

Washington Air Quality Advisory (WAQA)

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) uses the Washington Air Quality Advisory (WAQA) to inform people about the health effects of air pollution. Ecology developed the WAQA to tell people when air quality is unhealthy so they can protect themselves. The WAQA is not a regulatory tool.

Category	Index Range	What This Means
Good	0-50	Air quality is good. No activity restrictions recommended.
Moderate	51-100	People with the following conditions may be sensitive to air pollution at this level and should consider limiting their outdoor activity: • those with lung and heart disease, diabetes, or a current respiratory infection • those who have had a stroke
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101-150	The following people should limit outdoor activity: • those with lung and heart disease, diabetes, or a respiratory infection • those who have had a stroke • infants • children • adults older than 65
Unhealthy	151-200	Everyone should try to limit their outdoor activity. The following people should stay indoors if possible: • those with lung and heart disease, diabetes, or a respiratory infection • those who have had a stroke • infants • children • adults older than 65
Very Unhealthy	201-300	Everyone should try to stay indoors. The following people should limit their outdoor activity: • those with lung and heart disease, diabetes, or a current respiratory infection • those who have had a stroke
		Shut windows and doors if it is not too hot. Set air conditioners to "recirculate" if possible.
Hazardous	301-500	Everyone should try to stay indoors and limit their physical activity. Shut windows and doors. If it is too hot, set air conditioners to "recirculate" if possible. If windows and doors cannot be shut, consider leaving the area until air quality improves.

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