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Air Monitoring Data for Informing Clean Air and Climate Policy

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“If you can’t measure it, you can’t manage it”

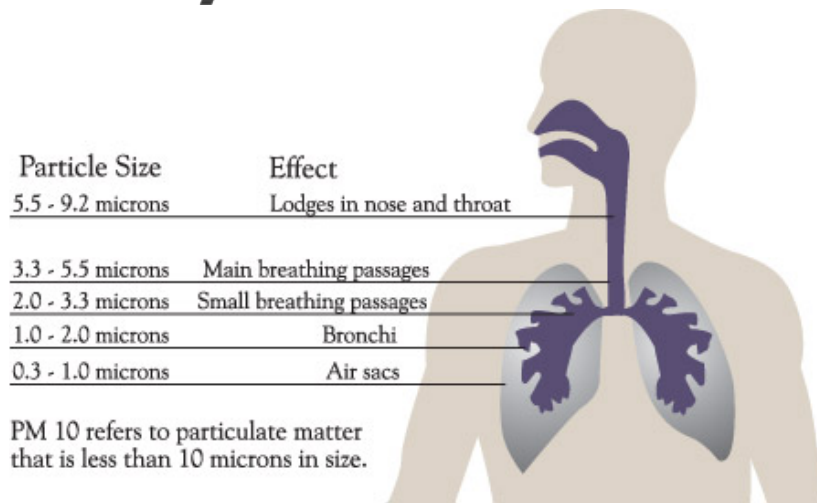
- While this may not apply universally, it certainly does to air quality management
- It also applies to managing climate change due to GHG emissions (HFCs, N₂O, CH₄, BC)
- Scientifically and legally defensible monitoring (and other) data underpins every State action

Today's Air Monitoring Network



- ▶ Over 250 air monitoring sites statewide
- ▶ Combination of filter-based and continuous monitoring technology
- ▶ Selected sites for chemical speciation

Air Monitoring Why?



- ▶ First and foremost to protect public health
- ▶ Link between air pollution and adverse health outcomes is well established and undisputable
- ▶ World Health Organization, air pollution, and the Global Burden for Disease
- ▶ Pollution costs us lives (and money)
- ▶ O₃, CO, NO₂, SO₂, and PM – all linked to various morbidity and mortality outcomes
- ▶ Over time, we learn about new airborne threats to health (e.g., exposure to traffic-generated particles)
- ▶ New air monitoring data is essential

We have come a long way.....and we have data to prove it



Then

Now



Air Monitoring – Why?

Twenty-five Years Ago

- ▶ Unhealthy levels of pollutants were common
- ▶ In Los Angeles:
 - Over 100 air pollution alerts annually
 - Over 200 days with unhealthy air annually
 - Peak ozone level several times allowable limits

Ten Years Ago

- ▶ In San Joaquin Valley:
 - PM_{2.5} peak concentrations reached 160 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
 - Concentrations exceeded federal standard approximately 70 days per year
 - All monitoring locations exceeded standard

Today...

NO₂: Attain

SO₂: Attain

CO: Attain

O₃: Los Angeles peak – reduced
over 60%

Hours of exposure – reduced
90%

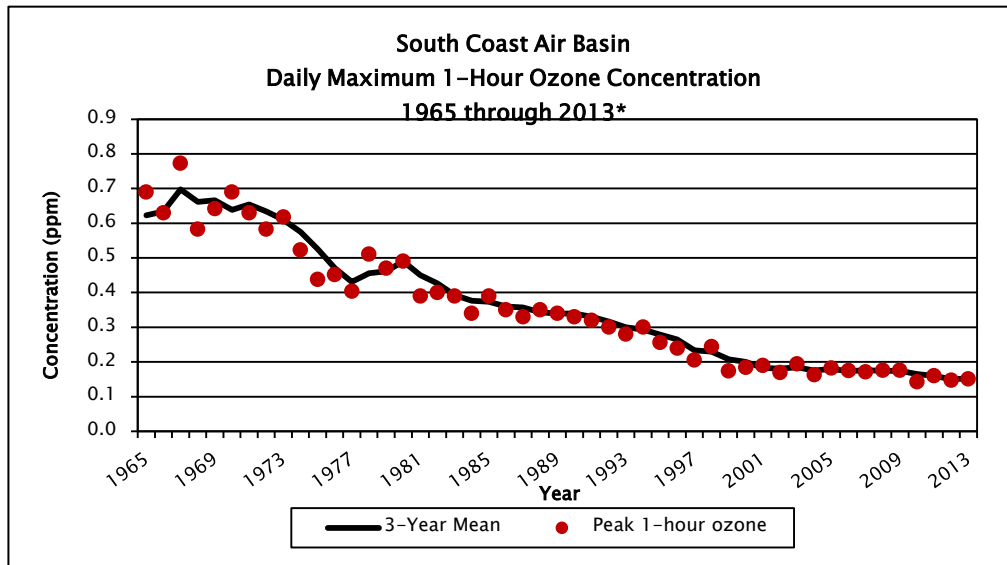
PM_{2.5}: Levels cut by ~70%

NO_x: Additional actions

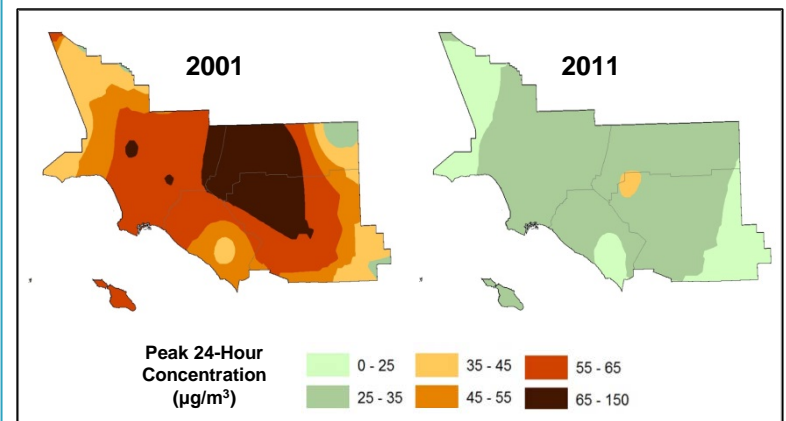
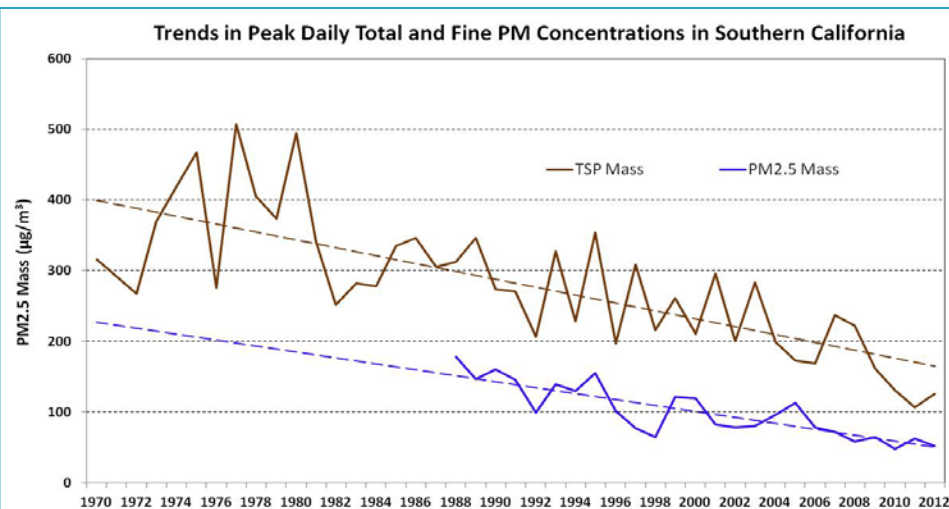
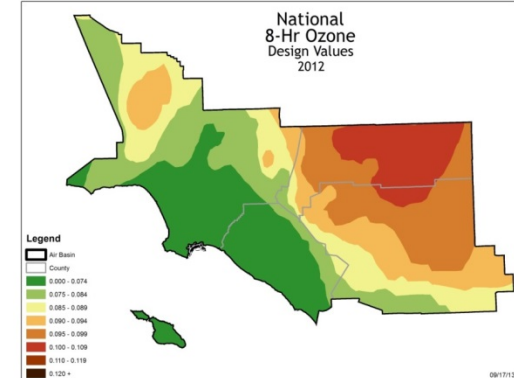
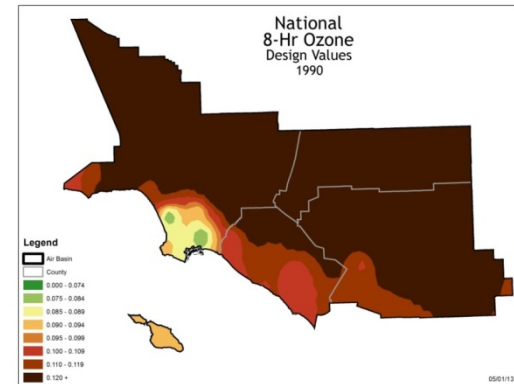
GHGs: Control program in place



Success of California's Control Programs for Ozone and PM

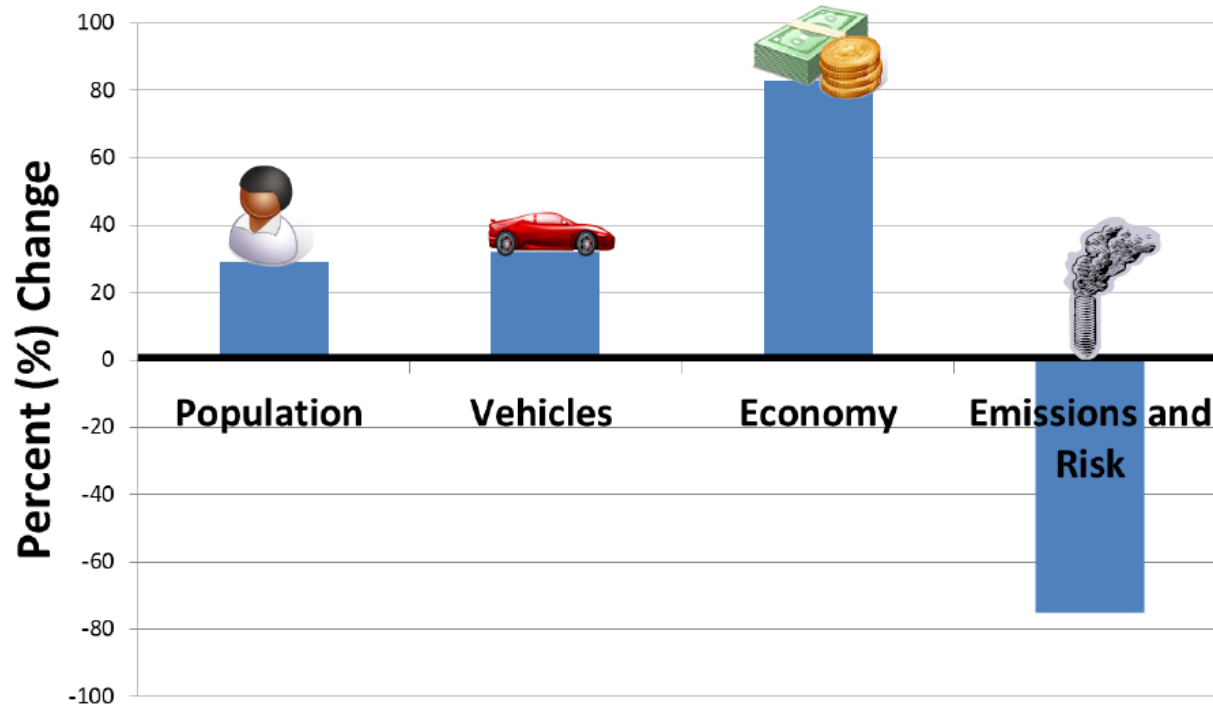


* Ozone monitoring began in 1979; data through 1978 represent oxidant measurements converted to ozone equivalent. 2013 data are preliminary.



Emissions and risk are trending down while economic development enjoys growth

75% reduction in air toxics statewide since 1990



Ozone attainment – California's biggest challenge

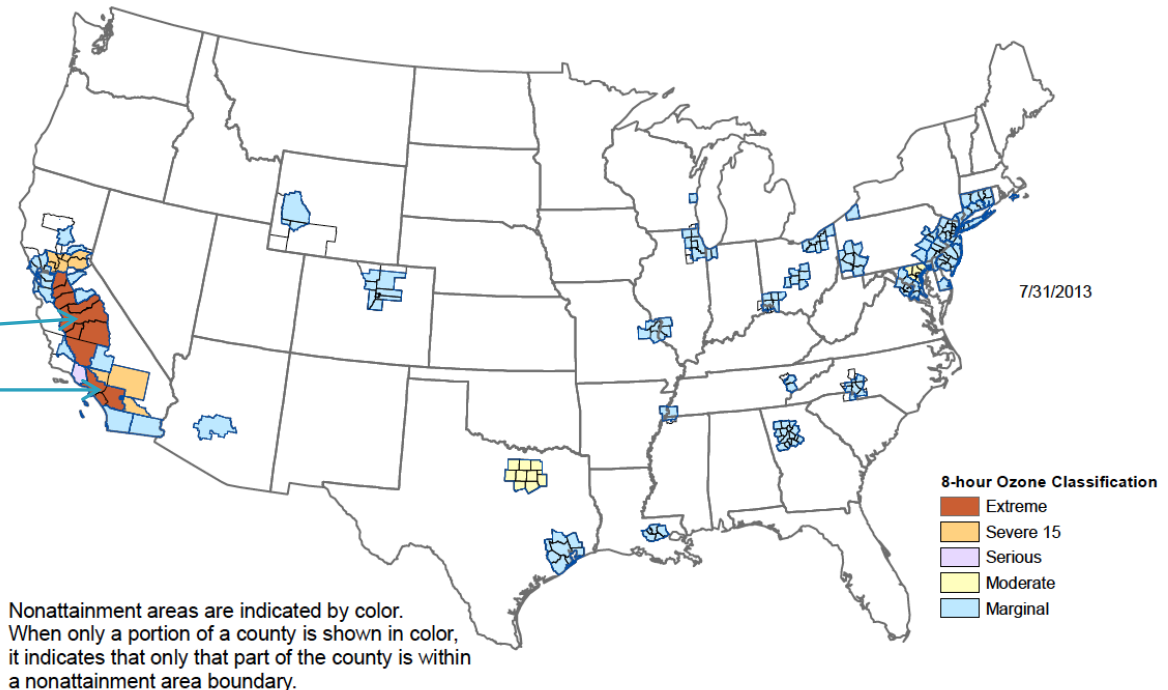
91% of California population in Ozone Non-Attainment areas

Extreme Non-Attainment Areas:

- San Joaquin Valley
- South Coast

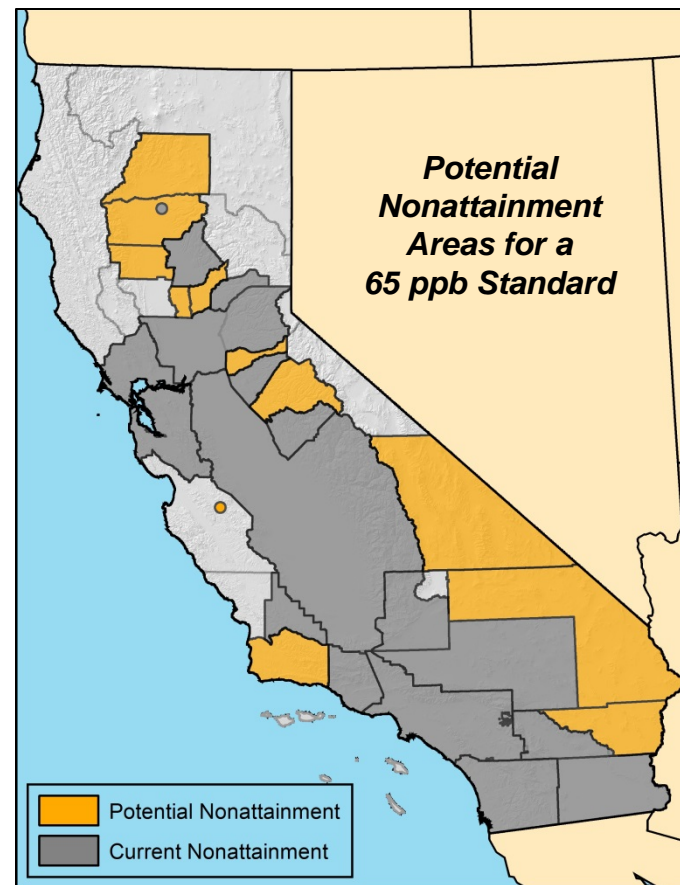
Additional measures needed beyond current programs for 2031 South Coast attainment goal

8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Areas (2008 Standard)



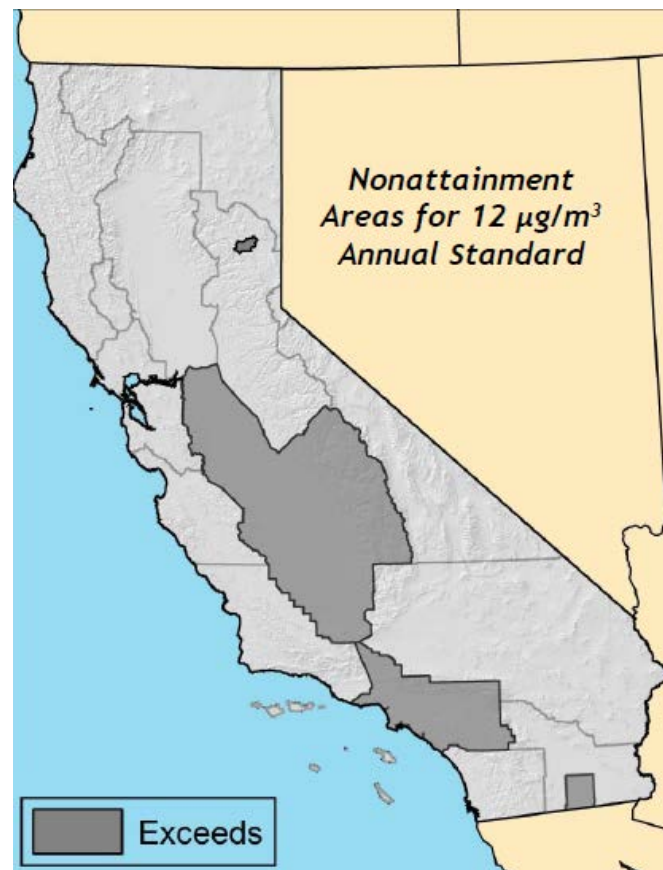
Health science suggests even lower ambient O₃ levels needed

- ▶ US-EPA considering lower 8-hr ozone standard
- ▶ Decision this October
- ▶ A lower standard will bump more CA regions into nonattainment
- ▶ Map = example if new standard is 65 ppb

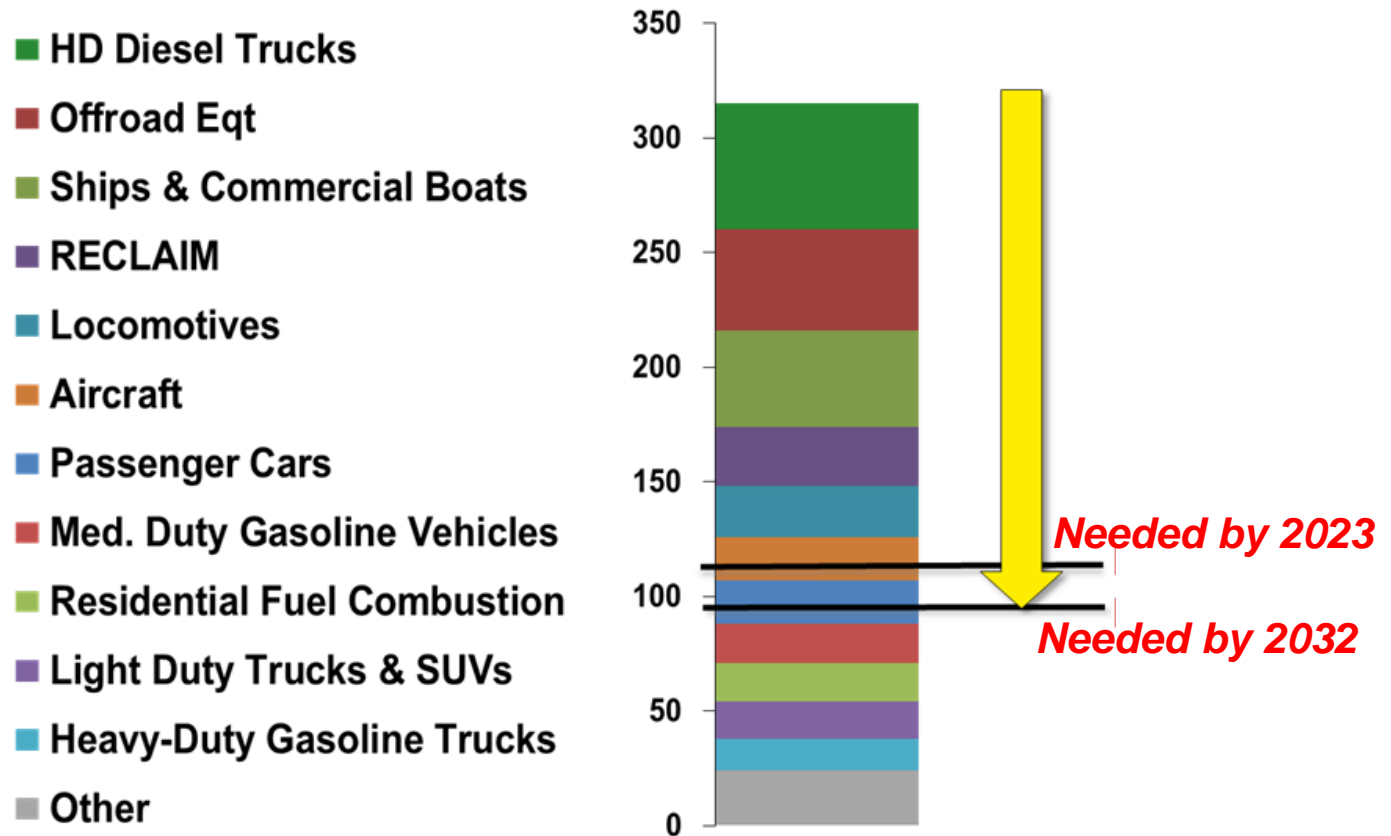


California's Remaining Challenges – PM_{2.5}

- ▶ **For upcoming SIP**
 - 12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ annual PM_{2.5} standard
 - Due in 2016
 - 4 nonattainment areas with unique challenges:
 - Calexico
 - Portola
 - South Coast
 - San Joaquin Valley



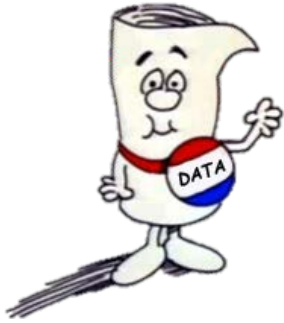
Control programs, specially for mobile sources, must continue and accelerate



Projected 2023 Inventory in Tons Per Day

Electrons and molecules – *the “no compromise” alternative to petroleum combustion*





Data Driving Decisions

**Scoping Plan and State
Implementation Plan**

**Air Quality &
Greenhouse Gas
Monitoring**

**Control
Strategies and
Investment Plans**

**Emission
Inventories**

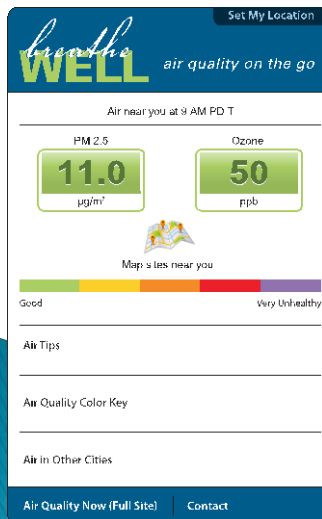
**Air Quality
Modeling**



Importance of Air Monitoring Data

Key to California's Success

- ▶ Vehicle and Engine Emission Standards
- ▶ Diesel Control Programs
- ▶ Clean and low-carbon Fuel Programs
- ▶ Agricultural Burn Programs
- ▶ Incentive Programs
- ▶ Determining progress towards meeting NAAQS
- ▶ Real-time data for decision-making

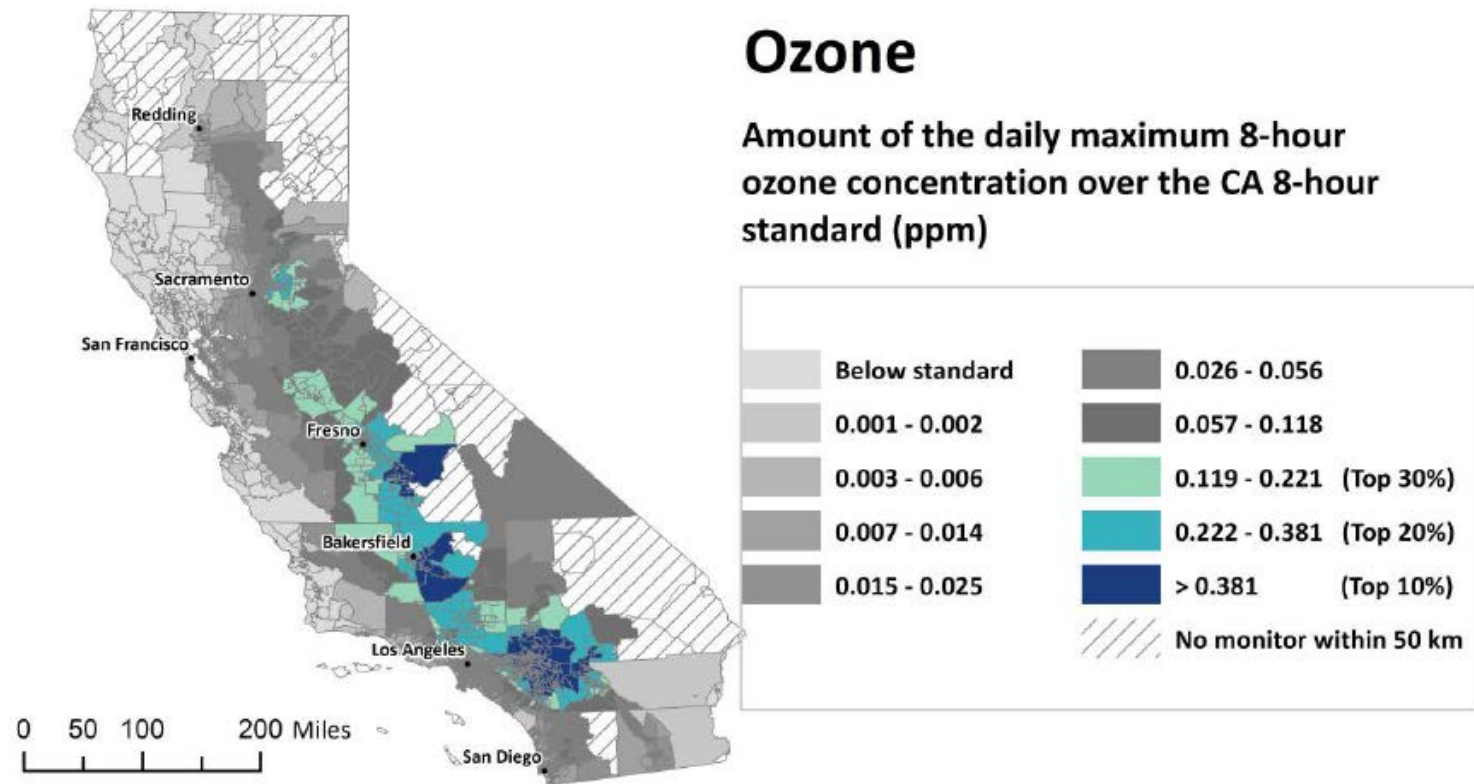


 Air Quality Index for Ozone		
Index Values (Conc. Range)	Air Quality Descriptors	Cautionary Statements for Ozone
0 – 50 (0–60 ppb)	Good	No health impacts are expected when air quality is in this range.
51 – 100 (61–75 ppb)	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider limiting prolonged outdoor exertion
101 – 150 (76–104 ppb)	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion
151 – 200 (105–115 ppb)	Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should avoid prolonged outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.
201 – 300 (116–374 ppb)	Very Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should avoid all outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit outdoor exertion.



California Communities Environmental Health Screening

- ▶ Importance of environmental justice in every action
- ▶ Multimedia screening
- ▶ Driving investment decisions
- ▶ Ambient air monitoring data is key input, for example:



Looking Ahead – Air Monitoring

Importance of Technological Advancements

- ▶ Keep pace with emerging needs
- ▶ Trace/Low Level Monitoring
 - CO and SO₂
- ▶ Instrument Innovation
 - Lower Limits of Detection
 - Improved Sensitivity
 - Response Stability
 - Data Reliability
- ▶ Improving efficiencies – QA/QC
- ▶ Low cost sensors (citizen science)
 - Rapidly expanding portable technology
 - South Coast AQ-SPEC laboratory
 - Sensors, cameras, and drones



Technological Advancements

Access to Real-Time Data

► Public Health

- Spare-the-air days
- School flag program
- No-burn decisions
- Health advisories
- Outdoor activity restrictions



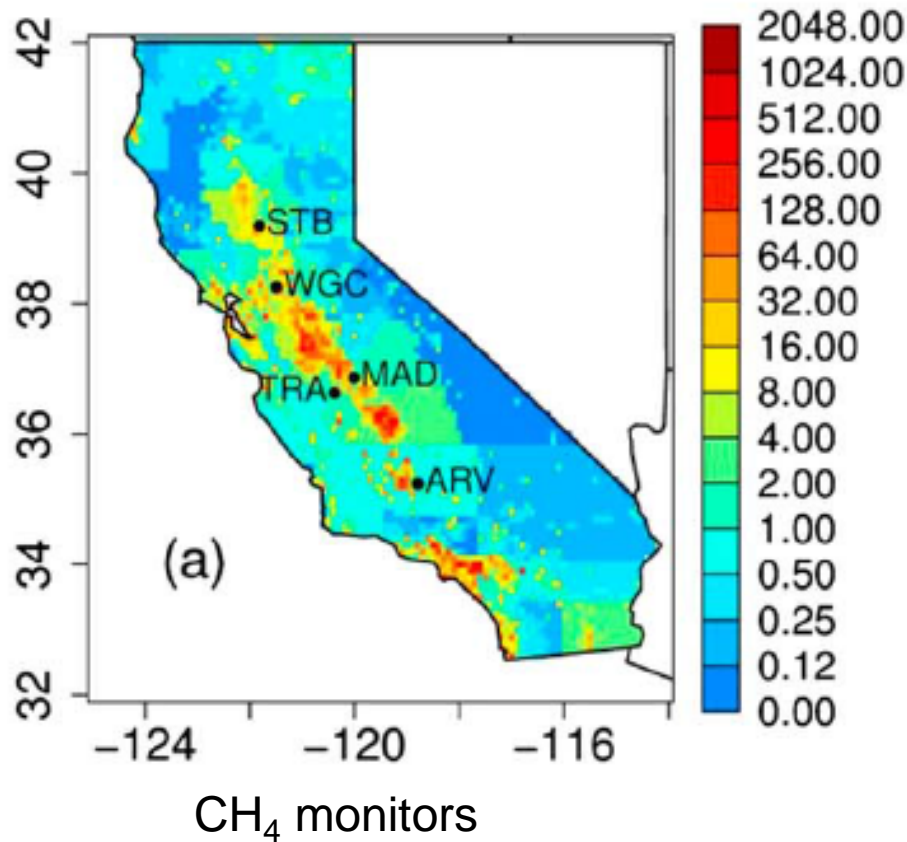
► Public is More Informed

- Easier access to data – Smartphones
- Expectation to have information readily available



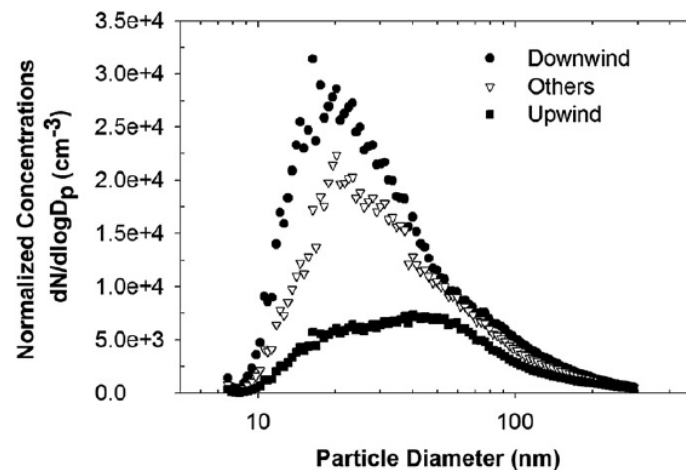
Technological Advancements

Greenhouse Gas Monitoring



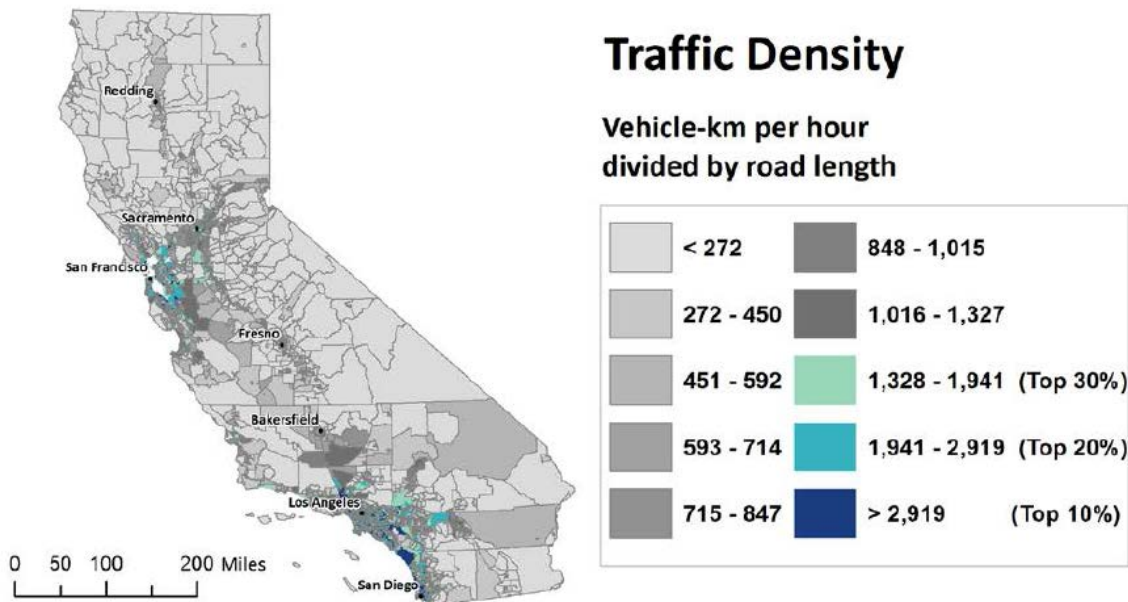
Assessing near-roadway exposure to traffic emissions

- Mitigation of exposure is important to protect health
- New roadside air monitoring network will help
- Tracking ultrafine particles (e.g., particle counters)



Traffic Density

Vehicle-km per hour
divided by road length



Summary



A lot remains to be done:

- De-carbonizing energy and fuels
 - emphasis on e^- and H_2
- De-carbonizing transportation
 - Advanced super-clean technologies, ZEVs (batteries and fuel cells)
- Driving for more system efficiency
 - Smarter, more integrated land use planning, reduced travel demand, traffic system management

- ▶ Data quality – it starts with you!
- ▶ Foundation for clean air decisions
- ▶ Critical to achieving our health-based air quality and climate goals





Questions?