

# Four Corners Area O<sub>3</sub> Monitoring Trends Analyses

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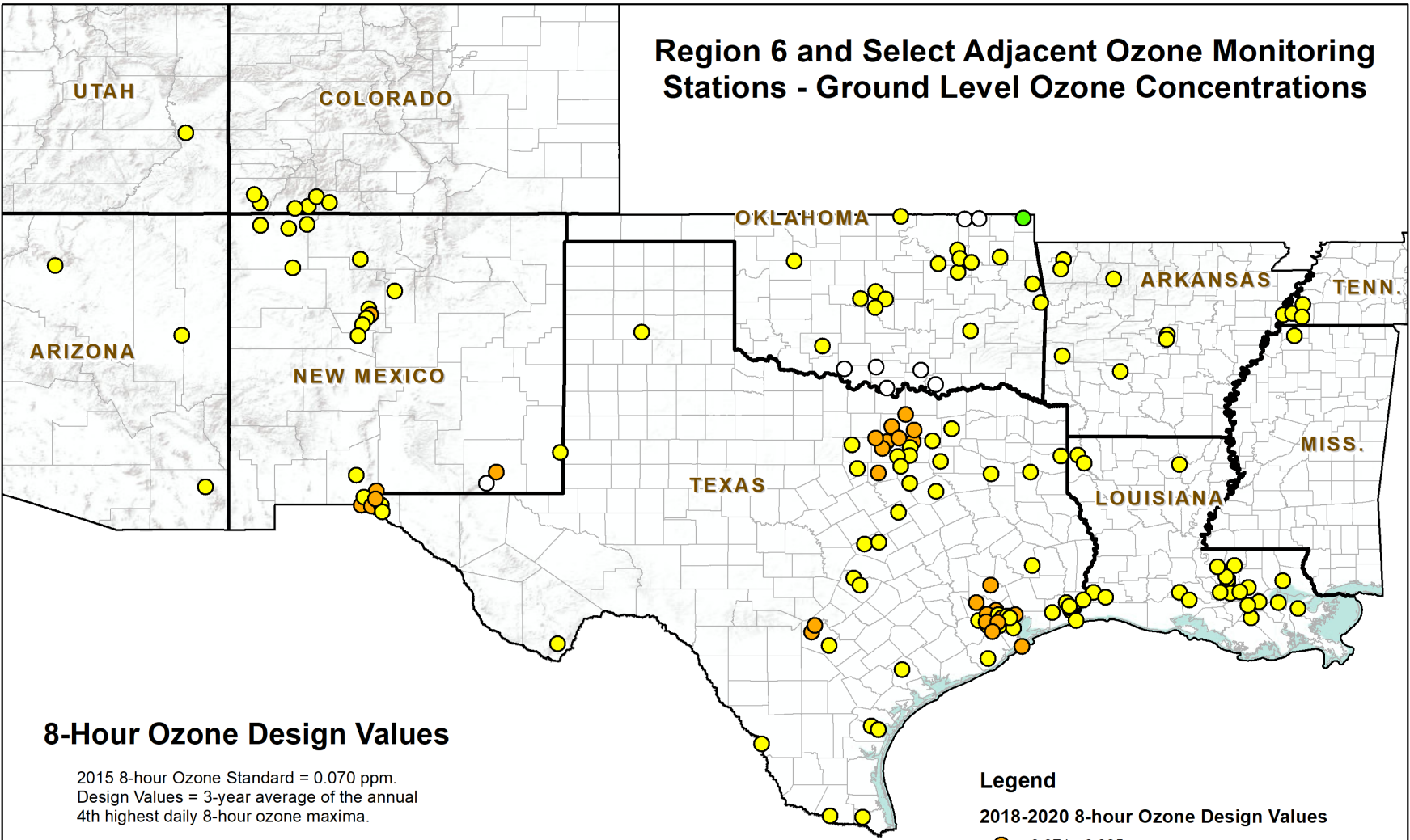
Suzy Apodaca

Air Monitoring & Grants Section

U.S. EPA Region 6

Dallas, Texas

# Region 6 and Select Adjacent Ozone Monitoring Stations - Ground Level Ozone Concentrations




## 8-Hour Ozone Design Values

2015 8-hour Ozone Standard = 0.070 ppm.  
 Design Values = 3-year average of the annual  
 4th highest daily 8-hour ozone maxima.

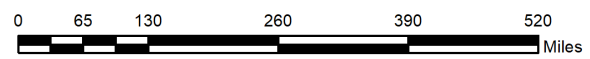
Sources: U.S. EPA AQS Database and State Agency Monitors;  
 USGS National Atlas of the U.S.

### Legend

- 2018-2020 8-hour Ozone Design Values**
- 0.071 - 0.085 ppm
  - 0.055 - 0.070 ppm
  - < 0.055 ppm
  - Not Enough Data to compute a 3-year 8-hour ozone design value

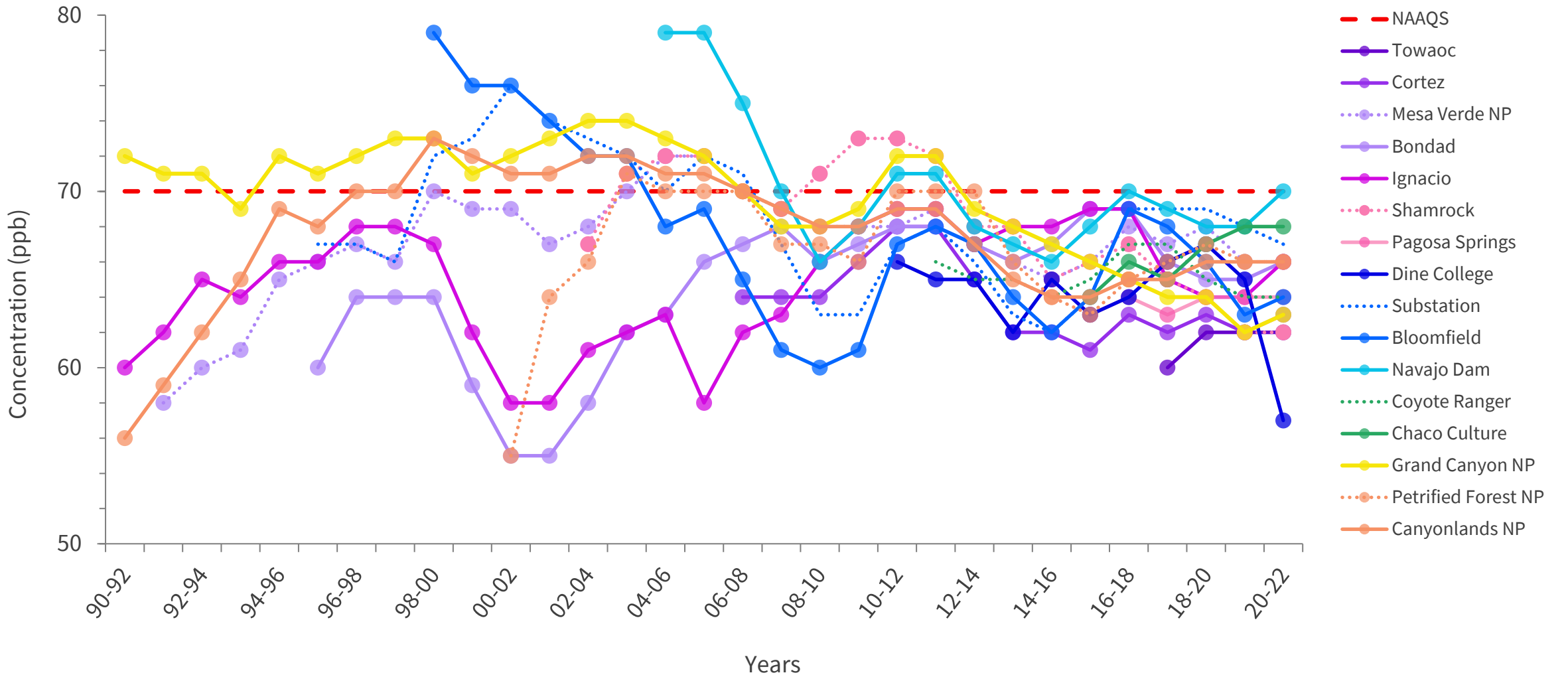


EPA Region 6  
 GIS LCR Division  
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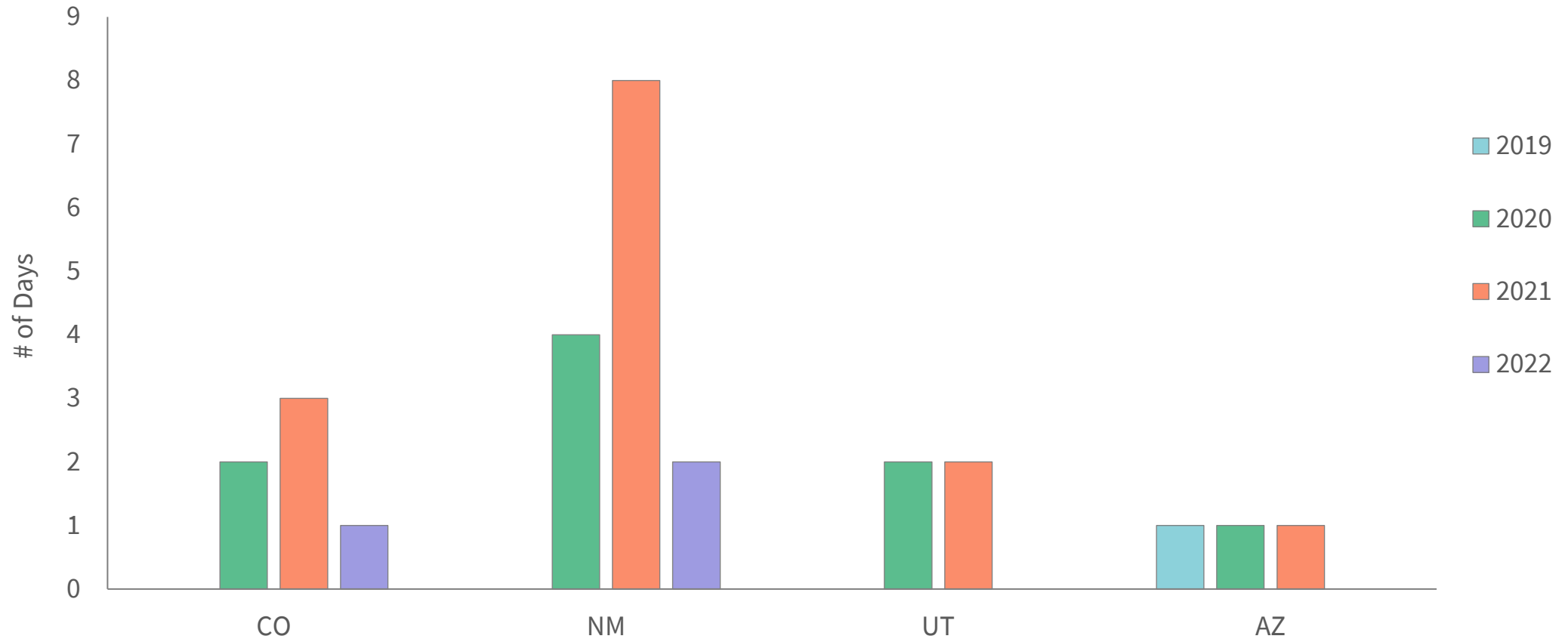
# 8-Hour Ozone Trends

Four Corners Area; 3-Year Running Design Values



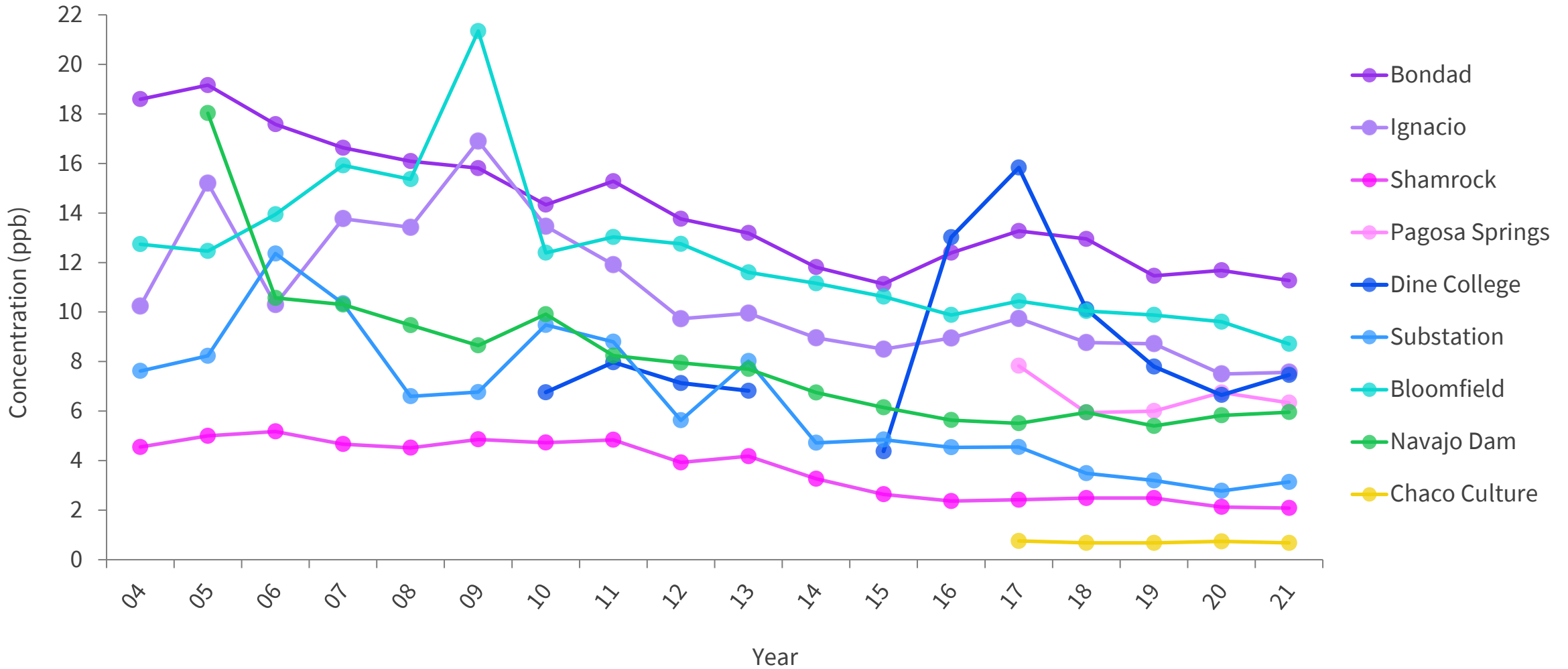
# 8-Hour Ozone Exceedances

Four Corners Area



# Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations

Four Corners Area





## Improved estimation of trends in U.S. ozone concentrations adjusted for interannual variability in meteorological conditions

Benjamin Wells <sup>a</sup>, Pat Dolwick <sup>a</sup>, Brian Eder <sup>a</sup>, Mark Evangelista <sup>a</sup>, Kristen Foley <sup>a</sup>, Elizabeth Mannshardt <sup>a</sup>, Chris Misenis <sup>a</sup>, Anthony Weishampel <sup>b</sup>

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosenv.2021.118234>

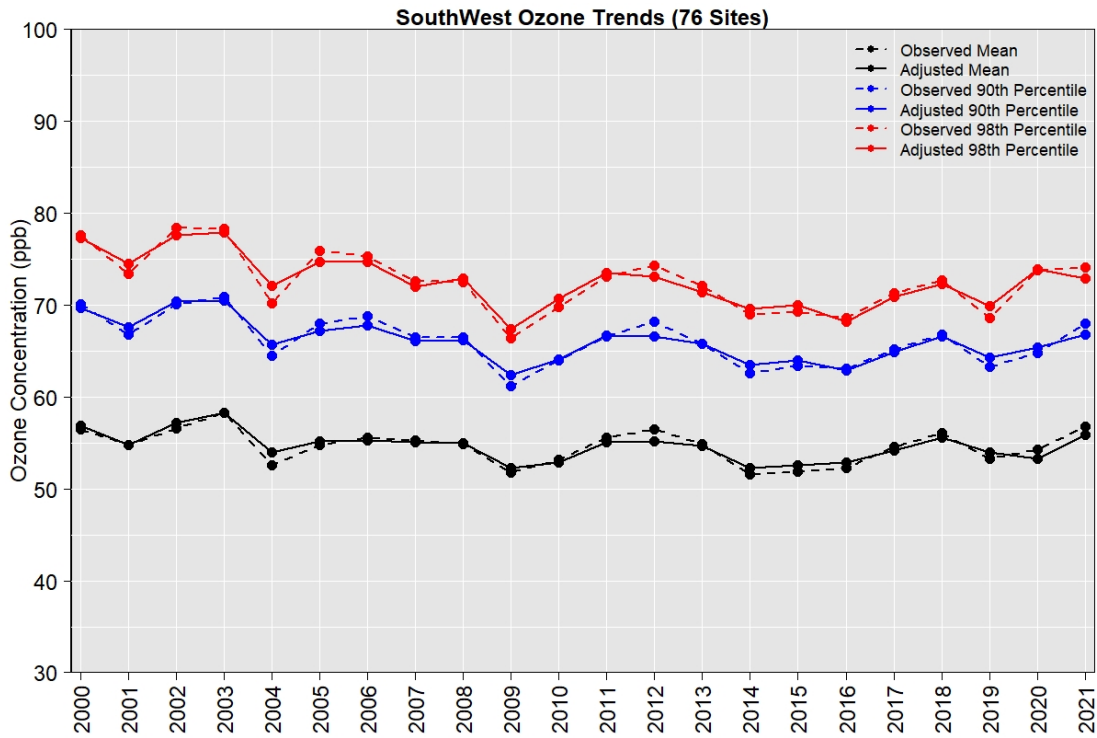
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### Main Takeaway:

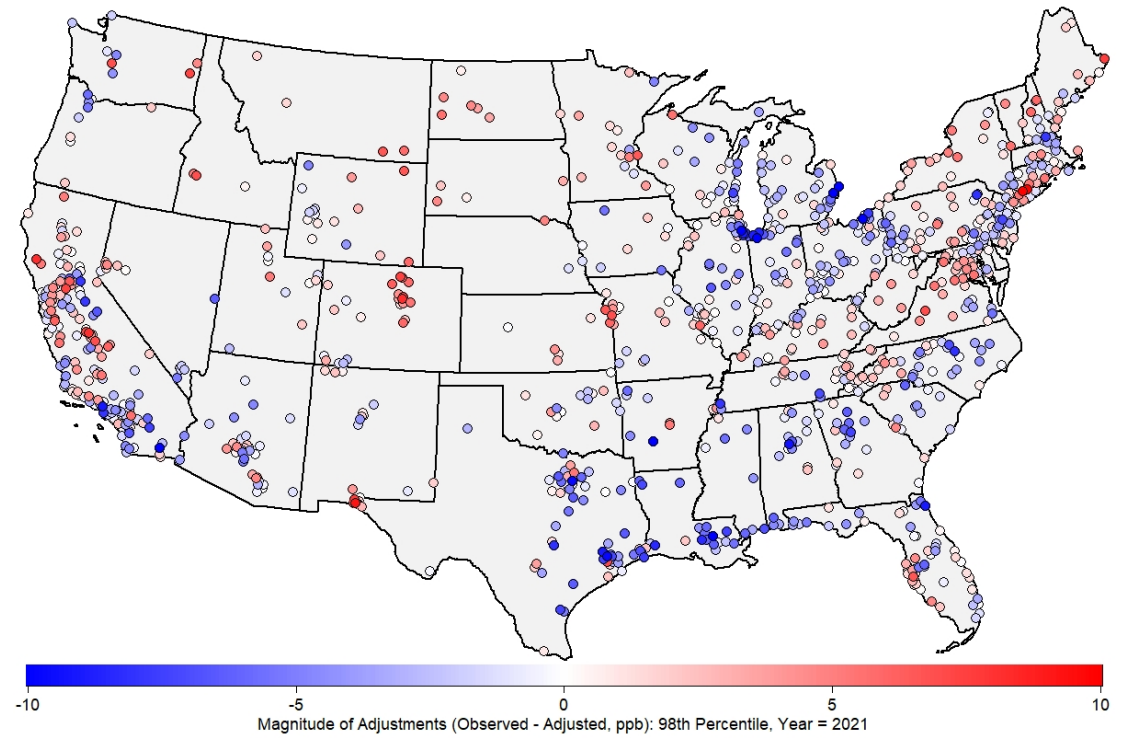
“...more in-depth understanding of how weather conditions affect O<sub>3</sub> levels in the U.S.”

### Highlights

- Improvements made to the U.S. EPA's method for adjusting ozone trends for weather
- Refinements include improvements to data sources and underlying statistical model
- Variable selection allows location-specific formulation of meteorological effects
- Develops ability to adjust trends in peak concentrations using quantile regression
- Results have the potential to better inform air quality policy and decision-making



Above average temperatures and below average humidity in the Southwest U.S. contributed to increased ozone formation.



Locations where weather conditions were more favorable than usual for ozone formation are shaded in red.