

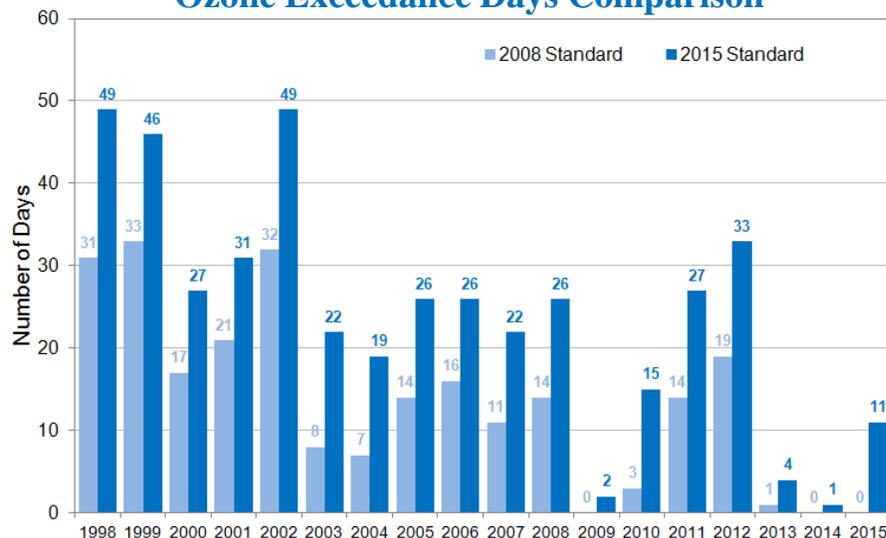


# Air Quality Facts

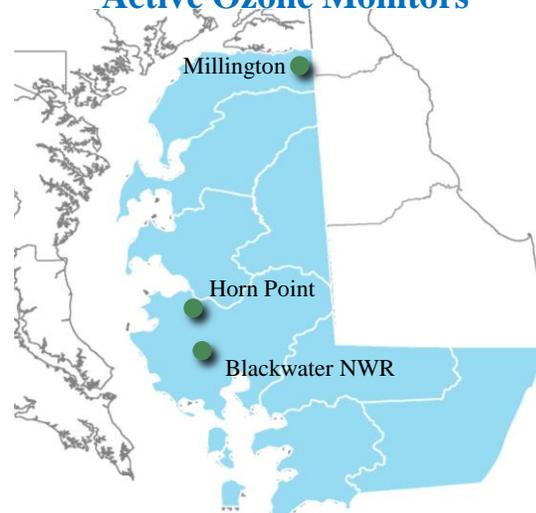
## New Ozone Standard and Revised Air Quality Index

### IMPACTS OBSERVED IN THE EASTERN SHORE FORECAST REGION

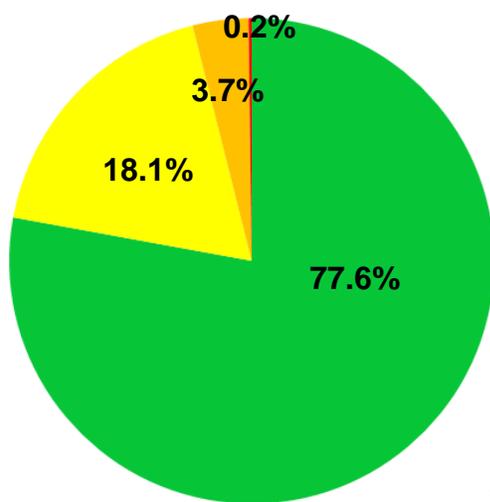
#### Ozone Exceedance Days Comparison



#### Eastern Shore Forecast Region and Active Ozone Monitors

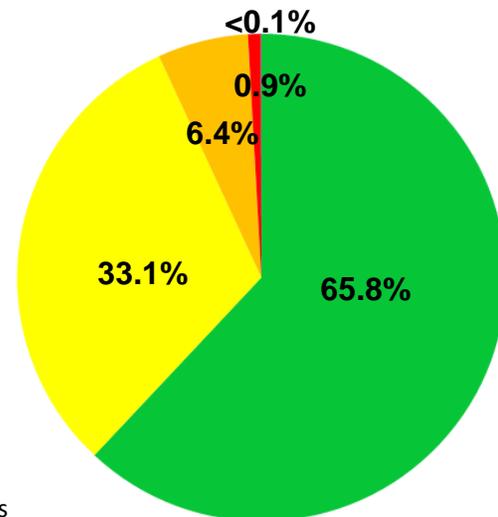


#### 8-Hour Ozone AQI Distribution Comparison (April 1-Oct 31, 2005-2015)



#### Average Number of Days

Old	AQI Category	Revised
166	Good	141
39	Moderate	71
8	USG <sup>1</sup>	14
<1*	Unhealthy	2
0	Very Unhealthy	<1*



\*Due to averaging, a value of less than 1 "<1" indicates that during the 11-year (2005-2015) period at least 1 year had a Very Unhealthy AQI.

<sup>1</sup>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

#### New Ozone Standard and Revised AQI Summary

On October 1, 2015, the EPA strengthened the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone from 75 parts per billion (ppb) to 70 ppb (<http://www3.epa.gov/ozonepollution/actions.html>). The new standard was adopted based on extensive scientific evidence about ozone's effects on public health and welfare. The updated standards will improve public health protection, particularly for at-risk groups including children, older adults, people of all ages who have lung diseases such as asthma, and people who are active outdoors, especially outdoor workers. The new standard will also improve the health of trees, plants and ecosystems. The color-coded Air Quality Index (AQI) for 8-hour ozone (which is used for air quality reporting and forecasting) was also revised. For the eastern shore, the number of bad air days (USG and greater) are expected to nearly double due to the lower standard. Visit either <http://mde.maryland.gov/air> or [www.cleanairpartners.net](http://www.cleanairpartners.net) for current air quality conditions and forecasts.

#### Air Quality Index (AQI)



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