

BEST & WORST

CITIES FOR OZONE POLLUTION

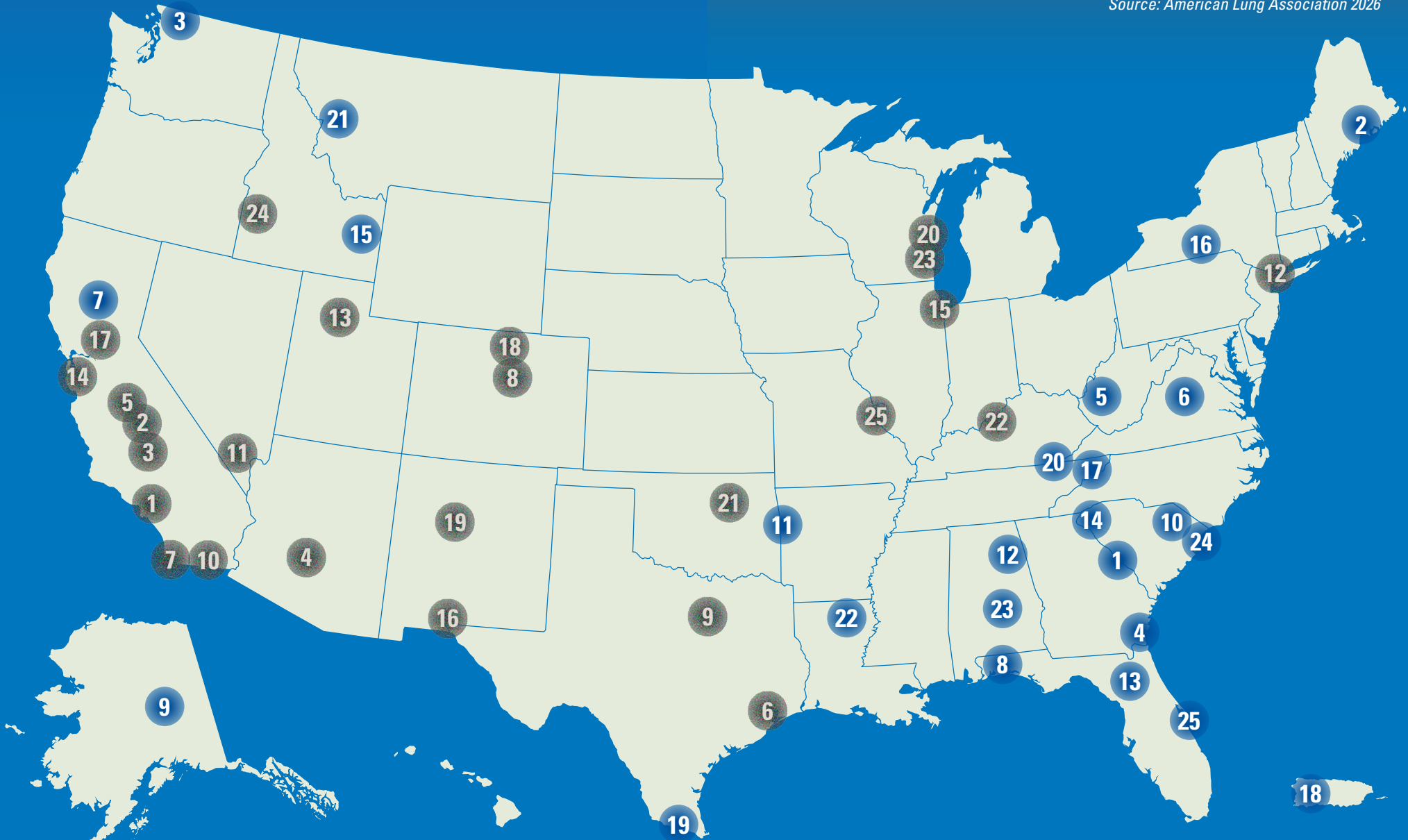
Cleanest Cities by Ozone

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| 1. Augusta-Richmond County, GA-SC | 13. Gainesville-Lake City, FL |
| 2. Bangor, ME | 14. Greenville-Washington, NC |
| 3. Bellingham, WA | 15. Idaho Falls-Rexburg-Blackfoot, ID |
| 4. Brunswick-St. Simons, GA | 16. Ithaca-Cortland, NY |
| 5. Charleston-Huntington-Ashland, WV-OH-KY | 17. Johnson City-Kingsport-Bristol, TN-VA |
| 6. Charlottesville, VA | 18. Mayaguez-Aguadilla, PR |
| 7. Chico, CA | 19. McAllen-Edinburg, TX |
| 8. Crestview-Fort Walton Beach-Destin, FL | 20. Middlesborough-Corbin, KY |
| 9. Fairbanks-College, AK | 21. Missoula, MT |
| 10. Florence, SC | 22. Monroe-Ruston, LA |
| 11. Fort Smith, AR-OK | 23. Montgomery-Selma, AL |
| 12. Gadsden, AL | 24. Myrtle Beach-Conway, SC |
| | 25. Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, FL |

Worst Cities by Ozone

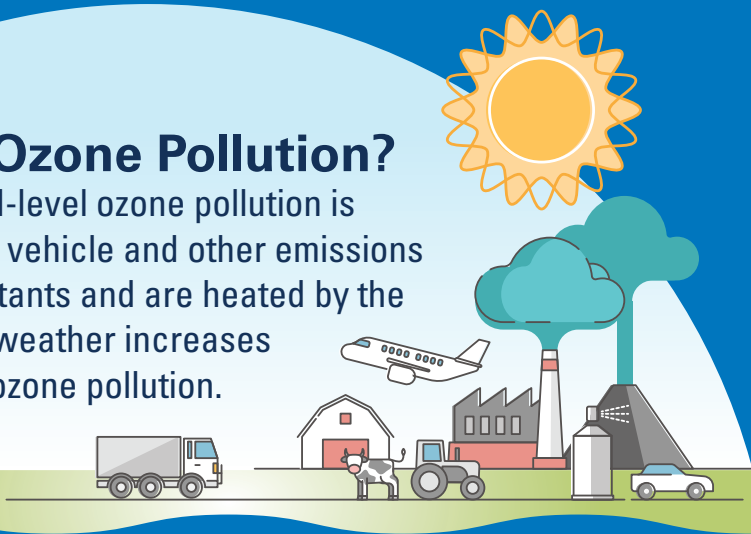
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| 1. Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA | 14. San Jose-San Francisco-Oakland, CA |
| 2. Visalia, CA | 15. Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI |
| 3. Bakersfield-Delano, CA | 16. El Paso-Las Cruces, TX-NM |
| 4. Phoenix-Mesa, AZ | 17. Sacramento-Roseville, CA |
| 5. Fresno-Hanford-Corcoran, CA | 18. Fort Collins-Loveland, CO |
| 6. Houston-Pasadena, TX | 19. Albuquerque-Santa Fe-Los Alamos, NM |
| 7. San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, CA | 20. Sheboygan, WI |
| 8. Denver-Aurora-Greeley, CO | 21. Tulsa-Bartlesville-Muskogee, OK |
| 9. Dallas-Fort Worth, TX-OK | 22. Louisville-Jefferson County-Elizabethtown, KY-IN |
| 10. El Centro, CA | 23. Milwaukee-Racine-Waukesha, WI |
| 11. Las Vegas-Henderson, NV | 24. Boise City-Mountain Home-Ontario, ID-OR |
| 12. New York-Newark, NY-NJ-CT-PA | 25. St. Louis-St. Charles-Farmington, MO-IL |
| 13. Salt Lake City-Provo-Orem, UT-ID | |

Source: American Lung Association 2026



What is Ozone Pollution?

Bad or ground-level ozone pollution is created when vehicle and other emissions mix with pollutants and are heated by the sun. Warmer weather increases ground-level ozone pollution.



What Makes Air Quality Unhealthy?

The Air Quality Index (AQI) grades air quality based on ground-level ozone, particle pollution, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide or nitrogen dioxide levels. Visit airnow.gov or watch local alerts.



Protect Your Lungs from Ozone Pollution



- Watch local air quality advisories.
- Ozone levels are always lower in the morning, so plan outdoor activities accordingly.
- The elderly, the very young and those with lung disease are at the highest risk from severe ozone pollution and should limit afternoon outdoor time during poor ozone days.
- Keep windows closed.
- Take medications exactly as prescribed.
- Use the circulate setting on your home thermostat to keep polluted air out.
- Call your doctor if symptoms increase or if you need more medication.

Facemasks provide no protection against ozone pollution.