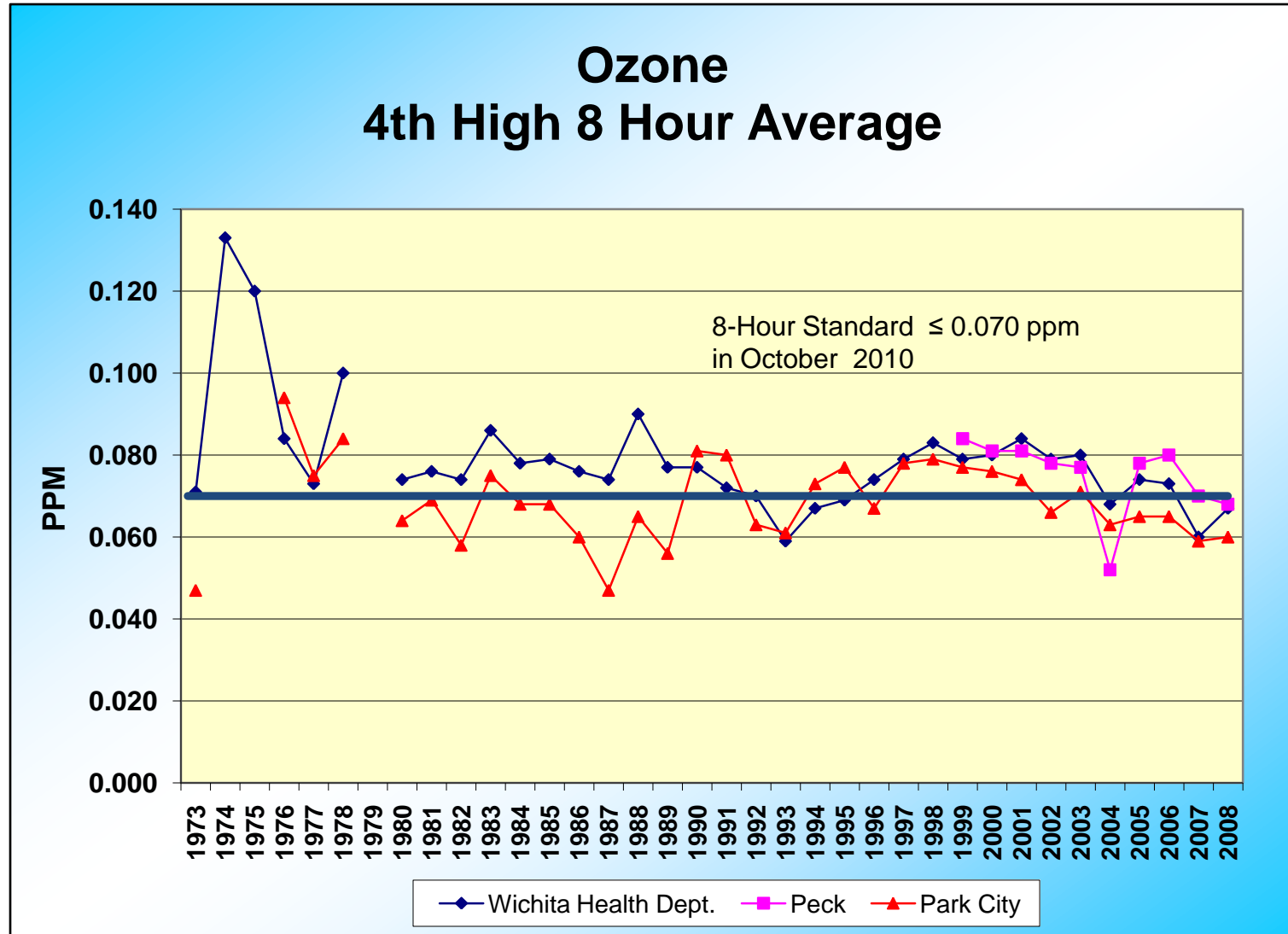




# **Visioneering Wichita Environmental Sustainability Alliance Meeting on Air Quality**

**D. Kay Johnson, Manager  
Office of Environmental Initiatives  
City of Wichita  
October 7, 2010**

# Historic Wichita Ozone Trends



# OZONE

## WICHITA'S - No. 1 AIR QUALITY ISSUE



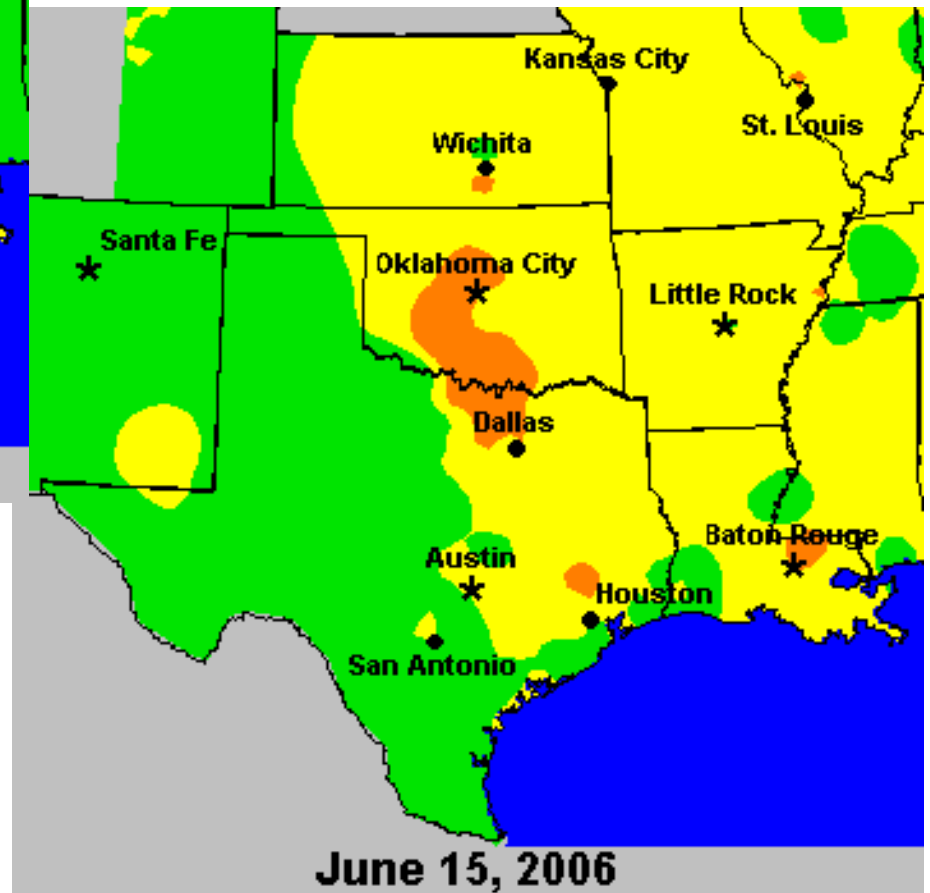
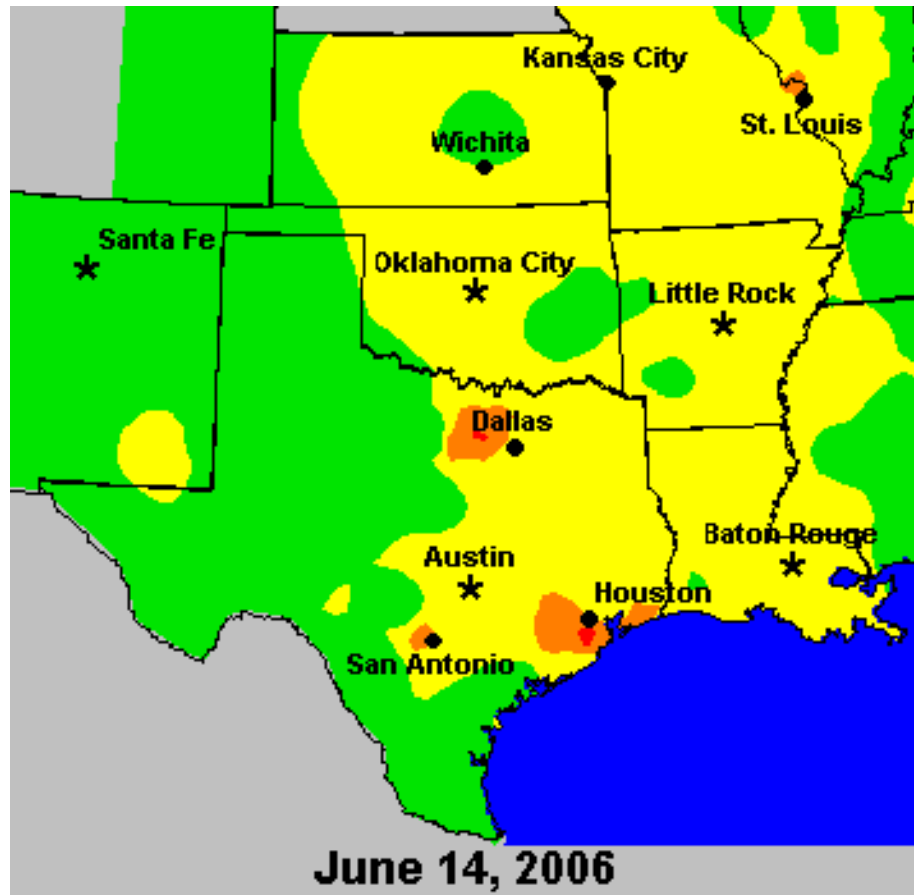
- **City of Wichita**
  - **Elevated Rail Corridor**
  - **Synchronizing Traffic Signals**
  - **Energy Saving Projects at Facilities**
  - **PSAs – Be Air Aware**
- **Wichita Air Quality Improvement Task Force**
  - **Stakeholders developed list of voluntary actions**
  - **Stakeholders implemented some**
  - **Conducts voluntary vehicle tailpipe and gas cap emission testing**

# Local Challenges

- Emissions issues
  - Transport Issue from out of state
  - Transport Issue from April Flint Hills Burning
  - Industrial sources have suffered by economic downturn
- Federal Regulatory issues
  - Voluntary Actions only until a community is out of attainment
  - No additional resources until a community is out of attainment
  - Continued lowering of ozone limit
  - Too many new rules too fast
  - Exceptional Rule not guaranteed



## Transport Issues



# OZONE **ALSO** COMES FROM FIRES

In addition to the typical sources of ozone producing compounds are grass fires.

Grass fires are common in agricultural setting for maintenance of grass land pastures and other agriculture practices.

The grass fire produces oxides of nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_x$ ) and VOC as components of the smoke.

These are the two compounds that when mixed in the air and exposed to heat/sunlight produce ozone.

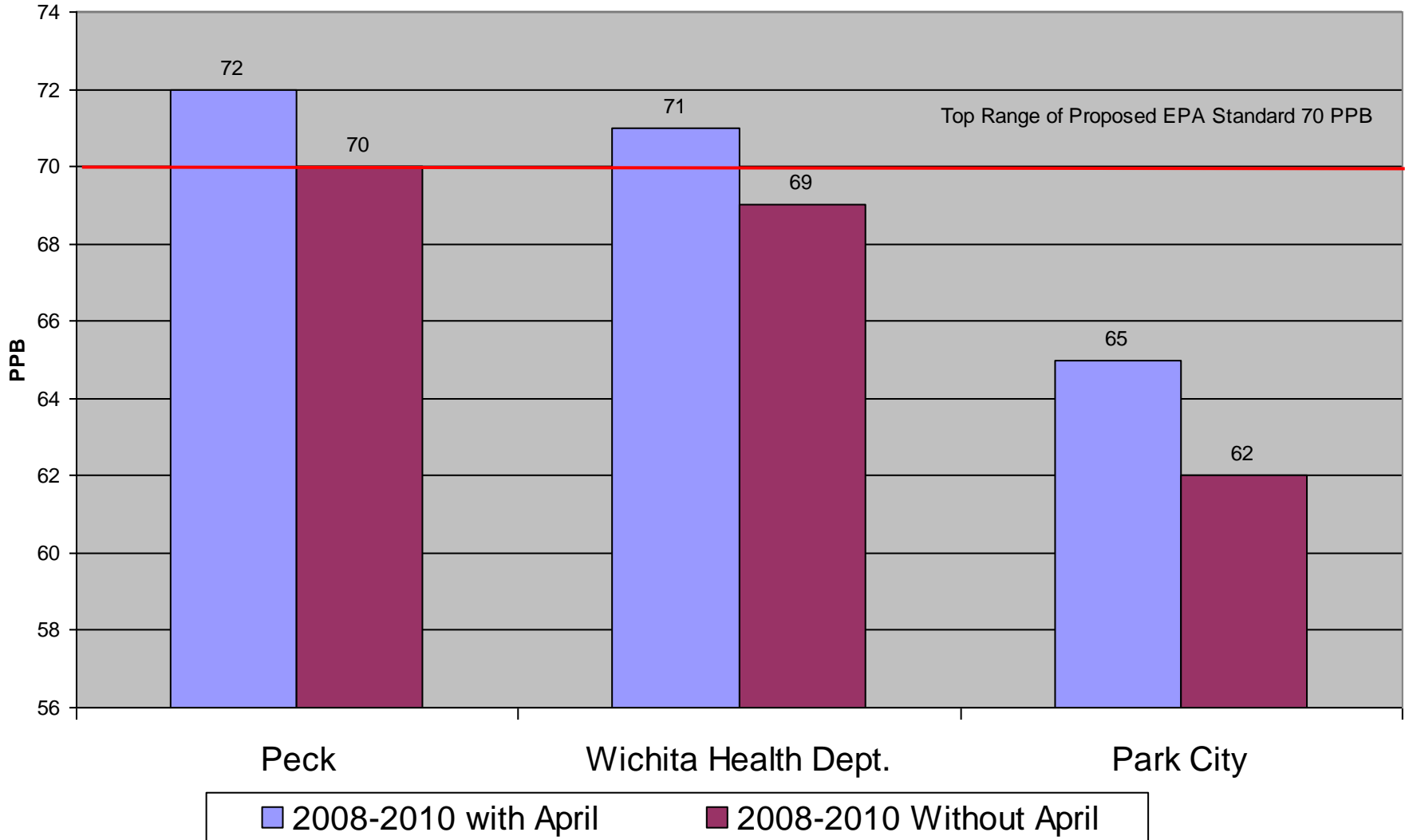


# Why was April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 a Problem?

- Only one week into ozone season
- High ozone events usually occur in summer
- High 1-hour ozone levels
- High 8-hour ozone levels
- Only get four chances from April - October



# 8 Hour Ozone 3-Year Average 4th High Through Sept. 26, 2010



# Flint Hills Smoke Event

April 8 – 11, 2010

Our Vision – Healthy Kansans living in safe and sustainable environments.



# Fourth Highest 8-Hour Ozone (ppm) Levels for Wichita MSA Air Quality Monitors

Site	2008 4 <sup>th</sup> Highest	2009 4 <sup>th</sup> Highest	2010 4 <sup>th</sup> Highest	Average 4 <sup>th</sup> Highest 2010
Peck	0.068 ppm	0.073 ppm	0.075 ppm	0.072 ppm
Health Dept.	0.067 ppm	0.072 ppm	0.075 ppm	0.071 ppm
Park City	0.060 ppm	0.069 ppm	0.068 ppm	0.065 ppm

Data as of June 21, 2010

# So What's Next?

- Establish an Ozone Alert System for health and awareness
- Significantly Increase Public Education
- City working to adopt idle reduction policy
- Encourage Businesses, nonprofits, etc. to adopt idle reduction plans
- Encourage adoption of Smoke Management Plan for Flint Hills
- Establish a planning organization for five county area
- Work with EPA and Oklahoma to ensure transport issues are being addressed
- Meet with Fuel Providers to see if they will voluntarily provide lower vapor pressure fuels in advance of nonattainment designation

# AIR QUALITY HEALTH ADVISORY FOR OZONE

Advisory Message

Current Monitoring

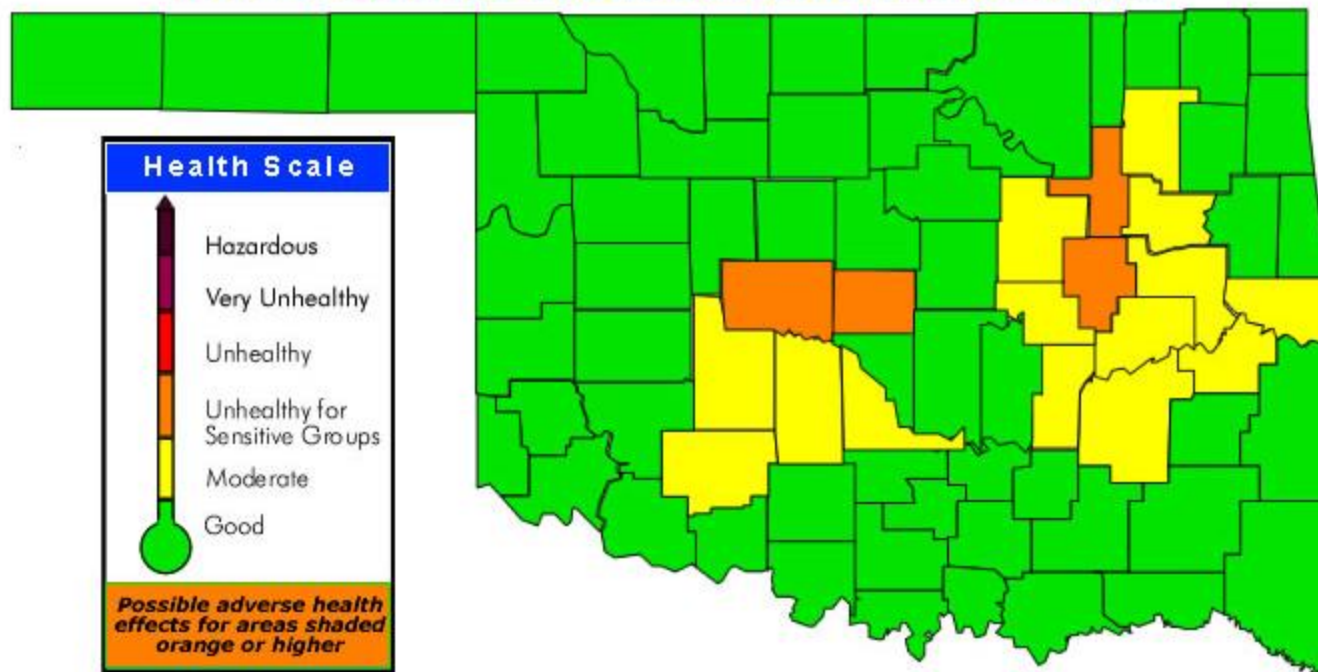
Air Now

Enviroflash

Advisory Sign-Up

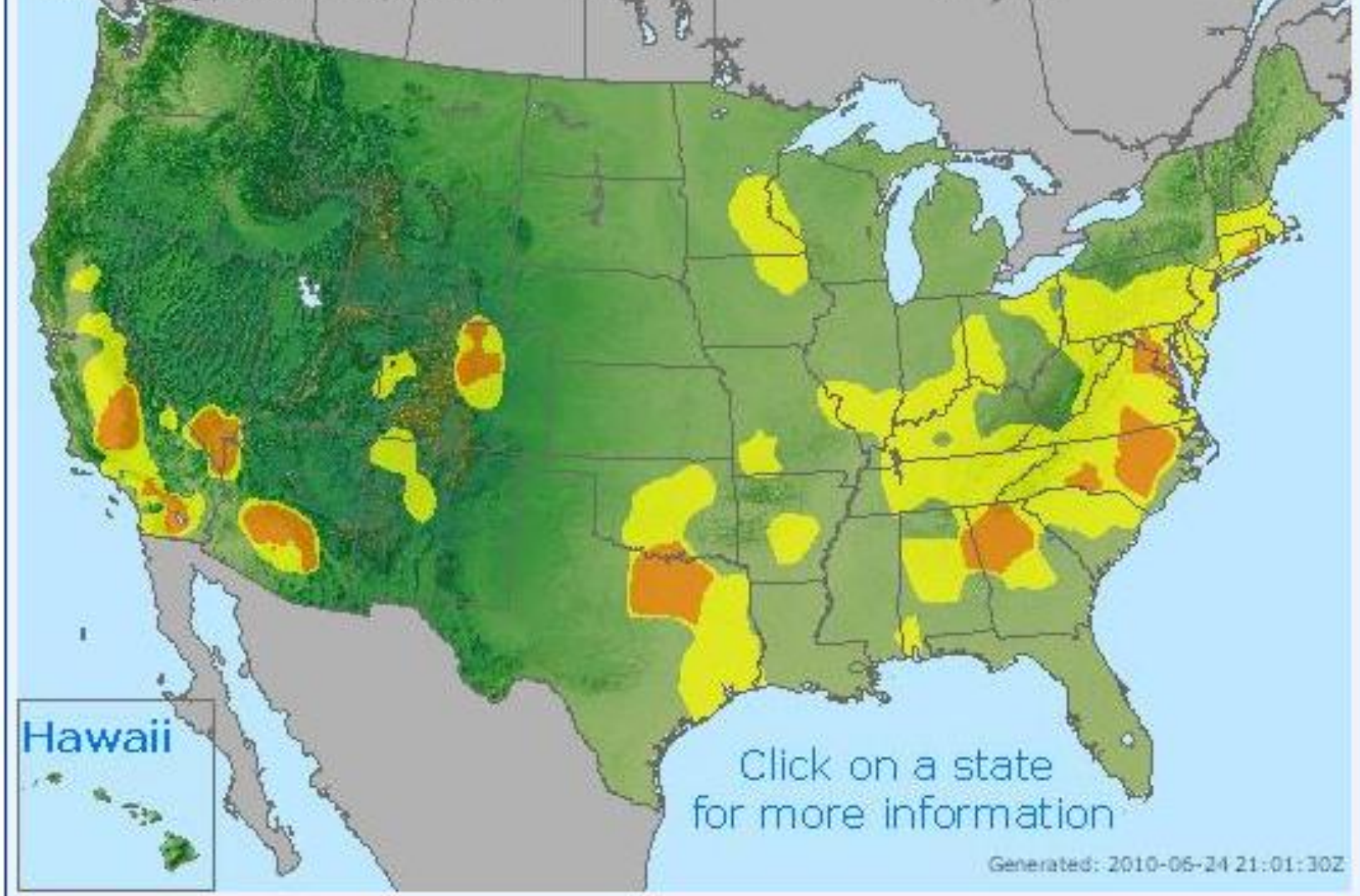
Thursday, June 24, 2010

**UPDATE: DEQ monitors in the Oklahoma City area now indicate concentrations of ozone considered unhealthy for sensitive individuals. Older individuals, young children, and those with asthma and other respiratory ailments in the Oklahoma City and Tulsa areas should avoid prolonged outdoor exertion.**



# Today's AQI Forecast

Thursday, June 24, 2010



Good

Moderate

USG

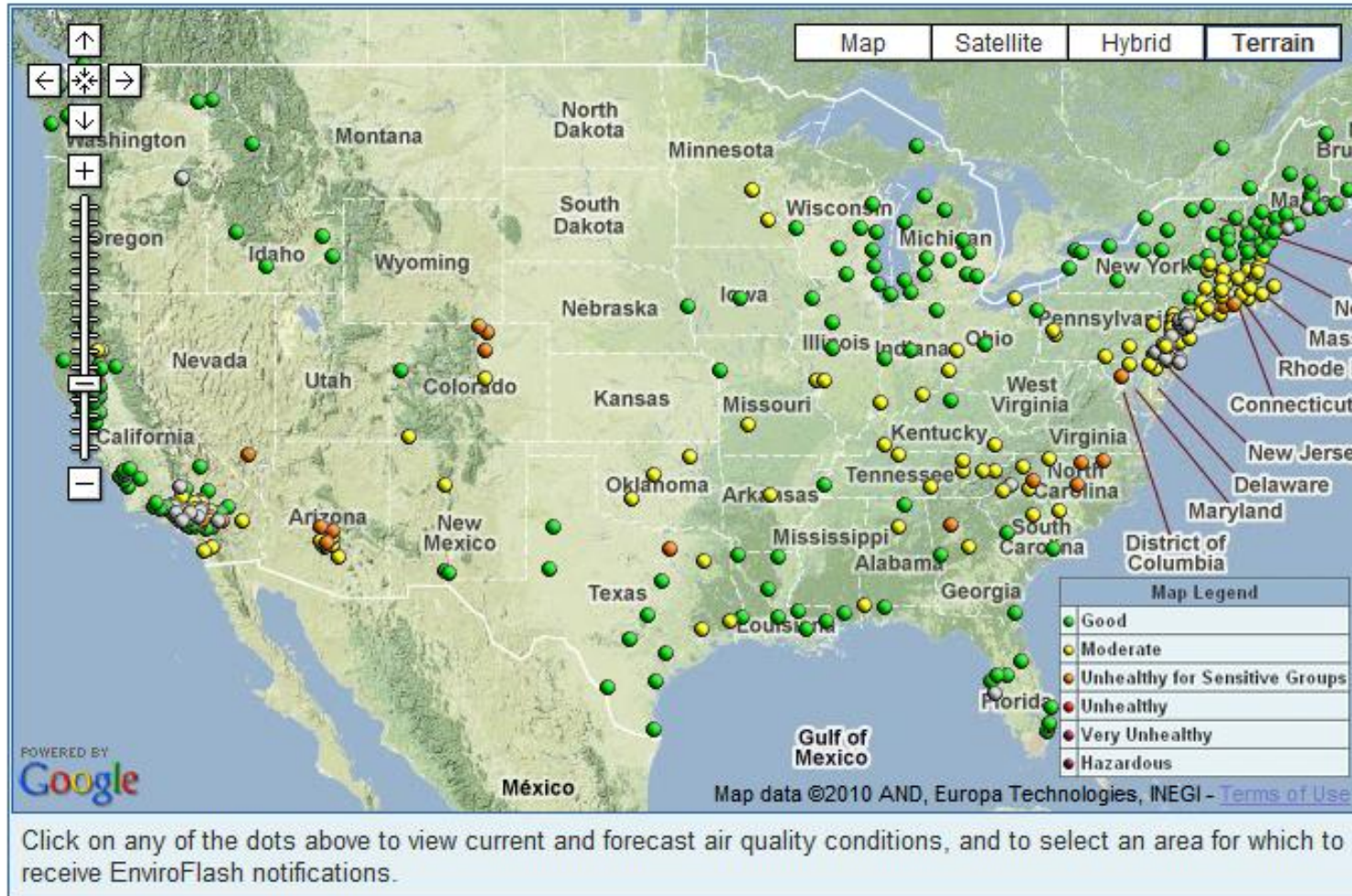
Unhealthy

Very Unhealthy

Hazardous



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**QUESTIONS?????**



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<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Environmental/AirQuality/>