Air Issues

Michigan House of Representatives

Natural Resources, Great Lakes, Land Use, and Environment Committee

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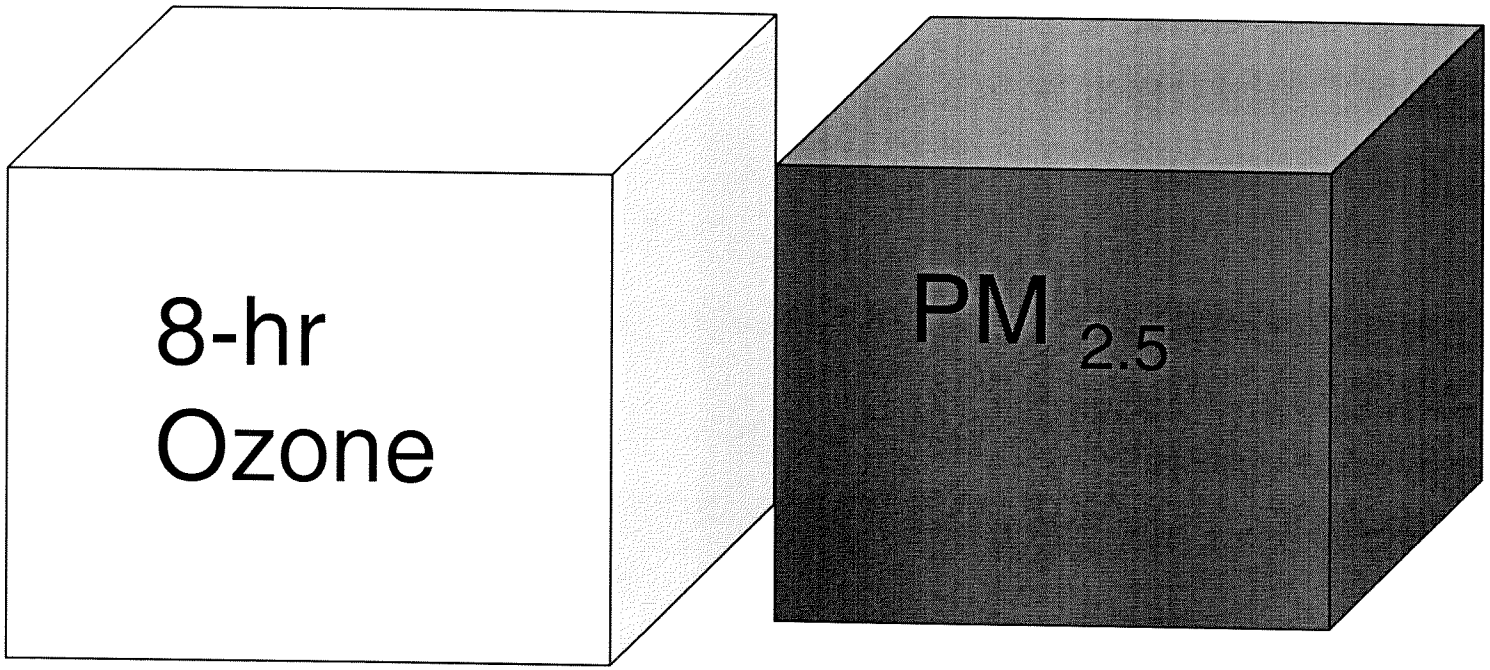
Air Quality Division
Department of Environmental Quality
April 21, 2005

DEQ

Newest National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)



Asthma

- In Michigan, 213,600 children and 654,100 adults currently have asthma.
- Most common chronic illness in children and most common cause of school absences.
- Asthma hospitalization rates are highest in young children (0-4 years).
- Overall prevalence rate for asthma increased 75% from 1980 to 1994. (MMWR, 1998)
- Asthma causes 160 deaths each year in Michigan. High asthma burden in the city of Detroit, especially in African-American children.

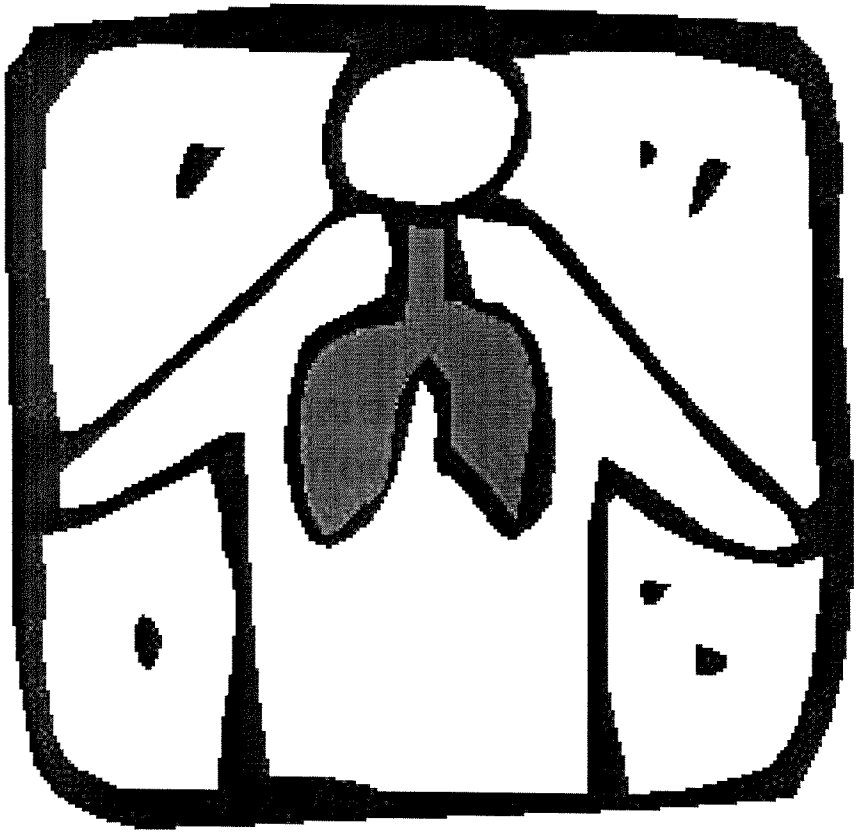
Cardiovascular Disease

- Cardiovascular disease is the number one cause of death in Michigan.
- Michigan ranks 11th worst of the 50 states for CVD age-adjusted mortality.*
- 4 out of 10 deaths in Michigan is due to CVD.
- The economic burden of CVD in Michigan, direct and indirect costs, is estimated at $12.9 billion.*

Ozone is Unhealthy to Breathe

- Difficulty in breathing, shortness of breath
- Aggravated/prolonged coughing and chest pain
- Increased aggravation of asthma
- Increased susceptibility to respiratory infection resulting in increased hospital admissions and emergency room visits
- Repeated exposures could result in chronic inflammation and irreversible structural changes in the lungs, that can lead to premature aging of the lungs and illness such as bronchitis and emphysema
- Growing evidence suggests association with premature death

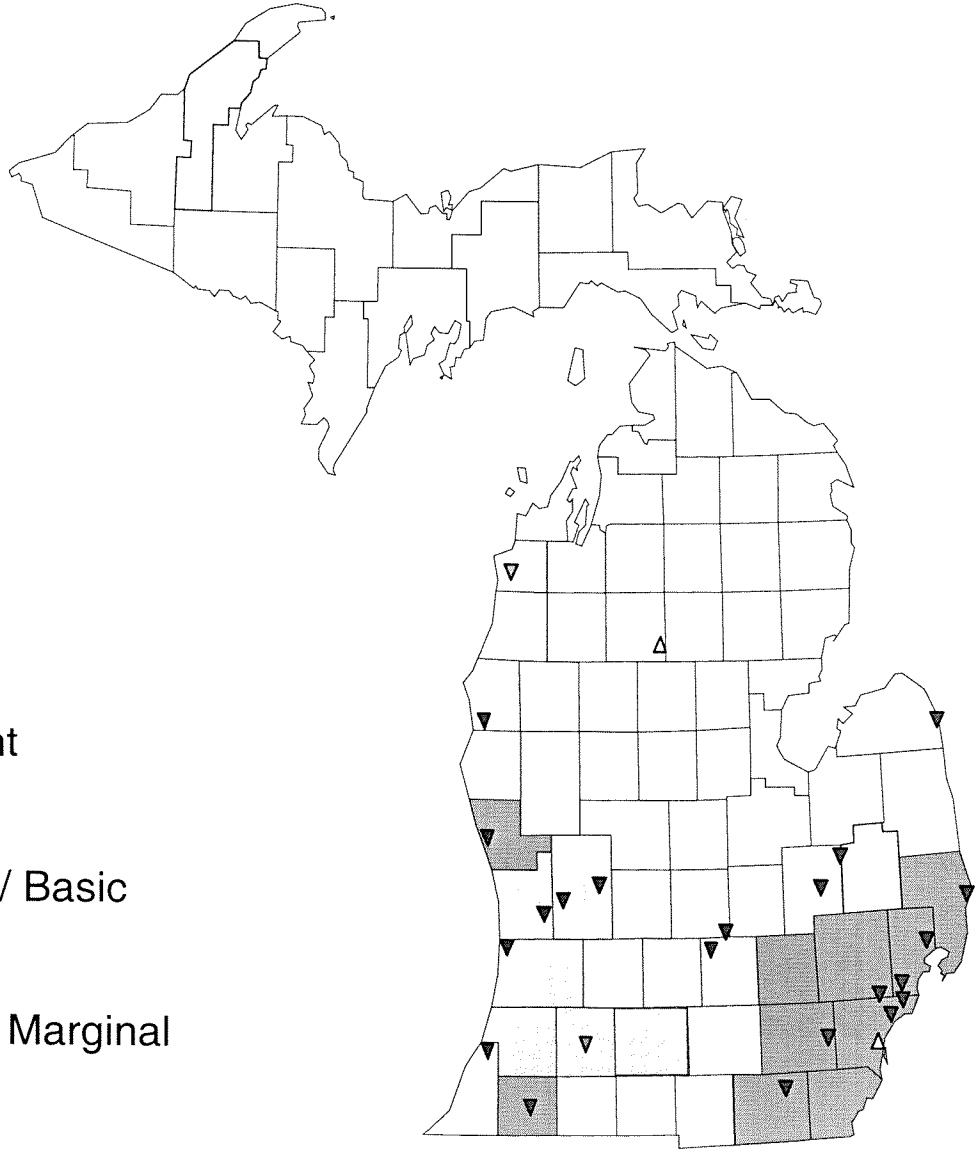
Fine Particles (PM 2.5) are Unhealthy to Breathe



Respiratory system effects
Aggravates bronchitis and asthma.
Decreases lung function.
Increases airway inflammation.

Cardiovascular system effects
Associated with cardiac arrhythmias, heart attacks.
Linked with blood component changes.

Ozone Nonattainment Areas

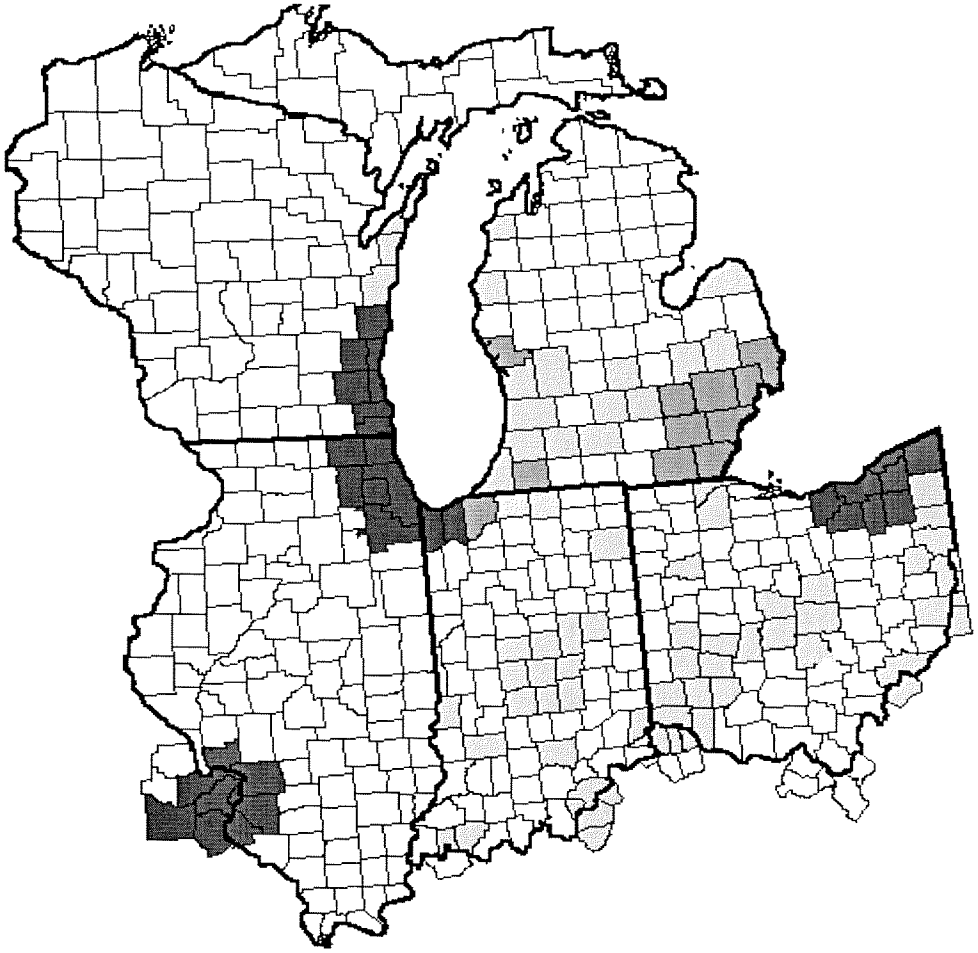


SE Michigan:
St. Clair
Livingston
Monroe
Lenawee
Oakland
Washtenaw
Wayne
Macomb

Attainment

Subpart 1/ Basic

Subpart 2 Marginal



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