

## 24-Hour Fine Particle (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) Standards

On July 18, 1997, United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) established primary and secondary standards for 24-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> at a level of 65 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) ([62 FR 38652](#)).

On October 17, 2006, after reviewing available science, U.S. EPA lowered the standards to a level of 35  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  in order to provide the requisite level of public health and welfare protection ([71 FR 61144](#)).

Attainment is determined by evaluating the three-year average of the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 24-hour concentrations at each population-oriented monitor within an area, which must not exceed 35  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

On January 15, 2013 ([78 FR 3085](#)) and again on December 18, 2020 ([85 FR 82684](#)), after reviewing available science, U.S. EPA concluded that the 2006 standards provided the requisite level of public health and welfare protection, and, therefore retained the standards.

Indiana has never had any nonattainment areas for the 24-hour primary or secondary standards.