

# 2021 AIR QUALITY ANNUAL REPORT

Protecting blue skies for a healthy community!

## 2021 SNAPSHOT

Air Quality improved substantially in 2021 relative to record breaking air quality impacts associated with the historic 2020 wildfire season. However, when considering the 5-year trend, 2021 data contributed to a slight degradation in our average ozone air quality:

Read our full report at:

[SLOCleanAir.org/library/air-quality-reports](https://SLOCleanAir.org/library/air-quality-reports)



## AIR QUALITY AT A GLANCE

SLO County APCD has monitoring stations across the county measuring ozone and particulate matter. The data from those stations, in addition to other resources, are used to develop the Air Quality Index (AQI) values for the community. The AQI tells you how clean or polluted your air is and what health effects you may experience.



Want to know more about the AQI, how it is used & how to protect your health? Visit our new web page, [SLOCleanAir.org/air-quality/health](https://SLOCleanAir.org/air-quality/health).

**GOOD vs MODERATE vs UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE RECEPTORS UNHEALTHY / VERY UNHEALTHY**

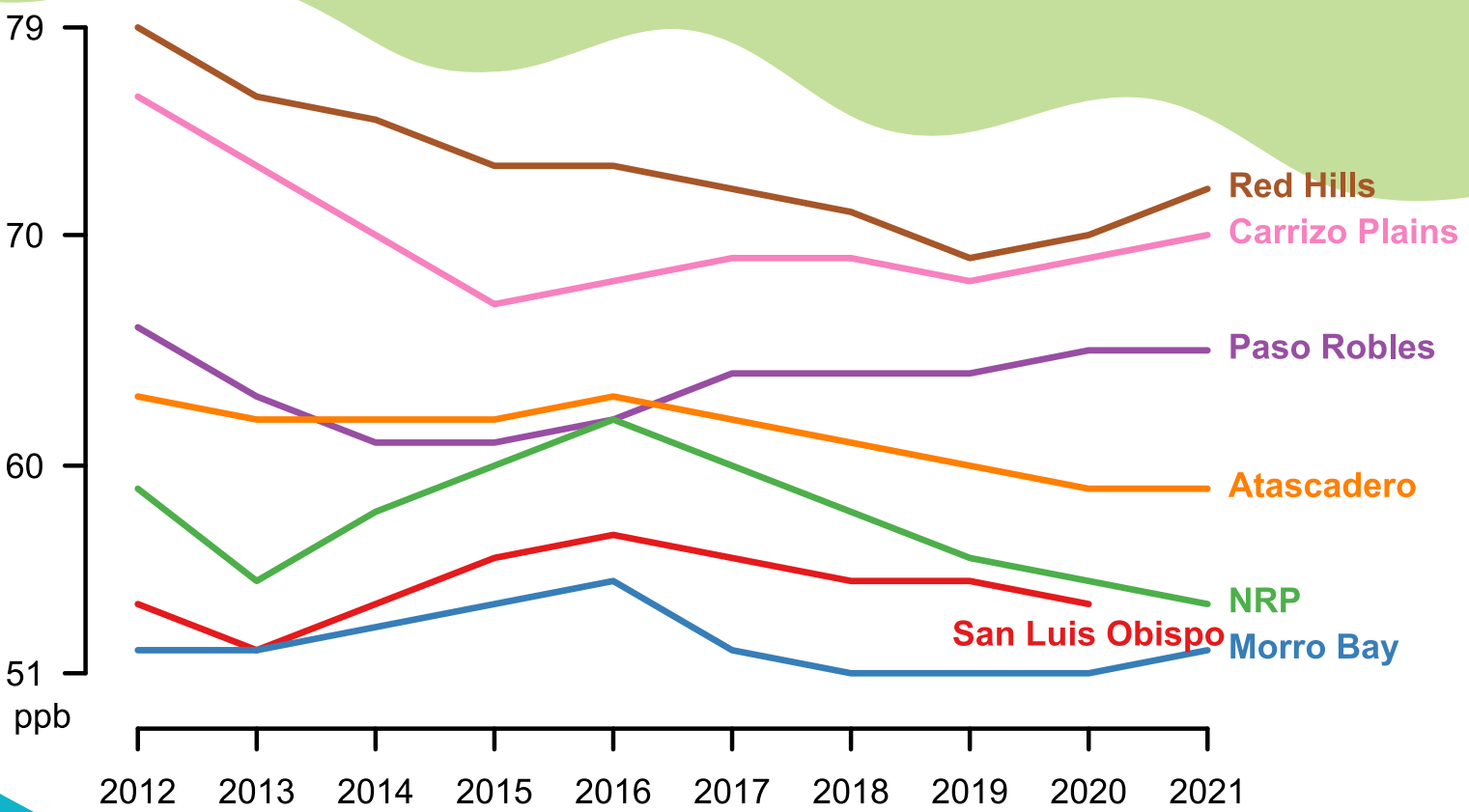


Air Pollution Control District  
San Luis Obispo County

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# OZONE TRENDS

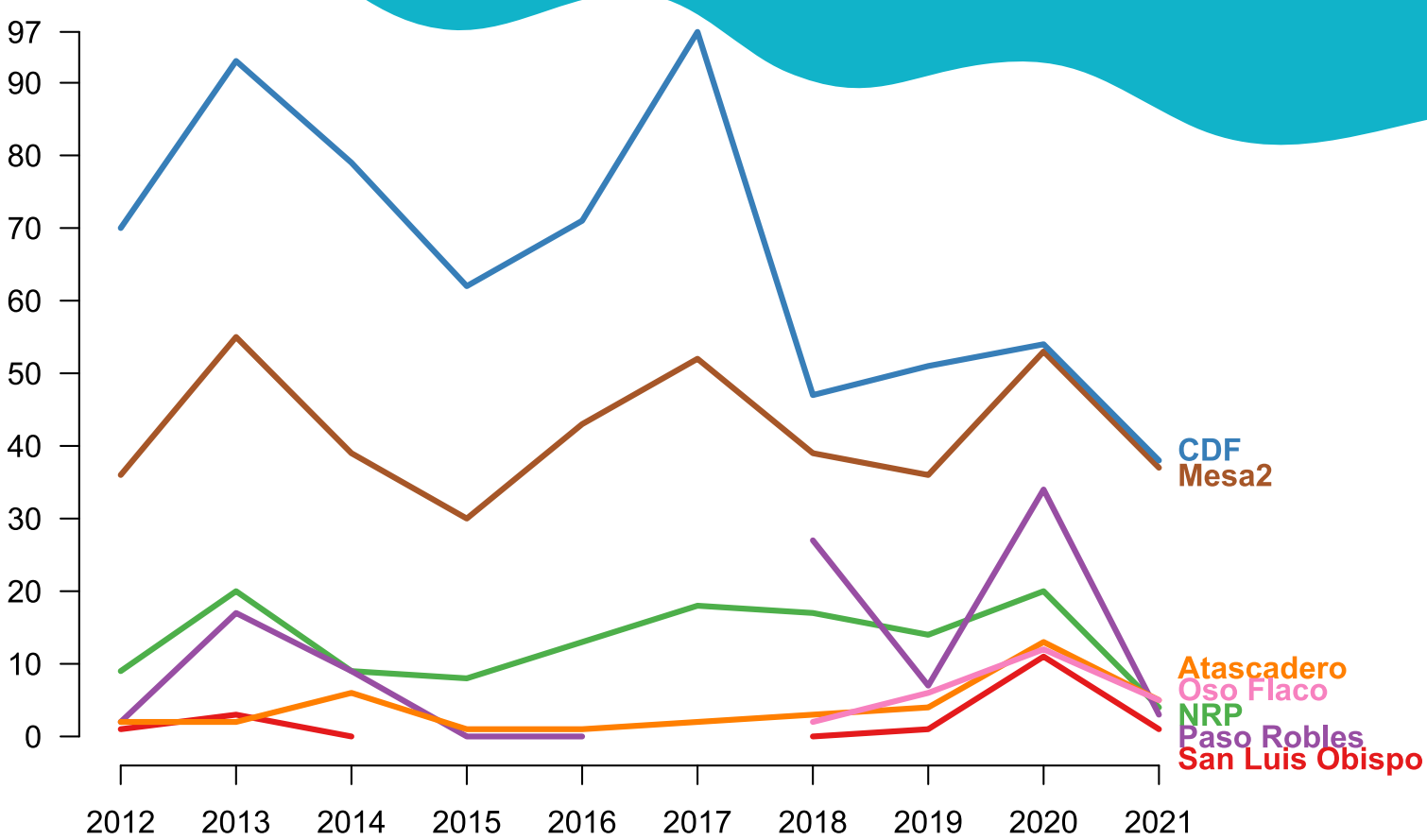
Trends show improvement from 2020 levels, but a slight increase in both hours above 65 ppb and exceedances of the ozone standard in comparison to 2019. Hours above 65ppb is a useful indicator for trends, even though there are no health standards for single-house exposure to this level of ozone. Ozone standards were exceeded on 7 days in 2021, with both Red Hills and Carrizo Plains reporting 8 hour values over 70 parts per billion.



## OZONE EXCEEDANCES

# PARTICULATE MATTER TRENDS

PM levels on the Nipomo Mesa continue to show signs of improvement. The overall exceedance days decreased from both 2019 and 2020 levels showing continued air quality improvement. While conditions at CDF have improved more than at Mesa2, both sites saw a general decrease in the number of days exceeding the state 24-hour PM10 standard of 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Also, Oso Flaco days of exceedances decreased from 2019 and 2020. See the chart below to see the exceedance of the state 24-hour 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> PM10 standard.



**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT YOUR LOCAL AIR QUALITY BY SIGNING UP TO RECEIVE TEXT NOTIFICATIONS WITH OUR AIRAWARE PROGRAM!**



**[SLOCLEANAIR.ORG/AIR-QUALITY-ALERTS](https://SLOCLEANAIR.ORG/AIR-QUALITY-ALERTS)**

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