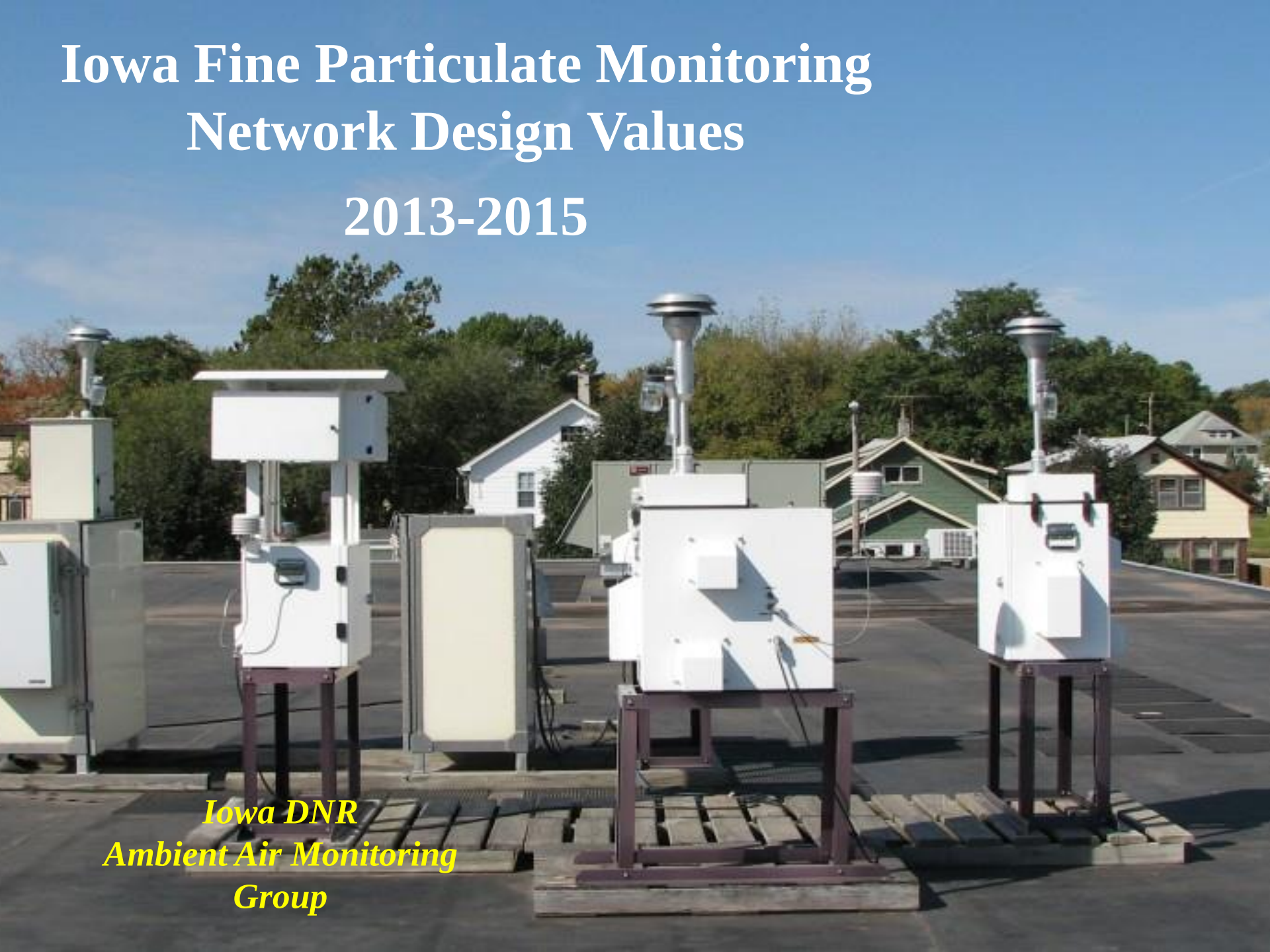
Iowa Fine Particulate Monitoring Network Design Values

2013-2015



Iowa DNR
Ambient Air Monitoring Group

What is Fine Particulate Matter ($PM_{2.5}$)?

The term “particulate matter” (PM) includes both solid particles and liquid droplets (excluding water droplets) that are found in outdoor air. Particulate matter may be emitted directly into the air or can form from pollutants that react in the atmosphere. Small particles tend to pose the greatest health concern because they can be inhaled into and accumulate in the respiratory system.

Particles of less than 2.5 microns in diameter are referred to as fine particulate or $PM_{2.5}$.

Sources of $PM_{2.5}$ emissions include all types of combustion (motor vehicles, power plants, wood burning, etc.) and some industrial processes. Secondary $PM_{2.5}$ is produced in the atmosphere away from sources through atmospheric chemistry.

What are the Design Values for $PM_{2.5}$?

Design values for $PM_{2.5}$ are numbers that are calculated from three years of data gathered at a particular monitoring site. If a design value is greater than the associated standard, the monitor is said to "fail the attainment test". The annual standard for $PM_{2.5}$ is 12.0 µg/m^3 and the twenty-four hour standard is 35 µg/m^3.

The design value for the 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ standard is the three year average of the annual 98th percentile values measured at a monitoring site. The design value for the annual $PM_{2.5}$ standard is the three year average of the annual averages measured at a monitoring site. Additional details about design value calculations are contained in 40 CFR Part 50 Appendix N.

Data Completeness and Validation

If a monitor records 75% of the scheduled samples in each quarter of the year, the year's data is considered complete. EPA allows the use of data substitution in some cases where data is close to the 75% goal. Data used in this report includes all monitors with complete data for 2013-2015 as well as data from four sites where substitution was performed.

All values in this report should be considered preliminary. Data values will be certified in May, 2016 and EPA will calculate design values for determination of compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) later this year.

All Iowa monitoring sites currently have annual and 24-hour design values less than the NAAQS.

What Types of $PM_{2.5}$ Monitoring Data May be Used to Calculate Design Values?

Iowa currently operates two different types of $PM_{2.5}$ samplers. One type collects fine particles by drawing ambient air through a filter over a 24-hour period. The filters are then returned to an analytical laboratory where they are weighed. Provided EPA protocols for handling and weighing the filters are followed, these manual samplers produce data that may be used for design value calculations. Although manual samplers provide accurate concentrations, the data produced is not available in real time, and so EPA has encouraged States to use automated continuous samplers to inform the public of current air quality levels.

EPA has approved the use of certain types of continuous samplers for computing design values, but advises States to conduct ongoing evaluations of the comparability of the data from these samplers to filter samplers. Iowa's humid summers and wintertime nitrate episodes represent a challenging environment in which to demonstrate this comparability. Iowa continues to evaluate the performance of continuous samplers with designs that are similar to those approved by EPA, but, to date, has not been able to consistently demonstrate comparability of the data generated from continuous samplers to filter sampler data.

Iowa $PM_{2.5}$ Monitors (2015)

AQS Site ID	Site Name	Location	County
190130009	Water Tower	Waterloo	Blackhawk
190450019	Chancy Park	Clinton	Clinton
190450021	Rainbow Park	Clinton	Clinton
190550001	Backbone State Park	Rural Site	Buchanan
191032001	Hoover Sch.	Iowa City	Johnson
191110008	Fire Station	Keokuk	Lee
191130040	Public Health	Cedar Rapids	Linn
191370002	Viking Lake State Park	Rural Site	Montgomery
191390015	Muscatine HS E Campus (Garfield)	Muscatine	Muscatine
191390016	Muscatine, Greenwood Cemetery	Muscatine	Muscatine
191390018	Muscatine, Franklin School	Muscatine	Muscatine
191390020	Muscatine, Musser Park	Muscatine	Muscatine
191471002	Iowa Lakes Community College	Emmetsburg	Palo Alto
191530030	Public Health	Des Moines	Polk
191532510	Indian Hills School	Clive	Polk
191550009	Franklin Sch.	Council Bluffs	Pottawattamie
191630015	Jefferson School	Davenport	Scott
191630018	Adams Sch.	Davenport	Scott
191630020	Hayes School	Davenport	Scott
191770006	Lake Sugema	Rural Site	Van Buren
191930019	Bryant School	Sioux City	Woodbury

Iowa $PM_{2.5}$ Design Values 2015 – Preliminary Until May 2016

County	Site Name	City	EPA Site Id	Year	Annual 98th Percentile (µg/m³)	Daily Design Value (µg/m³)	Annual Mean (µg/m³)	Annual Design Value (µg/m³)
Black Hawk	Water Tower	Waterloo	19-013-0009	2013	18.0		9.3	
				2014	21.1		9.3	
				2015	22.1	20	8.6	9.0
Clinton	Chancy Park	Clinton	19-045-0019	2013	25.6		10.7	
				2014	28.2		10.4	
				2015	24.9	26	9.7	10.2**
Clinton	Rainbow Park	Clinton	19-045-0021	2013	22.6		9.5	
				2014	24.8*		9.3*	
				2015	23.1*	24	9.1*	9.3
Buchanan	Backbone State Park	Not in a City	19-055-0001	2013	20.5		8.9	
				2014	23.6		9.0	
				2015	20.9	22	8.1	8.7
Johnson	Hoover Sch.	Iowa City	19-103-2001	2013	20.5		9.0	
				2014	23.8*		9.0*	
				2015	21.1	22	8.4	8.8
Lee	Fire Station	Keokuk	19-111-0008	2013	24.8		10.7	
				2014	24.8		10.7	
				2015	23.6	24	8.7	10.0
Linn	Public Health	Cedar Rapids	19-113-0040	2013	21.8		9.5	
				2014	24.1		9.7	
				2015	23.0	23	8.8	9.3
Montgomery	Viking Lake State Park	Not in a City	19-137-0002	2013	21.0		8.3	
				2014	18.4		7.7	
				2015	18.5	19	6.9	7.6

Iowa $PM_{2.5}$ Design Values 2015 – Preliminary Until May 2016 (continued)

County	Site Name	City	EPA Site Id	Year	Annual 98th Percentile (µg/m³)	Daily Design Value (µg/m³)	Annual Mean (µg/m³)	Annual Design Value (µg/m³)
Muscatine	Muscatine HS E Campus (Garfield)	Muscatine	19-139-0015	2013	27.7		11.0	
				2014	32.7		10.6	
				2015	22.3	28	9.0	10.2
Muscatine	Greenwood Cemetery	Muscatine	19-139-0016	2013	22.4		10.0	
				2014	24.5		9.6	
				2015	24.4	24	8.2	9.3
Muscatine	Franklin School	Muscatine	19-139-0018	2013	21.5		10.1	
				2014	27.2		10.3	
				2015	26.3	25	8.4	9.6
Muscatine	Musser Park	Muscatine	19-139-0020	2013	23.5		11.1	
				2014	32.2		11.3	
				2015	27.2	28	8.9	10.4**
Palo Alto	Iowa Lakes Community College	Emmetsburg	19-147-1002	2013	20.9		8.0	
				2014	20.4		7.8	
				2015	16.1*	19	7.5*	7.8
Polk	Health Dept.	Des Moines	19-153-0030	2013	21.7		9.0	
				2014	21.0		8.4	
				2015	18.1	20	7.7	8.3
Polk	Indian Hills School	Clive	19-153-2510	2013	20.2		9.0	
				2014	19.4		8.6	
				2015	18.0	19	7.4	8.3
Pottawattamie	Franklin Sch.	Council Bluffs	19-155-0009	2013	22.4		9.6	
				2014	19.6		9.1	
				2015	18.8	20	8.3	9.0

Iowa $PM_{2.5}$ Design Values 2015 – Preliminary Until May 2016 (continued)

County	Site Name	City	EPA Site Id	Year	Annual 98th Percentile (µg/m³)	Daily Design Value (µg/m³)	Annual Mean (µg/m³)	Annual Design Value (µg/m³)
Scott	Jefferson School	Davenport	19-163-0015	2013	23.4		9.7	
				2014	24.3		9.4	
				2015	23.0	24	9.3	9.5
Scott	Adams Sch.	Davenport	19-163-0018	2013	22.4		9.8	
				2014	24.8		10.3	
				2015	26.5	25	8.9	9.7
Scott	Hayes School	Davenport	19-163-0020	2013	26.1		10.4	
				2014	26.6*		10.0*	
				2015	25.9	26	9.9	10.1
Van Buren	Lake Sugema	Not in a City	19-177-0006	2013	18.2		8.2	
				2014	22.0		8.6	
				2015	19.7	20	7.4	8.0
Woodbury	Bryant School	Sioux City	19-193-0019	2013	21.5		9.3	
				2014	24.5		8.4	
				2015	19.1	22	7.5	8.4

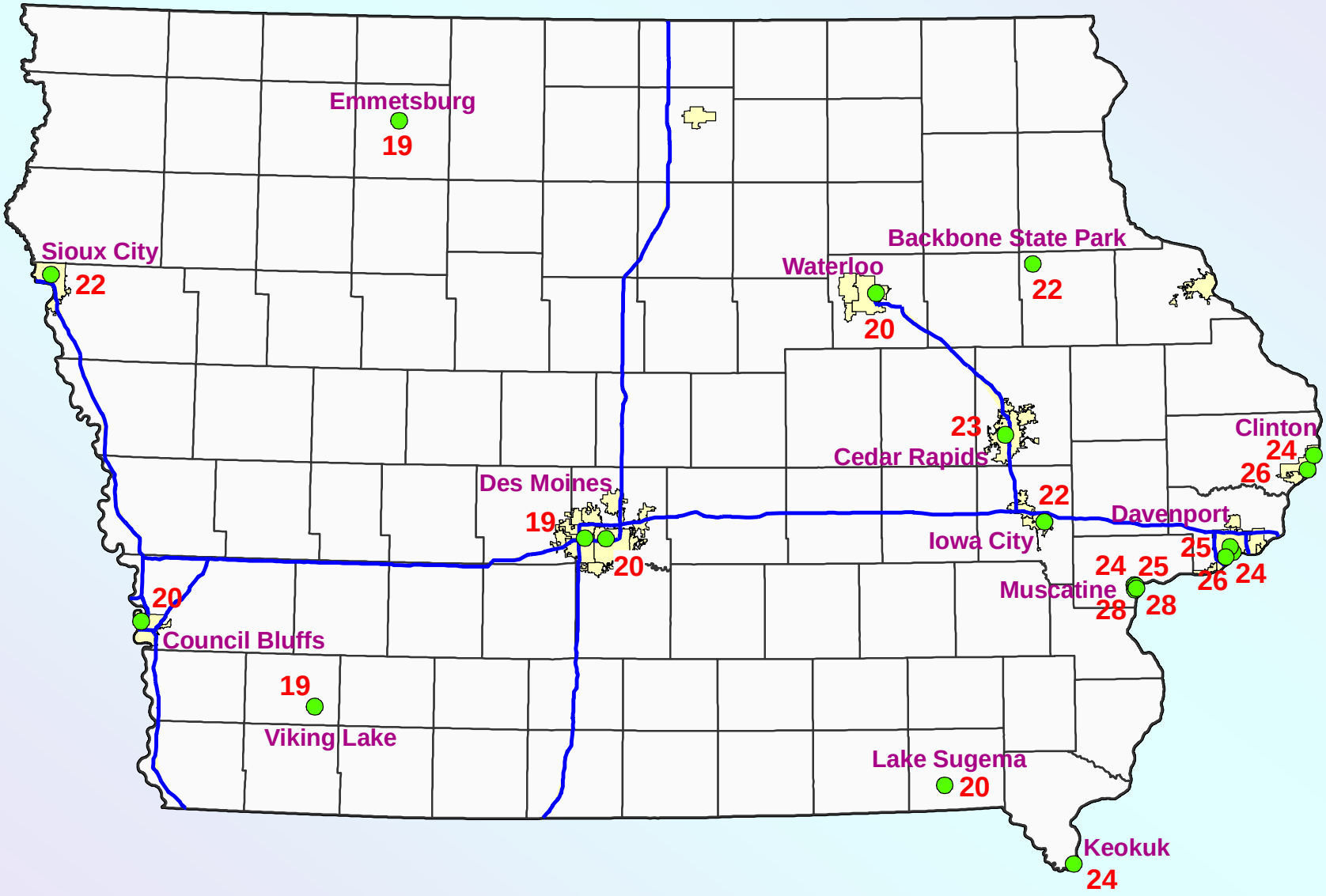
Three-year averages greater than 12.05 µg/m³ indicate non-attainment with the NAAQS.

*Data did not meet completeness requirements, but annual and daily design values passed substitution tests and are considered valid.

**Source-oriented site. Therefore annual design values are not applicable to the NAAQS.

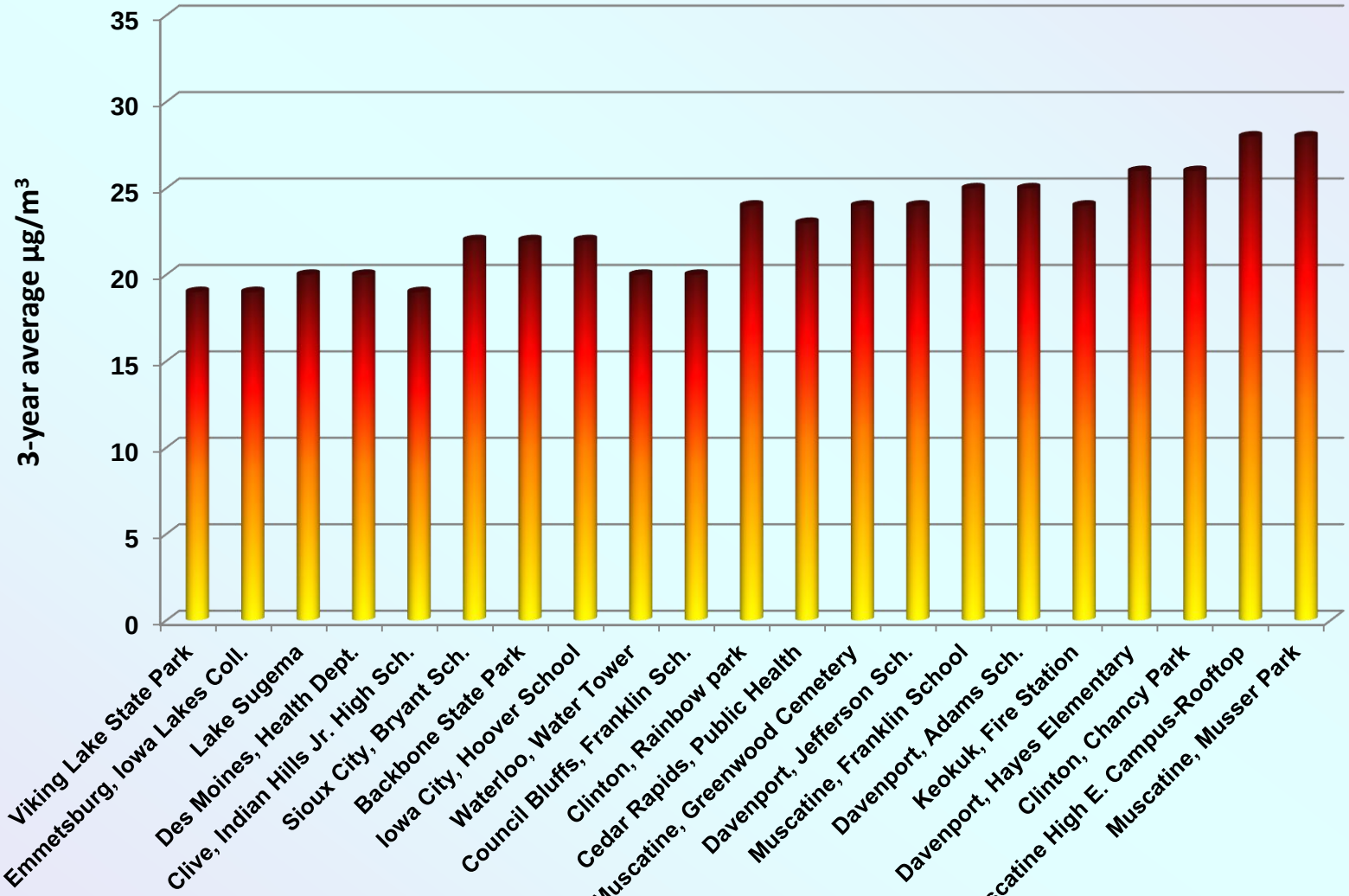
Iowa $PM_{2.5}$ 24-hour Design Values 2013-2015

(NAAQS Standard is 35 µg/m^3)



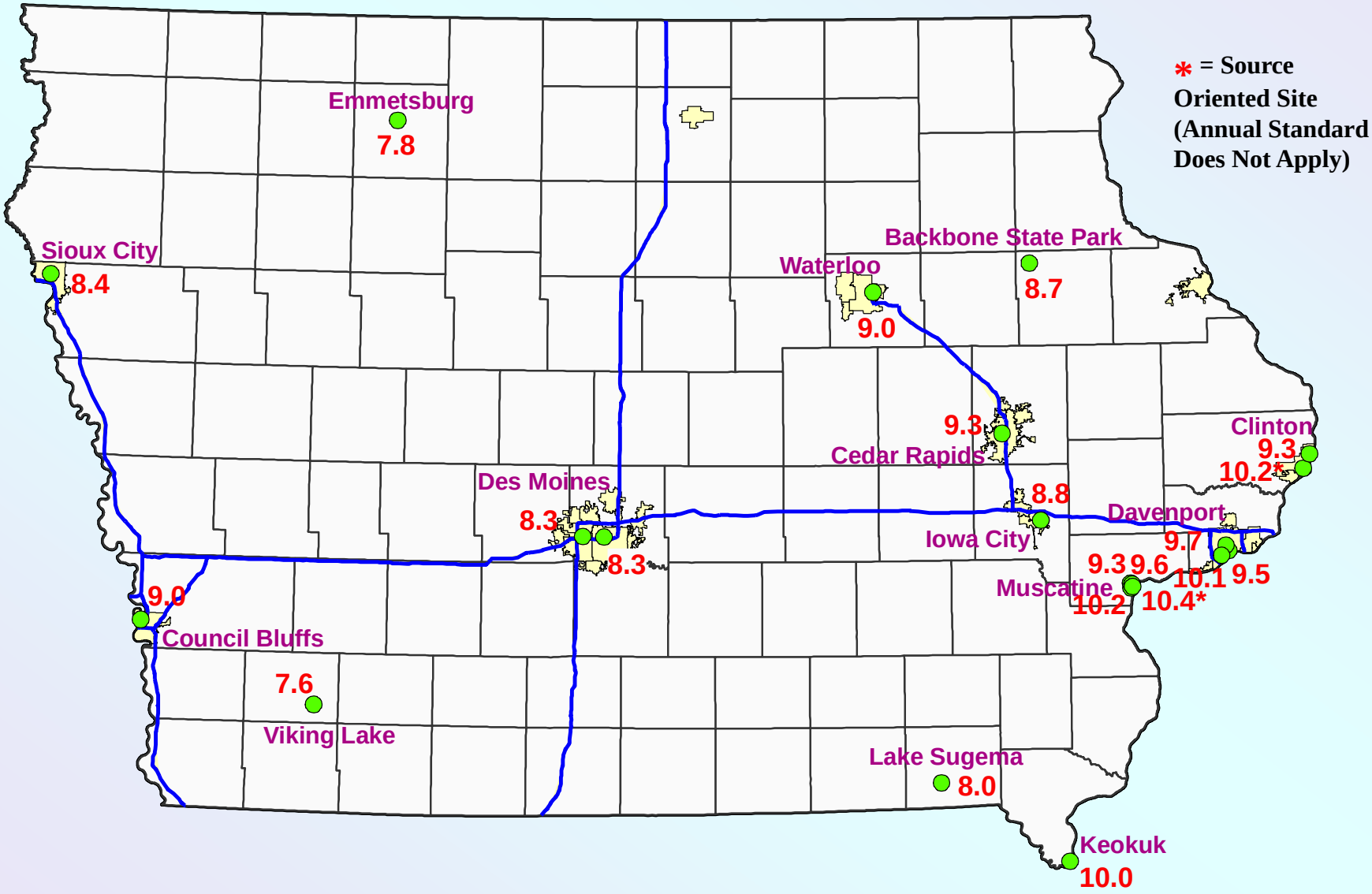
24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ Design Values 2013-2015

(NAAQS Standard is 35 µg/m³)



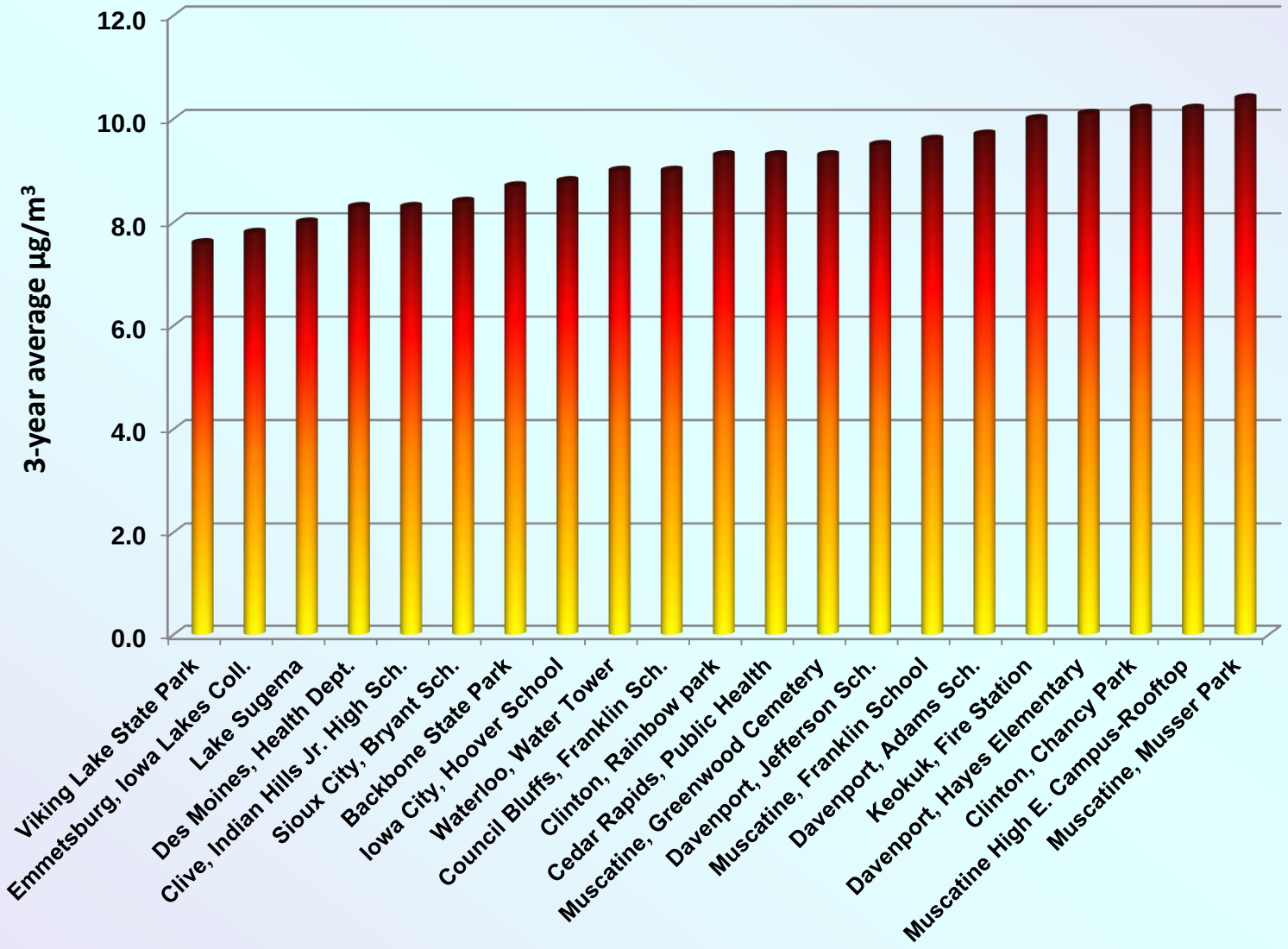
Iowa $PM_{2.5}$ Annual Design Values 2013-2015

(NAAQS Standard is 12.0 µg/m^3)

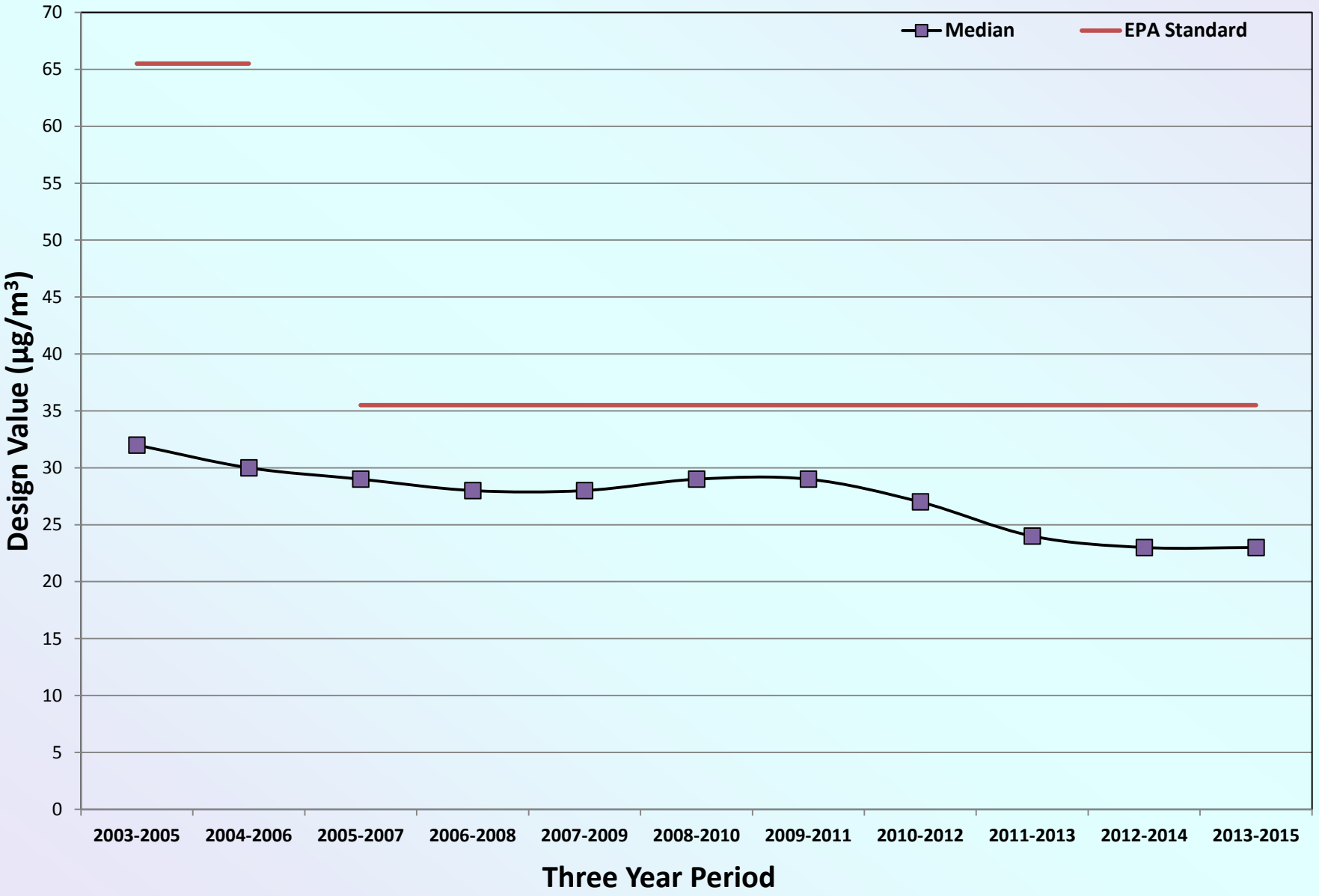


Annual $PM_{2.5}$ Design Values 2013-2015

(NAAQS Standard is 12.0 µg/m³)



Median $PM_{2.5}$ 24-Hour Design Values in Iowa $PM_{2.5}$ Monitoring Network



Median $PM_{2.5}$ Annual Design Values in Iowa $PM_{2.5}$ Monitoring Network

(Source oriented monitoring sites are not included)

Web Resources

Calculation of the $PM_{2.5}$ Design Values is treated in Appendix N of 40 CFR Pt. 50:

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title40/40cfr50_main_02.tpl

EPA's Design Value calculations for $PM_{2.5}$ and other pollutants:

http://www.epa.gov/airtrends/values.html

Information from EPA on $PM_{2.5}$ standards:

https://www3.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/standards/pm/s_pm_index.html

Historical Air Pollution Data for Iowa and Other States:

http://www.epa.gov/airdata/

Web links listed are as accessed on 2/29/2016.