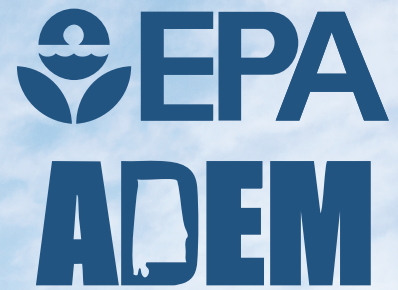


AFRICATOWN AIR QUALITY MONITORING SITE



OVERVIEW



The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) is working to move the **Chickasaw air quality monitoring site** to a location closer to the Africatown community.



Funding is being provided to ADEM by the EPA under an **Inflation Reduction Act Air Monitoring Grant**.



Air quality monitoring sites like this one are used to demonstrate compliance with the Clean Air Act **National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)**.



This particular air quality monitoring site measures fine particulate matter (**PM_{2.5}**), sulfur dioxide (**SO₂**), and ground-level ozone (**O₃**) and has demonstrated attainment with the NAAQS for all three pollutants for many years.



The air monitoring site is being moved to better characterize air quality and population exposure over a larger area that includes Africatown, Chickasaw and other nearby communities. It will not be installed at the fenceline of any specific facility as it is intended to measure the combined impacts of all emissions sources in the area.

ADEM will work to identify a location for the new monitoring site that meets the requirements of the EPA's air monitoring regulations (**40 CFR Part 58**).

BACKGROUND

The **Chickasaw monitoring site** was originally established by ADEM and the EPA in 1982.

The Mobile County, AL area and the Chickasaw monitoring site have never been designated as nonattainment by the EPA for any NAAQS.

The ozone, PM_{2.5}, and SO₂ concentrations at the Chickasaw monitor have decreased significantly since 2000.

The graphs on the following page show historical data for all three pollutants in comparison to the current air quality standards, which have become more stringent over the years.

Data from the Chickasaw monitoring site are available on the **EPA's AirNow website** (real-time data) and the **EPA's AirData website** (final quality-assured data). Data from the Africatown site will be available on these websites once the monitoring site is relocated.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- ADEM will work to identify and secure a location near Africatown that meets the regulatory siting requirements.
- ADEM will formally propose this monitoring site relocation in its **annual air monitoring network plan**, which is made available for a 30-day public comment period in April or May each year.
- Setting up the new air monitoring site will take some time, however, ADEM expects to begin operations in Africatown in 2025.

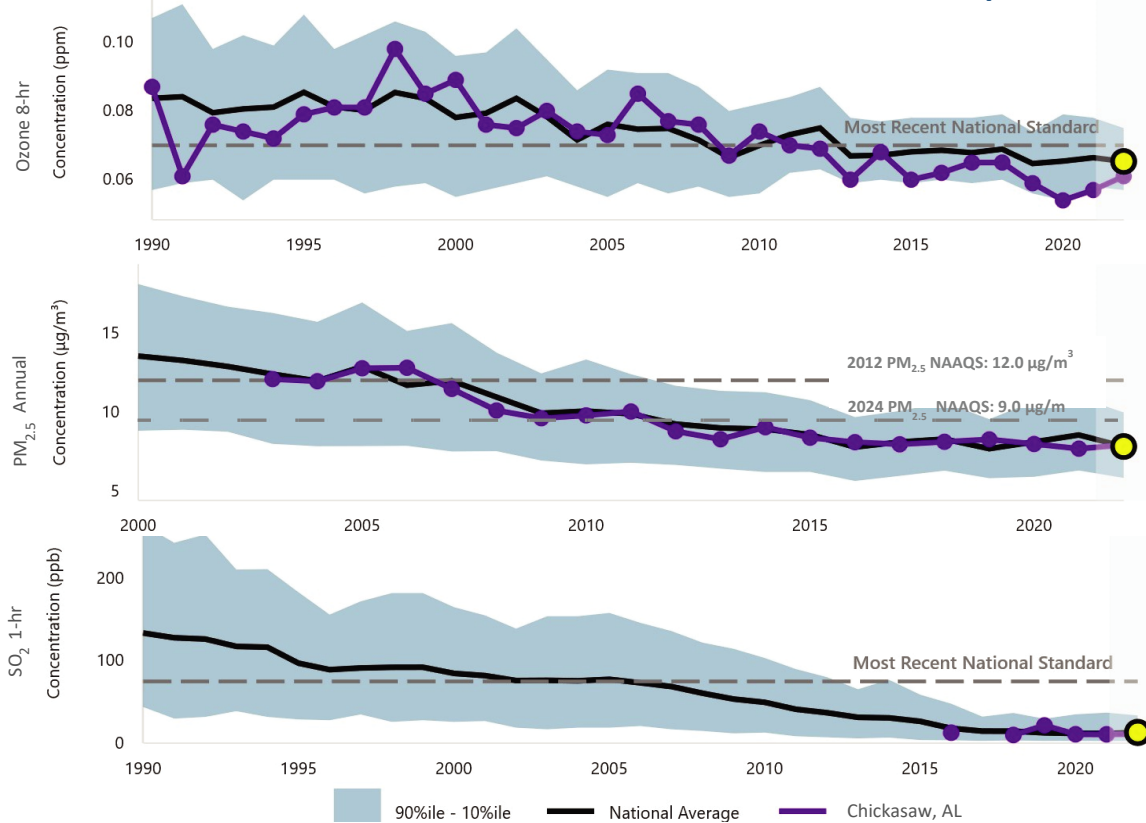
Chickasaw Site: 2021-2023 Preliminary Design Values (“Preliminary Design Values”)

Pollutant	2021 – 2023 DV	NAAQS Level
Ozone	60 ppb	70 ppb
PM _{2.5} (Annual NAAQS)	8.1 µg/m ³	9.0 µg/m ³
PM _{2.5} (24-hr NAAQS)	17 µg/m ³	35 µg/m ³
SO ₂	11 ppb	75 ppb

Note: The NAAQS have become more stringent over time. Some historical data is above the most recent PM_{2.5} and Ozone NAAQS however, the data from the Chickasaw monitor has always been below the NAAQS that existed at the time it was collected.

Chickasaw, AL Air Quality Trends: Ozone 8-hr, PM_{2.5} Annual, and SO₂ 1-hr Concentrations

AQS ID: 01-097-0003 Source: EPA Our Nation’s Air Report.



Note: While some historical data is above the most recent PM_{2.5} and Ozone NAAQS, the Chickasaw monitor has always been below the current (contemporaneous) NAAQS, and the area has never been designated nonattainment by the EPA.

Area Map of the Chickasaw Site and the general area identified for the Africatown Site

