

OZONECO RESOURCE

Air Quality Standards Reference

Saudi ambient air quality standards (AAQS) and measurement requirements at a glance.

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Saudi Ambient Air Quality Standards (AAQS)

The Saudi AAQS set maximum permissible concentrations of pollutants in outdoor air to protect public health. The standards apply at the boundary of any source and are enforced by NCEC.

Pollutant	Averaging Period	Limit	Unit
PM10	24-hour	150	µg/m ³
PM10	Annual	70	µg/m ³
PM2.5	24-hour	35	µg/m ³
PM2.5	Annual	15	µg/m ³
SO2	1-hour	350	µg/m ³
SO2	24-hour	105	µg/m ³
NO2	1-hour	200	µg/m ³
NO2	Annual	40	µg/m ³
O3	8-hour	157	µg/m ³
CO	1-hour	40	mg/m ³
CO	8-hour	10	mg/m ³
Lead (Pb)	Annual	0.5	µg/m ³
Benzene	Annual	5	µg/m ³

Limits shown are reference values — always cross-check the latest NCEC publication for site-specific applicability and any sub-regional tightening.

Measurement Requirements

- Monitoring stations must comply with US EPA / EN equivalency.
- Analyzers calibrated to ISO/IEC 17025 standards.
- Data capture rate ≥ 90% per quarter for compliance averaging.

- Site representativeness studies required for new station placements.
- Data reported in micrograms per cubic metre at 25°C, 1 atm (unless noted).

Comparison with WHO 2021 Guidelines

Pollutant	Saudi AAQS Annual	WHO 2021 Annual
PM2.5	15 µg/m ³	5 µg/m ³
PM10	70 µg/m ³	15 µg/m ³
NO2	40 µg/m ³	10 µg/m ³
SO2 (24h)	105 µg/m ³	40 µg/m ³