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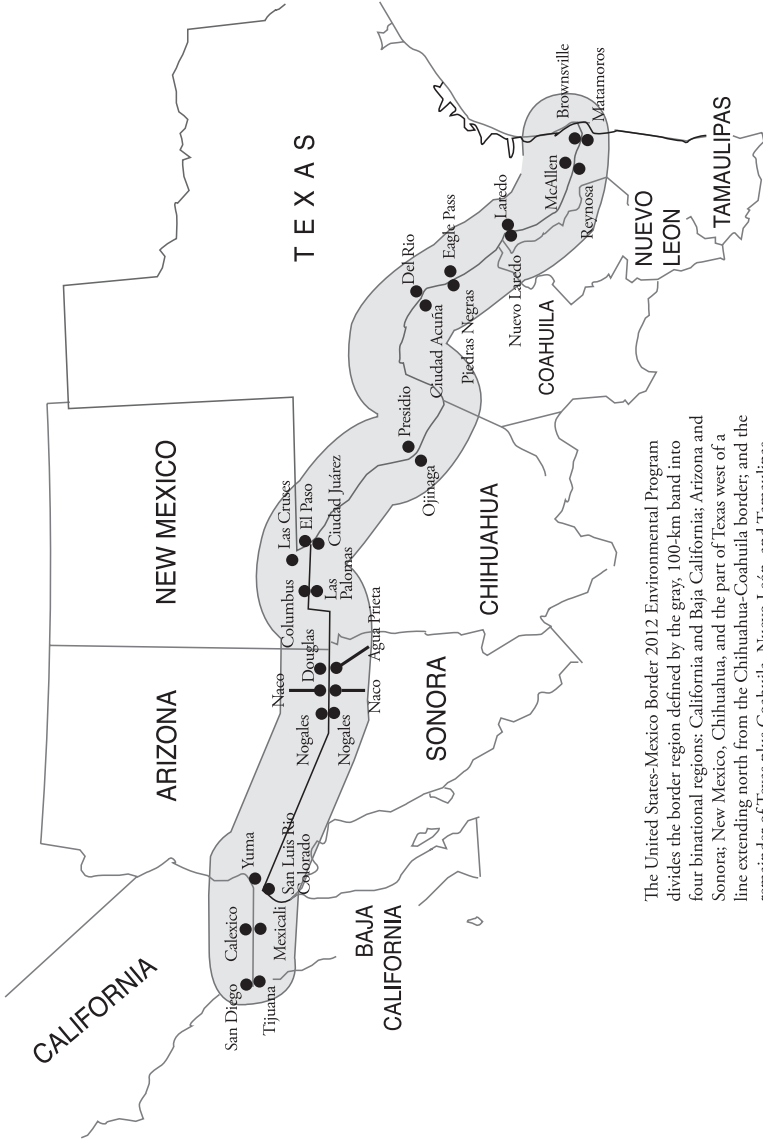
Binational Air Quality Management

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Figure A. U.S.-Mexican Border Region and Sister Cities



The United States-Mexico Border 2012 Environmental Program divides the border region, defined by the gray, 100-km band into four binational regions: California and Baja California; Arizona and Sonora; New Mexico, Chihuahua, and the part of Texas west of a line extending north from the Chihuahua-Coahuila border; and the remainder of Texas plus Coahuila, Nuevo León, and Tamaulipas.

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Table A. Ambient Air Quality Standards in the United States and Mexico

Pollutant	U.S. Standard		Mexican Standard	
	Time Period for Calculation	Concentration Level	Time Period for Calculation	Concentration Level
Ozone (O ₃)	1-hour average	0.12 ppm	1-hour average	0.11 ppm
	8-hour average	0.08 ppm		
Sulfur Dioxide (SO ₂)	24-hour average	0.14 ppm	24-hour average	0.13 ppm
	Annual arithmetic mean	0.03 ppm	Arithmetic mean	0.03 ppm
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	Annual arithmetic mean	0.053 ppm	1-hour average	0.21 ppm
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	8-hour average	9 ppm	8-hour average	11 ppm
	1-hour average	35 ppm		
Total Suspended Particulates (TSP)	no standard		24-hour average	210 µg/m ³
PM ₁₀	24-hour average	150 µg/m ³	24-hour average	120 µg/m ³
	Annual arithmetic mean	50 µg/m ³	Annual arithmetic mean	50 µg/m ³
PM _{2.5}	24-hour average	65 µg/m ³	24-hour average	65 µg/m ³
	Annual arithmetic mean	15 µg/m ³	Annual arithmetic mean	15 µg/m ³
Lead		1.5 µg/m ³	3-month arithmetic mean	1.5 µg/m ³

Notes: PPM is parts per million; µg/m³ is micrograms per cubic meter

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretaría de Medio Ambiente

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Table B. Determination of Attainment in the United States (criteria for implementing the standards in Table A)

Pollutant	Time Period for Calculation	Calculation to Determine Nonattainment ¹
Ozone (O ₃)	1-hour average	Concentration levels, averaged over one hour, equal or exceed 125 parts per billion (ppb) more than three times during a consecutive three-year period.
	8-hour average	Average of yearly fourth-highest 8-hour ozone levels over three years equals or exceeds 85 ppb.
Sulfur Dioxide (SO ₂)	24-hour average	Concentration levels, averaged over 24 hours, exceed 0.14 parts per million (ppm) more than once in a calendar year.
	Annual arithmetic mean	Annual arithmetic mean of concentrations exceeds 0.03 ppm.
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1-hour average	Concentration levels, averaged over one hour, equal or exceed 35.5 ppm more than once in a calendar year.
	8-hour average	Concentration levels, averaged over 8 hours, equal or exceed 9.5 ppm more than once in a calendar year.
PM ₁₀	24-hour average	Concentration levels, averaged over 24 hours, exceed 150 µg/m ³ more than once in a calendar year.
	Annual arithmetic mean	A three-year average of weighted mean concentrations exceeds 50 µg/m ³ .
PM _{2.5}	24-hour average	A 3-year average of the 98th percentile of 24-hour concentrations at each population-oriented monitor exceeds 65 µg/m ³ .
	Annual arithmetic mean	A 3-year average of the annual arithmetic mean PM _{2.5} concentrations from single or multiple community-oriented monitors exceeds 15 µg/m ³ .

¹ Each of these calculations is performed on each monitor in an area, and a violation at any one monitor determines nonattainment for the area, unless otherwise indicated.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency