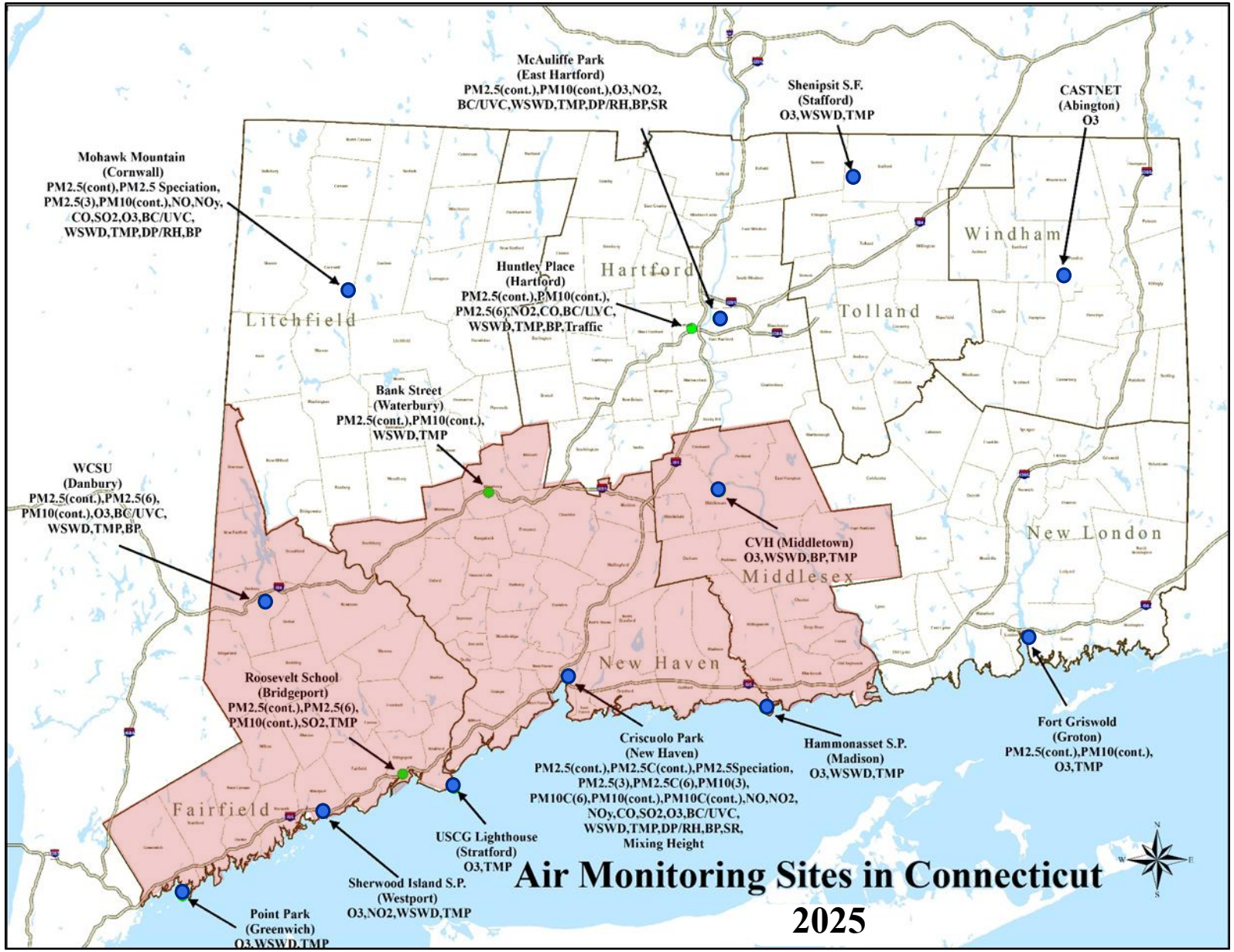
Bureau of Air Management

CONNECTICUT'S MONITORING SITES

- Ozone specific monitors
- NY-NJ-CT area



2025 OZONE SEASON SUMMARY

Month	April		May	June								July						Aug				Oct	
Site	24	25	12	4	5	6	11	12	23	24	25	1	6	8	16	25	29	4	10	11	12	5	Site Exceedances
Abington	60	64	54	60	70	63	61	60	54	58	45	57	63	42	53	48	44	48	58	68	73	61	1
Cornwall	76	72	65	82	90	61	64	62	49	57	44	47	67	41	70	48	45	51	63	68	71	73	6
Danbury	71	63	61	81	92	76	61	64	66	56	49	55	73	47	75	54	46	50	66	79	85	M	8
East Hartford	71	65	60	75	91	72	61	62	59	56	44	51	M	45	67	54	48	58	67	75	91	64	6
Greenwich	58	59	56	60	76	63	69	72	76	70	58	69	66	73	70	75	94	70	74	70	76	M	8
Groton	59	59	55	58	79	59	73	81	46	72	57	41	67	72	51	71	77	69	67	79	63	M	8
Madison	58	55	53	62	79	57	72	86	60	84	77	62	74	65	53	74	85	79	70	75	66	M	10
Middletown	70	64	71	69	86	70	63	65	63	55	46	76	76	54	61	60	59	63	70	81	84	M	6
New Haven	63	51	50	52	54	66	67	64	52	58	49	M	76	66	63	61	40	72	65	76	60	64	3
Stafford	71	69	61	73	81	66	58	59	58	57	32	51	73	42	60	52	43	41	61	69	72	M	5
Stratford	58	56	55	63	83	63	73	80	62	79	75	76	72	75	70	84	92	66	75	82	68	M	12
Westport	62	60	56	64	90	65	72	71	64	71	57	72	72	72	68	75	95	72	80	81	75	M	13
Site Exceedances	4	1	1	4	10	2	4	5	1	4	2	3	7	4	1	5	5	3	3	8	8	1	86
# days > Federal Standard	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	

Good (0-54 ppb)
Moderate (55-70 ppb)
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (71-85 ppb)
Unhealthy (86-105 ppb)
Very Unhealthy (>106 ppb)

Days > 70 (2015 Standard) = 22
Days >75 (2008 Standard) = 16
Days > 85 (Unhealthy Levels) = 4

FORECASTED EXCEEDANCE DAYS

Actual Exceedance Days = 22
Forecast Exceedance Days = 10

Month	Exceedance Dates	Forecast Dates
April	24, 25	None
May	12	None
June	4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 23, 24, 25	4, 5, *6, 22, 23, 24, 25
July	1, 6, 8, 16, 25, 29	6, 7, 16, 24, 25, 29, 30
August	4, 10, 11, 12	*4, 5, *11, 12, 13
September	None	None
October (out of season)	5	None
Total	22	10

*Upgraded Forecast

Of the 22 exceedance days;

1. Forecasted USG for 10 days that exceeded the standard.
2. Did not forecast USG for 9 days that exceeded the standard.
3. Forecasted USG for 6 days that did not exceed the standard.
4. Upgraded our forecast 3 times to accurately inform of USG values

There were less exceedance days (22) during the 2025 season compared to the 2024 season (23).

ACCUMULATED EXCEEDANCE DAYS

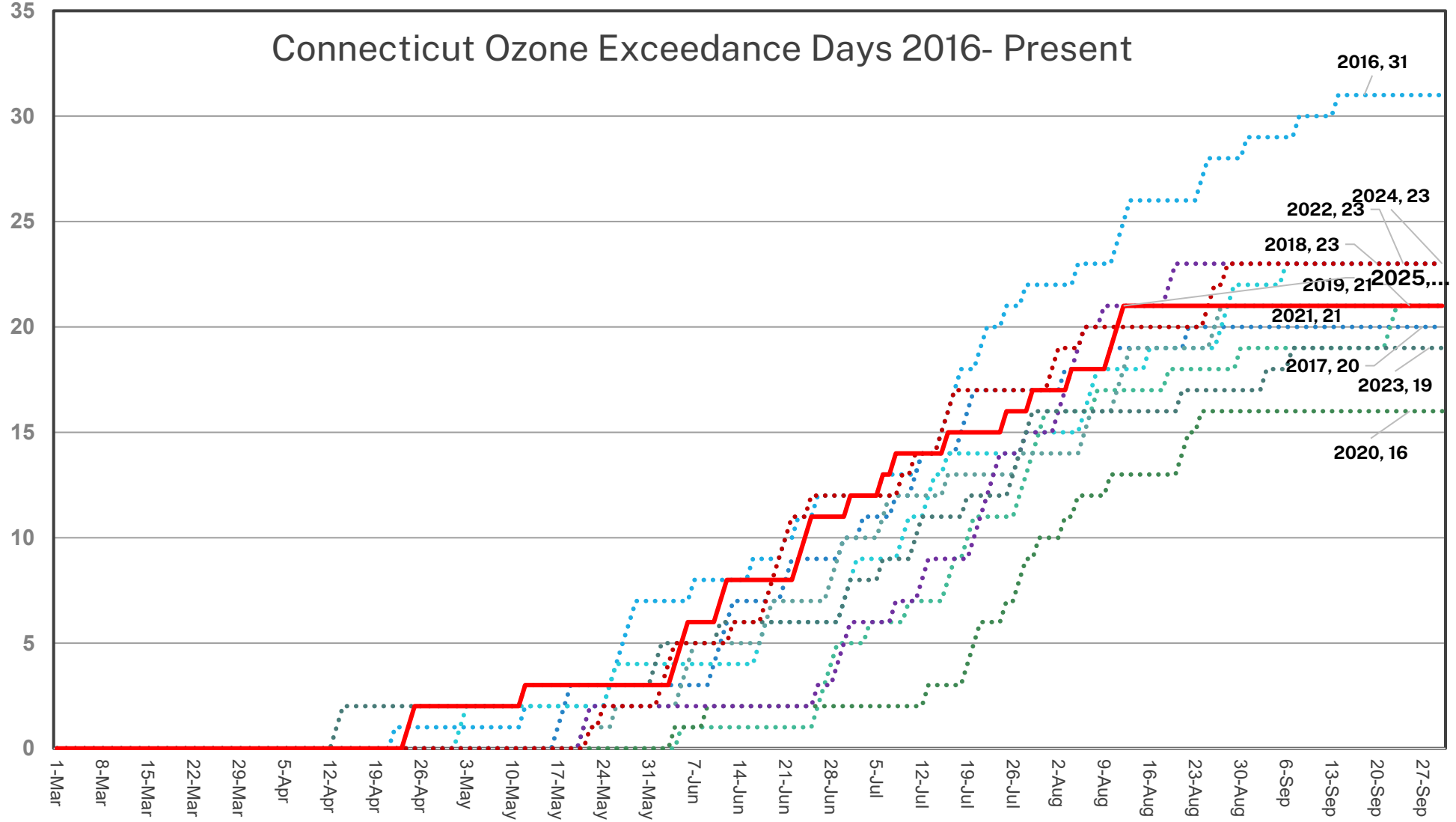
Exceedance days in recent years (70 ppb):

- 2016 – **31 days**
- 2017 – **20 days**
- 2018 – **23 days**
- 2019 – **21 days**
- 2020 – **17 days***
- 2021 – **21 days**
- 2022 – **23 days**
- 2023 – **19 days**
- 2024 – **23 days**
- **2025 – 22 days**

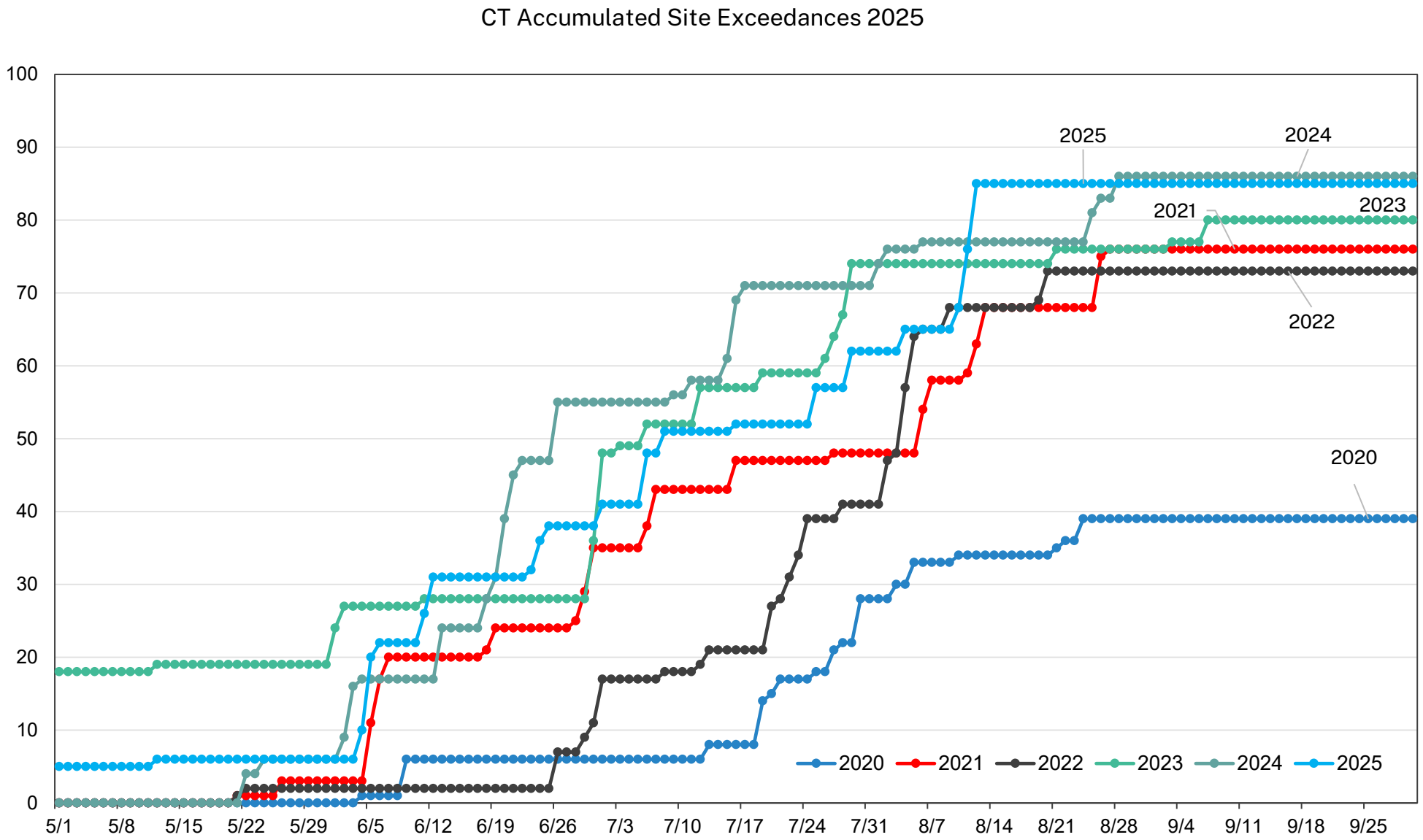
The 2025 ozone season started off on April 24th.

Ended with 21 days within the ozone monitoring season, and one day outside the season for 22 total.

* Start of COVID-19 Lockdown



ACCUMULATED SITE EXCEEDANCES



Site exceedances in recent years:

2019 – **78 sites**
2020 – **39 sites**
2021 – **76 sites**
2022 – **73 sites**
2023 – **80 sites**
2024 – **86 sites**
2025 - 86 sites

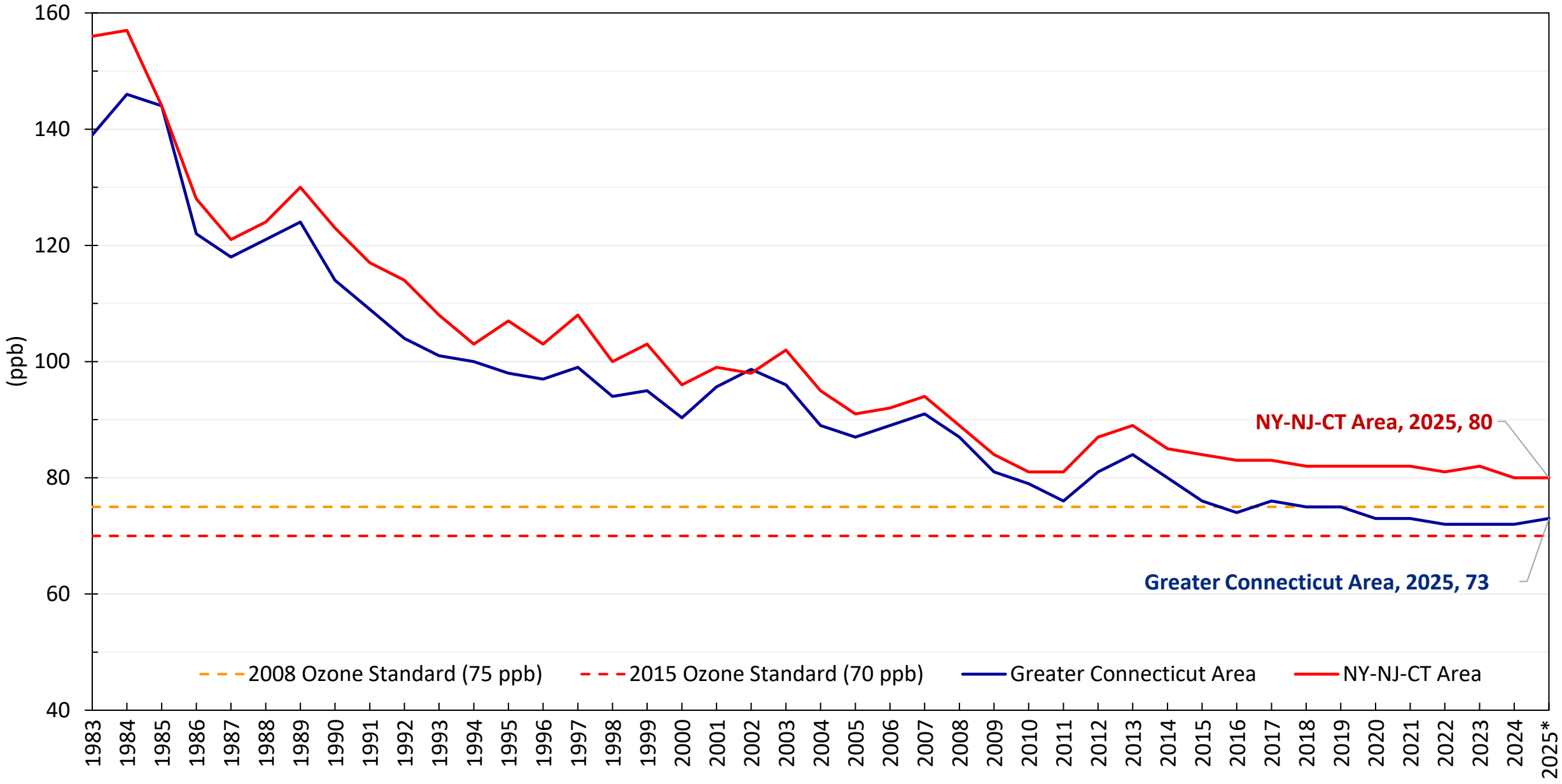
***** Graph not inclusive of October 5, 2025 exceedance (86 site exceedances).***

2025 PRELIMINARY DESIGN VALUES

	Site Name	To Date: Prelim 2025 DV	2025 Compliance Status x = Violating NAAQS: 2015 NAAQS	2008 NAAQS	1997 NAAQS	# Needed to Next NAAQS in Violation (key monitors in each NA are highlighted in RED)
SWCT Portion of NYC Area	Danbury	77	X	X		4 more days > 101 ppb day(s) violate the 1997 NAAQS
	Greenwich	79	X	X		3 more days > 93 ppb day(s) violate the 1997 NAAQS
	Madison	77	X	X		4 more days > 102 ppb day(s) violate the 1997 NAAQS
	Middletown	75	X			1 more days > 78 ppb day(s) violate the 2008 NAAQS
	New Haven	71	X			4 more days > 81 ppb day(s) violate the 2008 NAAQS
	Stratford	80	X	X		4 more days > 95 ppb day(s) violate the 1997 NAAQS
	Westport	80	X	X		3 more days > 93 ppb day(s) violate the 1997 NAAQS
Greater CT	Cornwall	70				1 more days > 73 ppb day(s) violate the 2015 NAAQS
	East Hartford	73	X			2 more days > 83 ppb day(s) violate the 2008 NAAQS
	Groton	73	X			4 more days > 83 ppb day(s) violate the 2008 NAAQS
	Stafford	71	X			4 more days > 85 ppb day(s) violate the 2008 NAAQS
	Abington	64				4 more days > 84 ppb day(s) violate the 2015 NAAQS
Number of Exceedance Days to Date			22			

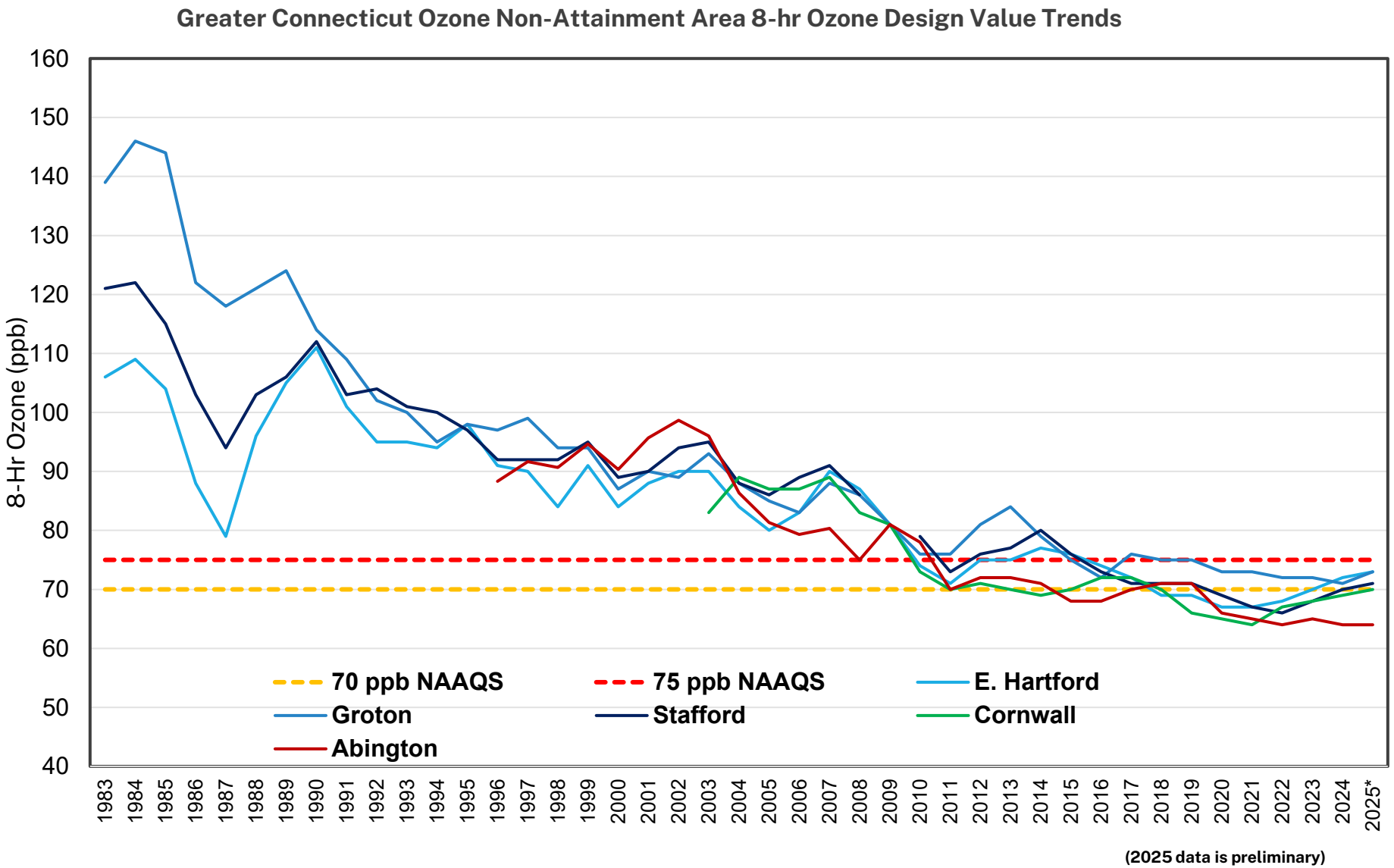
The 1997 standard was repealed with the 2008 Implementation rule. Effective April 6, 2015

Ozone Design Value Trends
Connecticut's Two Nonattainment Areas



* Preliminary Data

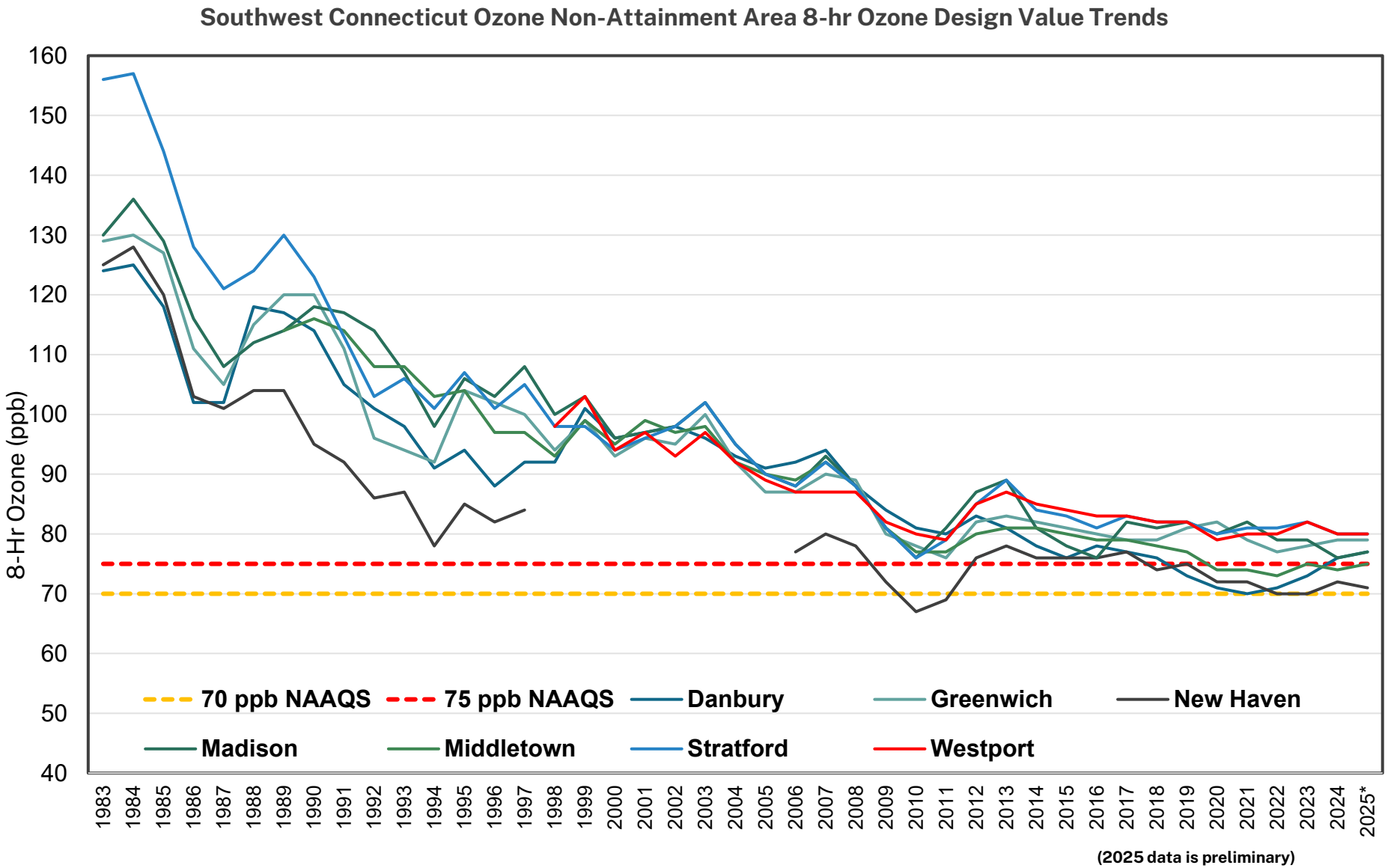
GREATER CONNECTICUT OZONE TRENDS



As of 2025, all the Greater Connecticut sites are compliant with the 2008 NAAQS.

Groton, East Hartford, and Stafford are noncompliant with the 2015 NAAQS.

SOUTHWEST CONNECTICUT OZONE TRENDS



Middletown, and New Haven have fallen within the 2008 NAAQS for 2025.

Danbury, Stratford, Westport, Madison, and Greenwich have the highest design values across the state.

No monitors are currently complaint with the 2015 NAAQS.

2025 $PM_{2.5}$ SEASON SUMMARY

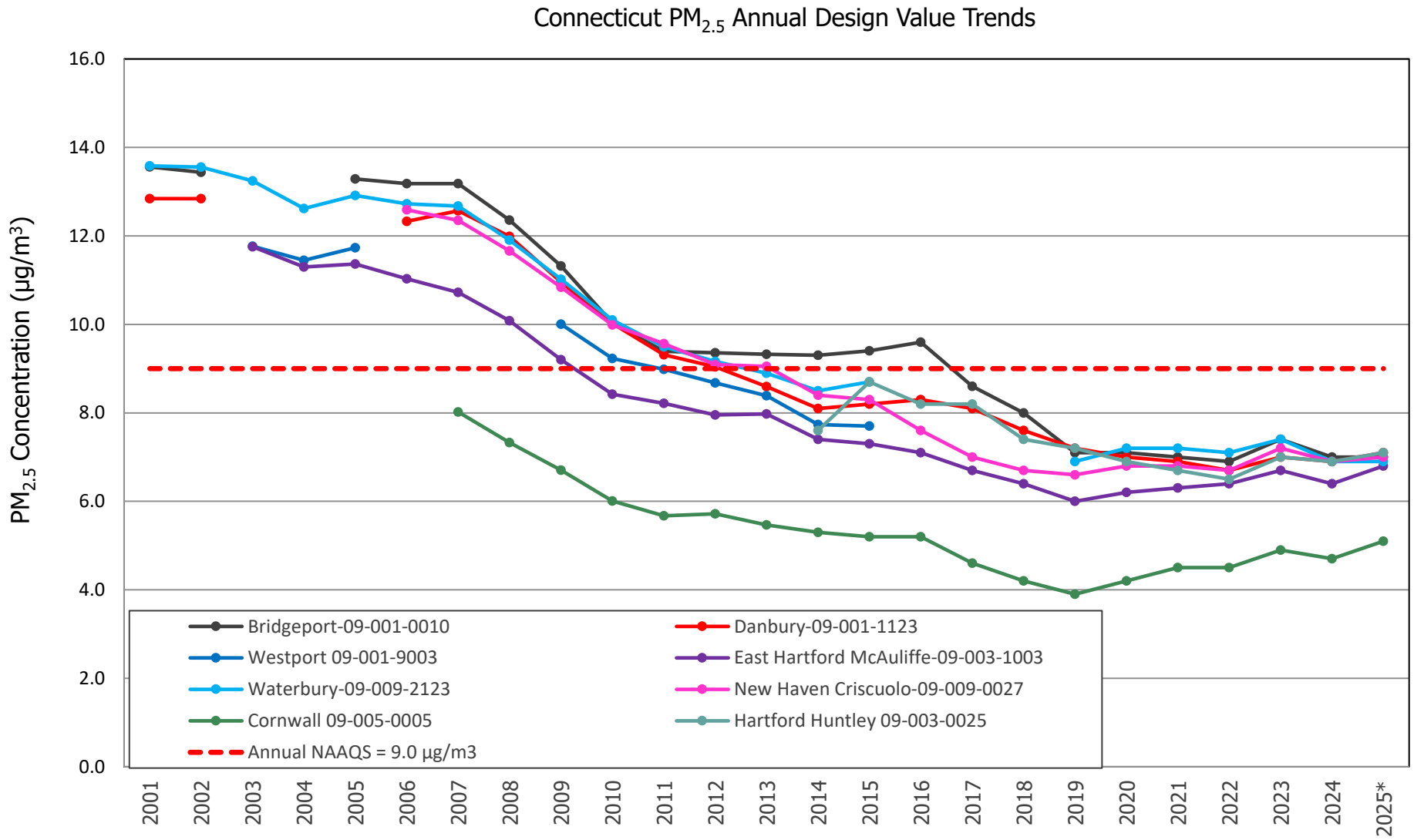
Month	July	August		
Site	**26**	**4**	**5**	**Site Exceedances**
Bridgeport	32.8	16.8	30.9	**0**
Cornwall	**49**	**37.8**	**41.8**	**3**
Danbury	**42.5**	31.5	**39.7**	**2**
East Hartford	**39.9**	30.6	**45.9**	**2**
Groton	31	11.8	24.2	**0**
Hartford	**38.1**	29.7	**43.1**	**2**
New Haven	34.1	19.1	33.6	**0**
Waterbury	**39.9**	31.7	**38.2**	**2**
Site Exceedances	**5**	**1**	**5**	**11**
# days above USG	**1**	**2**	**3**	

Good (0 - 9.0 µg/m³)
Moderate (9.1 - 35.4 µg/m³)
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (35.5 - 55.4 µg/m³)
Unhealthy (55.5 - 125.4 µg/m³)
Very Unhealthy (>125.5 µg/m³)

$PM_{2.5}$ ANNUAL STANDARD

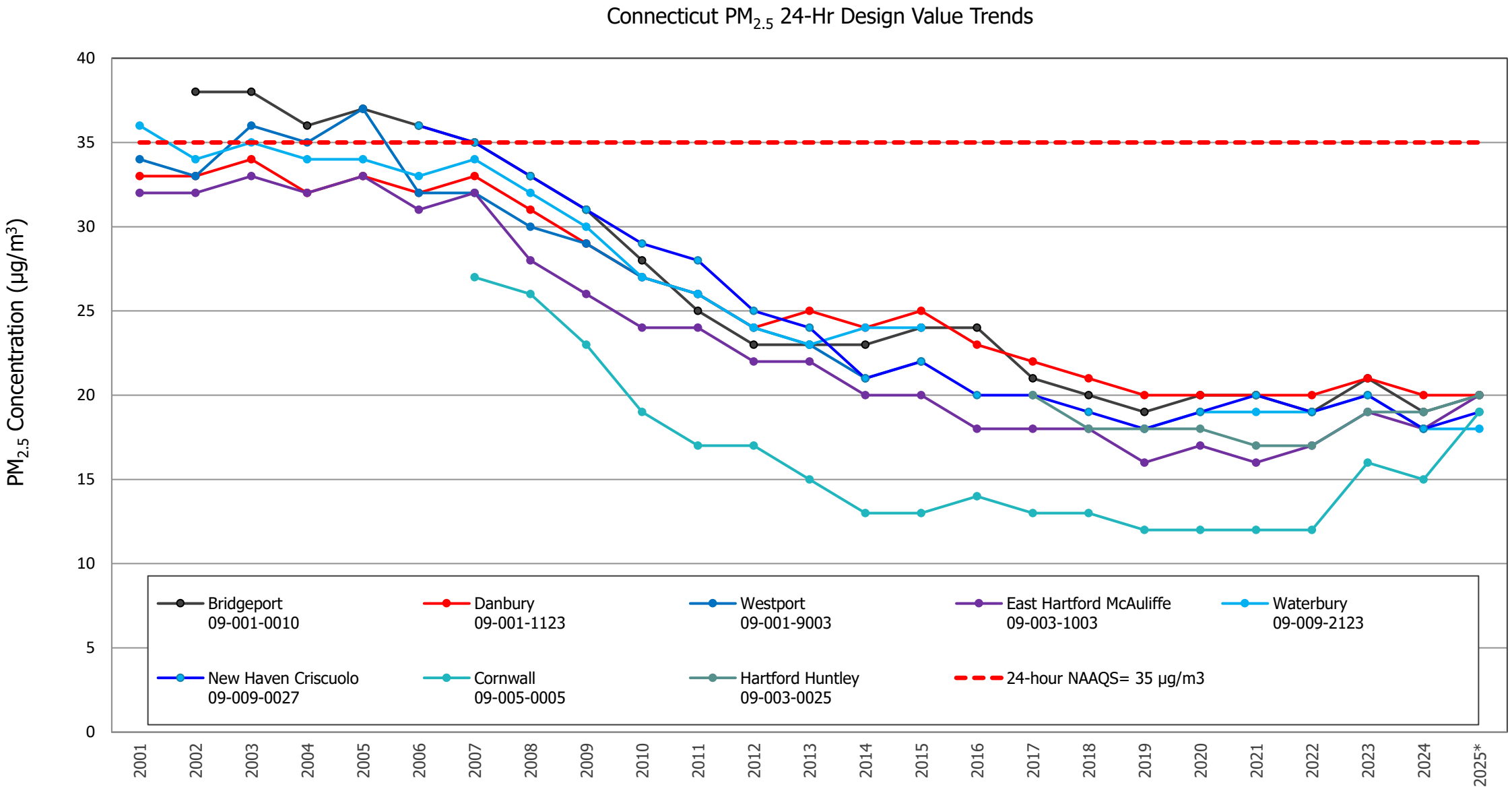
- February 7, 2024, EPA strengthened the $PM_{2.5}$ primary annual standard from 12.0 to 9.0 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu g/m^3$).

- Design Values in CT remain compliant with the new standard.



* Preliminary Data

$PM_{2.5}$ 24-HOUR STANDARD



* Preliminary Data

2025 $PM_{2.5}$ ESTIMATED DESIGN VALUES

	Site Name	To Date: Estimated 2025 Annual DV	To Date: Estimated 2025 24-hr DV
SWCT Portion NY-NJ-PA-CT CSA	Bridgeport	7.0	20
	Danbury	7.1	20
Greater CT	Cornwall	5.1	19
	East Hartford	6.8	20
	Groton	6.1	18
	Hartford	7.1	20
	New Haven	7.0	19
	Waterbury	6.9	18

$PM_{2.5}$ Annual NAAQS = 9.0 µg/m³

$PM_{2.5}$ 24-hr NAAQS = 35 µg/m³

2025 OZONE SEASON SUMMARY

- **Connecticut had 22 ozone exceedance days and 86 site exceedances in 2025.**
  - **4 days reached into Unhealthy Values**

- **Design values in Southwest Connecticut continue to exceed both the 2008 and 2015 standards.**
  - **Preliminary DV = 80 ppb**

- **Design Values in Greater CT are compliant with the 2008 standard but exceed the 2015 standard.**
  - **Preliminary DV = 73 ppb**

- **Southwest winds, clear skies, and warm temperatures, continue to contribute to ozone exceedances in Connecticut.**

- **$PM_{2.5}$ Annual Design Values continue to adhere to the revised 2024 standard change. (12 to 9 µg/m^3)**

- **$PM_{2.5}$ 24-Hour Design Values remain within the 35 µg/m^3 standard.**
  - **Cornwall has seen an increase in 24-hour values due to smoke enhancement.**

A LOOK INTO 2026!

2026 OZONE FORECASTING SEASON

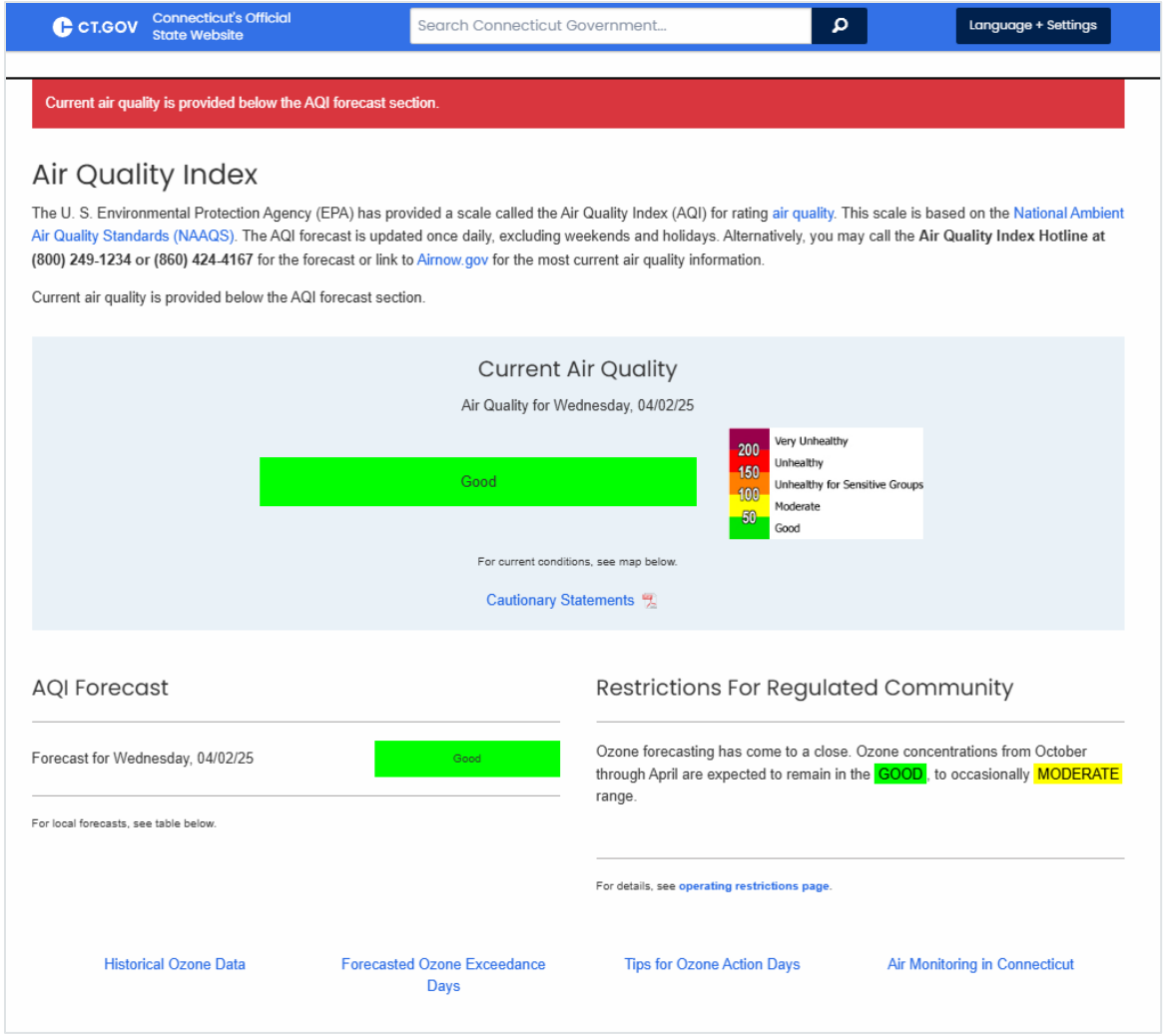
Ozone Forecasting Season is May 1- Sept 30.

CTDEEP forecasts are available through:

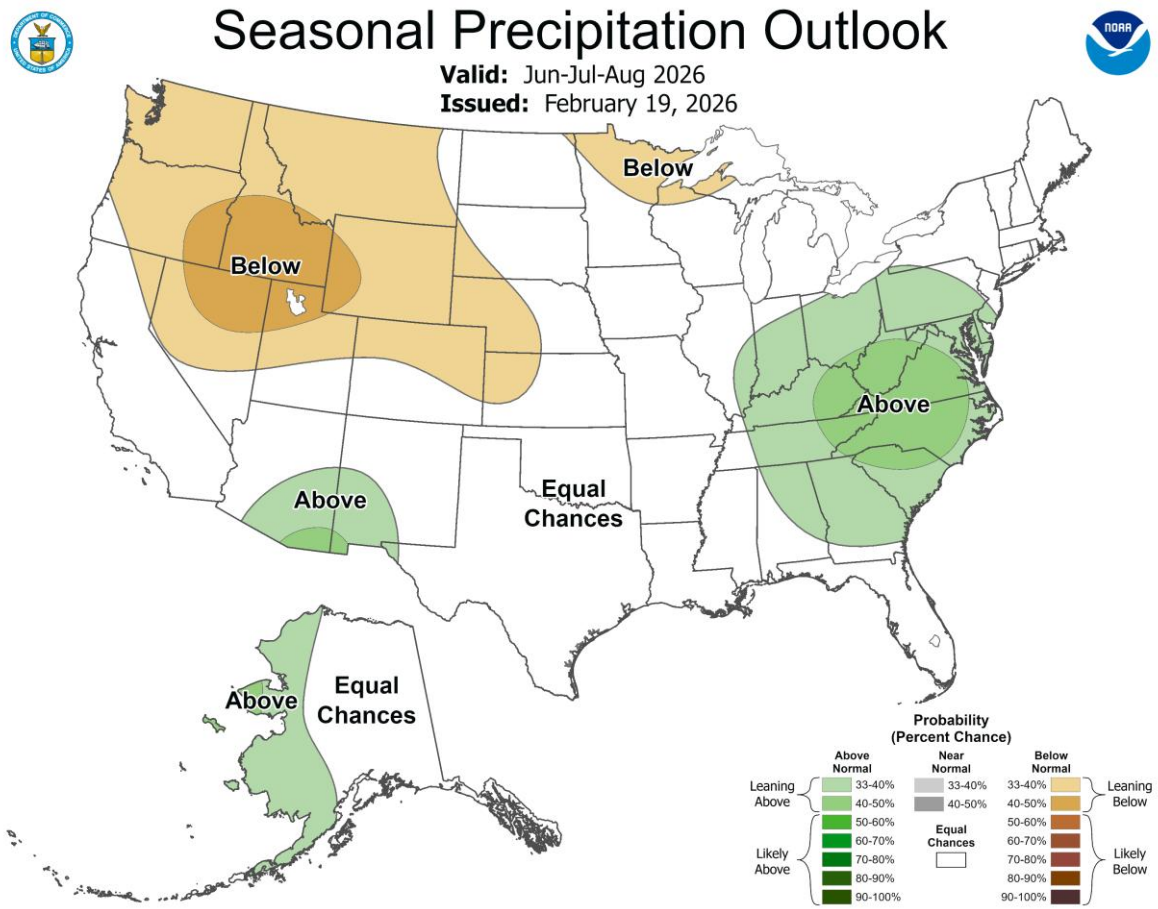
1. Campaign Monitor emails
2. CTDEEP AQI web page
3. EPA Airnow forecasts

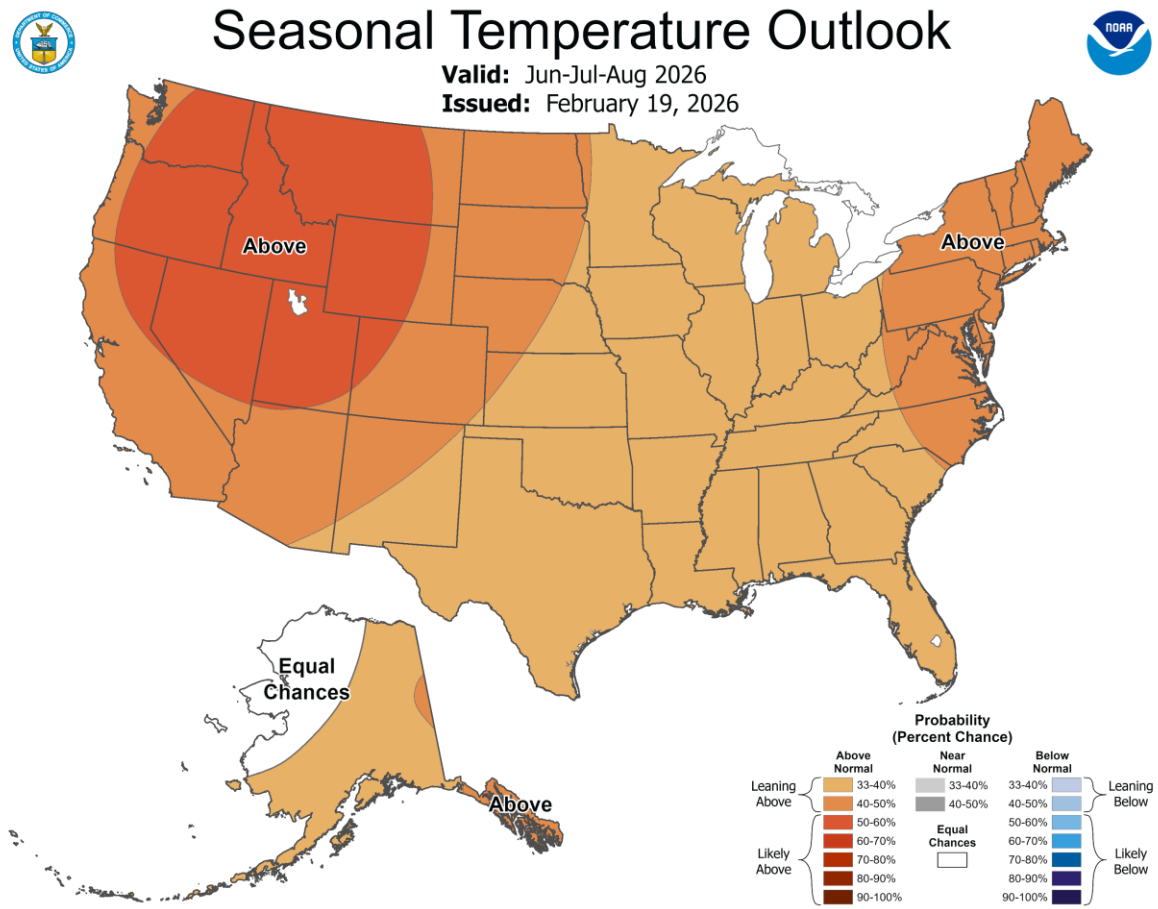
Receive notices of Daily AQI:

- **EnviroFlash** - Subscribe to receive air quality information by e-mail.
- Subscribe to the **DEEP Air Quality Forecast** to receive a daily ozone forecast between May 1 through September 30, and a daily PM2.5 forecast year-round.
- Subscribe to the **DEEP Ozone Forecast** to receive a daily 8-hour ozone forecast that is disseminated to Connecticut's regulated community from May 1 through September 30.



2026 FORECASTED PRECIPITATION & TEMPERATURE

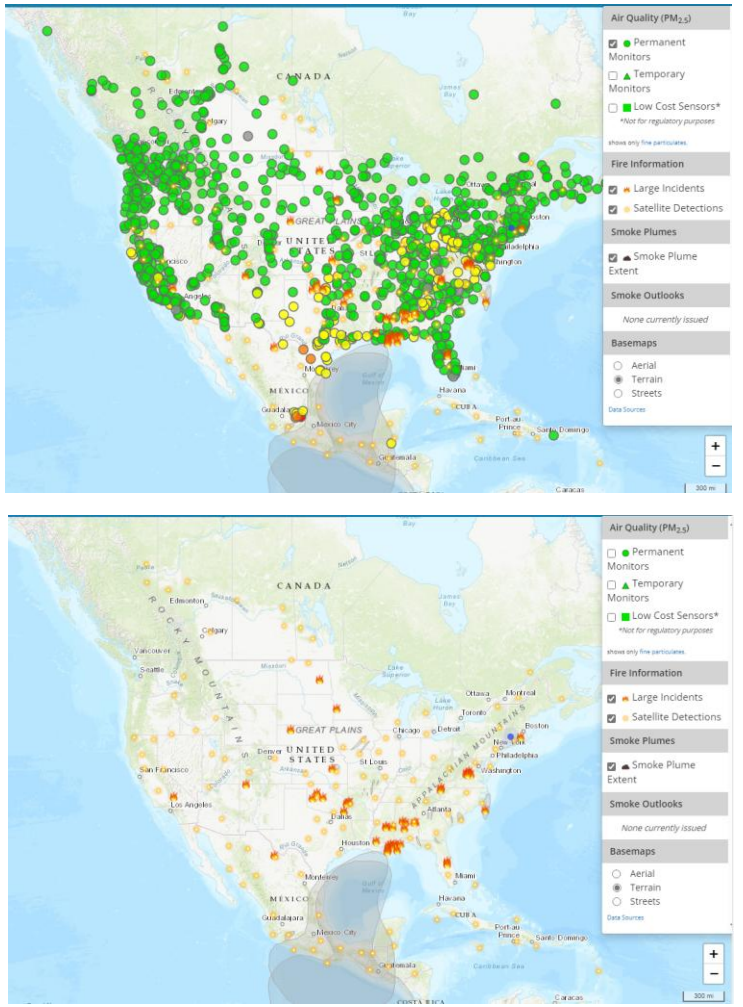




Precipitation is forecasted to be are equal chances, while temperatures are leaning above normal

WILDFIRE PROJECTIONS AND RESOURCES

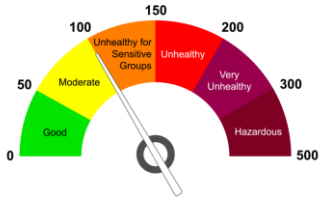
- Two main wildfire sources are lightening and human activity
- Early fire season can start in areas with holdover fires; however, the timing depends on soil moisture, snow melt, and spring weather patterns.
  - holdover fires = fires that can burn underground throughout the winter.
  - Can emerge as early as March but typical risk period is from April to June.
- Western Canada (BC, AB, SK): These regions are currently facing persistent multi-year drought conditions.
- Central & Eastern Canada (ON, QC): These areas have a higher probability of seeing near-normal precipitation



Fire and Smoke Map (airnow.gov)

Canadian Wildland Fire Information System | Monthly and Seasonal Forecasts

REMINDERS FOR AN OZONE ACTION DAY



Drive Less

- Walk or ride a bicycle
- Use public transportation
- Join a carpool or vanpool
- Telecommute
- Combine errands

Around the House

- Set air conditioners to 78°
- Select water based paint
- Wait until 8 to use energy intensive appliances
- Use energy efficient products
- Buy environmentally friendly cleaners

Drive Clean

- Consider purchasing or leasing a plug in electric vehicle
- Tune your car regularly
- Avoid idling your vehicle unnecessarily
- Test vehicle emissions on time

In the Yard

- Use electric or hand powered equipment
- Reduce use of garden chemicals
- Delay mowing your lawn or using gas powered equipment until evening
- Refrain from recreational wood burning

Be a Smart Driver

- Refuel your vehicle after dusk
- Stop refueling when the nozzle clicks off
- Drive at fuel saving, moderate speeds

Thank you ☺

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