

2021 Q3 (July-September) Air Quality Monitoring Results



Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) Ratings

The AQHI is calculated by the Government of Alberta using data collected at FAP air monitoring stations. The AQHI is a measure of air quality as it pertains to human health. AQHI levels are low, moderate, high or very high. Risk to health increases as the index level rises. Go to [our website's AQHI page](#) for more information. Seven of FAP's 10 continuous air monitoring stations monitor substances whereby the AQHI can be calculated. The newly named Keith Purves Portable Monitoring Station began operation August 1, 2021 in the Town of Lamont.

FAP – 2021 Q3		Risk Level (% of time in each)			
Station Name	Hours Monitored	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Bruderheim	2145	85.64%	11.79%	1.91%	0.65%
Elk Island	2128	89.14%	8.04%	2.02%	0.80%
Fort Saskatchewan	2091	89.10%	7.75%	2.34%	0.81%
Gibbons	2119	89.00%	8.87%	1.79%	0.33%
Lamont County	2146	89.10%	8.95%	1.40%	0.56%
Redwater	2155	88.03%	9.10%	2.09%	0.79%
Keith Purves Portable (Lamont)	962	100%	0%	0%	0%
Total hours	13746	12253	1163	246	84

Hours with a High or Very High Risk AQHI Rating

FAP Continuous Air Quality Monitoring Station																
Event Dates	Bruderheim		Elk Island		Fort Sask.		Gibbons		Lamont County		Redwater		Keith Purves Portable (Lamont)		Total Hours	Attributed Cause
	High Risk	Very High Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk		
Jul 9			1												1	Summer-time smog
Jul 9											1				1	Natural, due to wetlands
Jul 15-20	38	14	42	17	45	17	32	7	30	12	42	17			313	Wildfire smoke
Aug 4 & 5	3														3	Summer-time smog
Aug 14					4		1				1				6	Wildfire smoke
Aug 28							2								2	Undetermined
Sep 2 & 5							3								3	Undetermined
Sep 8											1				1	Natural, due to wetlands
Total Hours	41	14	43	17	49	17	38	7	30	12	45	17	-	-	330	

Summary of Exceedances

Air quality measurements are compared continuously to both 1 and 24-hour [Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives](#) (AAAQO). Any exceedance of an AAAQO is reported to the Alberta Government and the likely cause of the exceedance investigated. The following table details what substances exceeded an AAAQO, when they occurred and if it can be determined, the likely cause.

One-Hour Exceedances			
Parameter	Exceedances	Date	Attributed Cause
Fine Particulate (PM _{2.5})	328	July 15, 17-20 August 14	Wildfire smoke
Fine Particulate (PM _{2.5})	3	August 28 September 5	Undetermined cause
Hydrogen Sulphide (H ₂ S)	8	July 5, 9, 12, 28, 31	Natural due to wetlands
Ozone (O ₃)	3	July 8, 9	Summertime smog
Hydrogen Sulphide (H ₂ S)	4	September 8, 13, 29	Natural due to wetlands

24-Hour Exceedances			
Parameter	Exceedances	Date	Attributed Cause
Fine Particulate (PM _{2.5})	28	July 13-20	Wildfire smoke
Fine Particulate (PM _{2.5})	18	August 1-3, 14, 15	Wildfire smoke