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Accessing WBEA Air Monitoring Data

The WBEA has data available from over 25 continuous air monitoring stations, 6 meteorological towers and 50+ integrated monitoring sites. Knowing the specifics of the data type you wish to download or view is helpful in finding the right place to acquire the data.

The two main categories of data are briefly explained below:

Continuous Data

Continuous data can be obtained from ambient air monitoring stations, meteorological towers, and some special studies projects. With continuous data, both the data interval and level of review are important factors. Most data are available in 5 minute and 1 hour periods.

- Level 1 (L1) data are raw air quality monitoring data displayed directly from monitoring equipment output signals. L1 data is generally indicative of ambient conditions, however, it has not been reviewed, validated, nor processed for baseline drift and other fluctuations by qualified technicians. Final processed and validated data values may vary from L1 values displayed on this site.
- Level 2 (L2) data are quality controlled data. These data are processed monthly; including a data summary, validation and baseline correction of air quality measurements for analyzer drift. Data are further reviewed by WBEA as an acceptance test before generation of monthly compliance reports and distribution to various locations.

Integrated Data

Non-continuous monitoring consists of collecting air samples or exposing pollutant-sensitive, chemically treated sample media to the atmosphere for a period of time. Air pollutant concentrations are determined by laboratory analysis of the samples and exposed media. Exposure periods range from 24 hours to 1 month for various sample modes. Non-continuous monitoring is often referred to as integrated sampling, and is performed by both active and passive methods. Active methods utilize a computer controlled pump to draw air through or into the sample collector. Active methods are limited to sites where electrical power is available. Passive methods simply expose a chemically treated medium to the atmosphere. Without the need for support equipment, passive sampling can be performed at remote and isolated locations.



Where to find the data:

Continuous Level 1 Data

- For multiple parameters and stations, use <http://67.210.212.45/wbea.html>
- For the most recent hour at a particular station, use <http://wbea.org/network-and-data/monitoring-stations>

Continuous Level 2 Data (available 30 days following month end)

- Use the historical data download from the WBEA website: <http://wbea.org/network-and-data/historical-monitoring-data>
 - Select “Level 2” either hourly or 5-minute data

Integrated Data

- For PM_{10/2.5} Ions and metals, VOC, PAH, and RSC data use: <http://wbea.org/network-and-data/integrated-data>
- For EC/OC, Denuder, IER, Passives, and Precipitation, use: <http://wbea.org/resources/reports-and-publications/ambient-air-monitoring-reports/integrated-samples-lab-results>