

Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) and
Interim and Ultimate Targets of the WHO Global Air Quality Guidelines
by World Health Organisation (WHO)

Pollutants	Averaging Time	WHO's Guidelines (µg/m³)					No. of Exceedances Allowed in Hong Kong's AQOs per calendar year	
		Interim Target-1	Interim Target-2	Interim Target-3	Interim Target-4	Ultimate Target		
Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂)	10-minute	—				500	3	
	24-hour	125	50	—		40	3	
Respirable Suspended Particulates (RSP/ PM ₁₀)	24-hour	150	100	75	50	45	9	
	1-year	70	50	30	20	15	Not applicable	
Fine Suspended Particulates (FSP / PM _{2.5})	24-hour	75	50	37.5	25	15	35	18
	1-year	35	25	15	10	5	Not applicable	
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	1-hour	—				200	18	
	24-hour	120	50	—		25	9	
	1-year	40	30	20	—	10	Not applicable	
Ozone (O ₃)	8-hour	160	120	—		100	9	
	Peak Season	100	70	—		60	Not applicable	
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1-hour	—				30 000	0	
	8-hour	—				10 000	0	
	24-hour	7 000	—			4 000	0	
Lead (Pb)	1-year	—				0.5	Not applicable	

Notes:

	AQOs which took effect on January 1, 2022
	AQOs which comes into operation on April 11, 2025