Georgia's Nonattainment Area Designation Recommendations for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS - Technical Analysis Document -

This document contains Georgia Environmental Protection Division's (EPD) technical analysis for designation recommendations for areas in Georgia for the 2015 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). This analysis was conducted in accordance with U.S. EPA's February 25, 2016 memorandum "Area Designations for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards". This memo recommends evaluating five factors:

- 1. Air quality data
- 2. Emissions and emissions-related data
- 3. Meteorological data
- 4. Geography/topography
- 5. Jurisdictional boundaries

Each of the 159 counties in Georgia has been evaluated and recommended as unclassifiable/attainment or nonattainment based on the available information and data.

Air Quality Data and Potential Nonattainment Areas in Georgia

Federal Reference Method (FRM) measurements of ozone concentrations in Georgia, during the most recent three consecutive years (2013-2015), were analyzed and used to identify sites currently violating the 2015 ozone NAAQS of 0.070 ppm. These ozone measurements have been quality-assured and certified and are stored in EPA's Air Quality System (AQS) database. Design values (DV) were calculated for each monitor by averaging the fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentrations for three consecutive years. If the 2013-2015 DV for a monitor is greater than 0.070 ppm, the monitor is violating the NAAQS.

According to the U.S. EPA's February 25, 2016 memorandum "Area Designations for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards":

"...Section IO7(d) explicitly requires that the EPA designate as nonattainment not only the area that is violating the pertinent standard, but also those nearby areas that contribute to the violation in the violating area. After identifying each monitor that indicates a violation of the 2015 ozone NAAQS in an area, the EPA will determine which nearby areas contribute to the violation(s)."

"...for analyzing whether nearby areas contribute to a violating area. The EPA intends to consider information relevant to designations associated with the counties in the Combined Statistical Area (CSA) or, where appropriate, the Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) in which the violating monitor(s) are located. The CSAs and CBSAs are delineated by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as part of their Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area program."

Of the 21 ozone monitors in Georgia, there are currently three (3) monitors in the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA CBSA that are violating the 2015 ozone NAAQS (Table 1). Also, the 2013-2015 DVs in neighboring states were checked and no violating monitors were identified (Figure 1).

Table 1. 2013-2015 design values (DVs) at each ozone monitor in Georgia by CBSA. Counties in red are violating the 2015 ozone NAAQS based on 2013-2015 DVs.

CBSA Name	County	AQS Site ID	Local Site Name	2013-2015 DVs
				(ppm)
Americas, GA	Sumter	132611001	Leslie-Union High School	0.058
Athens-Clarke County, GA	Clarke	130590002	Fire Station # 7	0.061
Atlanta-Sandy	Fulton	131210055	Confederate Avenue	0.073
Springs-Marietta,	Rockdale	132470001	Monastery	0.072
GA	Henry	131510002	McDonough-County Extension Office	0.071
	Gwinnett	131350002	Gwinnett Tech	0.069
	DeKalb	130890002	South DeKalb	0.067
	Douglas	130970004	W. Strickland Street	0.066
	Pike	132319991	Georgia Station	0.066
	Cobb	130670003	Kennesaw-National Guard	0.065
	Dawson	130850001	Dawsonville, Georgia Forestry Commission	0.064
	Paulding	132230003	Yorkville, King Farm	0.062
	Coweta	130770002	Newnan	0.062
Augusta-Richmond	Richmond	132450091	Bungalow Road	0.061
County, GA-SC	Columbia	130730001	Evans-Riverside Park	0.060
Brunswick, GA	Glynn	131270006	Risley Middle School	0.056
Columbus, GA-AL	Muscogee	132150008	Columbus- Airport	0.061
Dalton, GA	Murray	132130003	Fort Mountain	0.064
Macon, GA	Bibb	130210012	Macon SE	0.063
Savannah, GA	Chatham	130510021	Savannah-E. President Street	0.058
Summerville, GA	Chattooga	130550001	Summerville-DNR Fish Hatchery	0.060

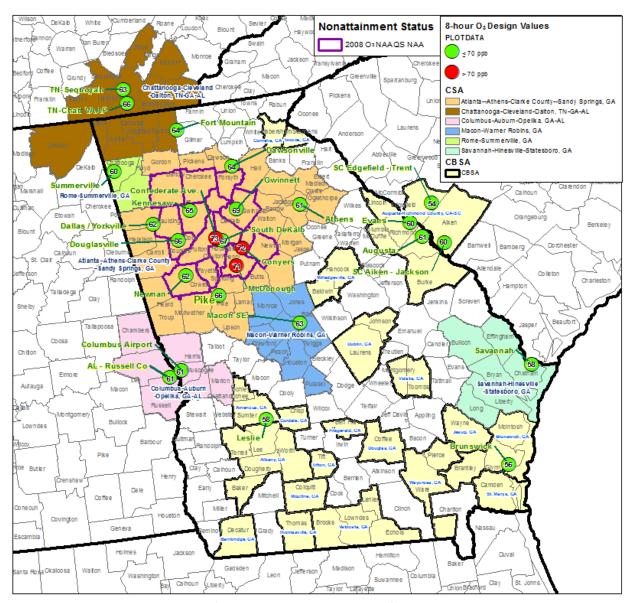


Figure 1. CSA and CBSA boundaries (CBSAs in CSAs are not shown) and 2013-2015 DVs at ozone monitors in and around Georgia. Nonattainment area boundaries for the 2008 ozone NAAQS are outlined in purple.

There are 39 counties (Table 2) in the Atlanta--Athens-Clarke County--Sandy Springs, GA CSA (Atlanta CSA). The Atlanta CSA includes the following CBSAs: Athens-Clarke County, Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, Calhoun, Cedartown, Gainesville, Jefferson, LaGrange, and Thomaston. All 39 counties in the Atlanta CSA were evaluated as potential nonattainment areas. The remaining 120 counties in Georgia have no violating monitors in their CBSAs. Therefore, no additional analysis will be performed for these counties and they will be recommended as unclassifiable/attainment.

Table 2. List of CBSAs and counties in the Atlanta CSA. Counties with violating monitors based on 2013-2015 DVs are marked in red.

CBSA Name	County Name and Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) code
Athens-Clarke County, GA	Clarke (13059), Madison (13195), Oconee (13219), Oglethorpe (13221)
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-	Barrow (13013), Bartow (13015), Butts (13035), Carroll (13045), Cherokee
Roswell, GA	(13057), Clayton (13063), Cobb (13067), Coweta (13077), Dawson (13085),
	DeKalb (13089), Douglas (13097), Fayette (13113), Forsyth (13117), Fulton
	(13121), Gwinnett (13135), Haralson (13143), Heard (13149), Henry (13151),
	Jasper (13159), Lamar (13171), Meriwether (13199), Morgan (13211),
	Newton (13217), Paulding (13223), Pickens (13227), Pike (13231), Rockdale
	(13247), Spalding (13255), Walton (13297)
Calhoun, GA	Gordon (13129)
Cedartown, GA	Polk (13233)
Gainesville, GA	Hall (13139)
Jefferson, GA	Jackson (13157)
LaGrange, GA	Troup (13285)
Thomaston, GA	Upson (13293)

Five-Factor Analysis in the Atlanta CSA

The nonattainment area boundaries were evaluated using five factors as described in the U.S. EPA's February 25, 2016 memorandum "Area Designations for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards":

- 1. Air quality data
- 2. Emissions and emissions-related data
- 3. Meteorological data
- 4. Geography/topography
- 5. Jurisdictional boundaries

Factor 1: Air Quality Data

The 2013-2015 DVs at ozone monitors in Fulton, Henry, and Rockdale counties violate the 2015 ozone NAAQS. The preliminary 2016 ozone data indicate that monitors in Gwinnett and DeKalb will also violate the 2015 ozone NAAQS (Table 3). Therefore, these 5 counties with violating monitors will be recommended as nonattainment. The other 34 counties in the Atlanta CSA do not have a violating monitor. These counties were evaluated to determine whether or not they contribute to violations at the ozone monitors in Fulton, Henry, Rockdale, Gwinnett, and DeKalb.

Table 3. 2013-2015 and preliminary 2014-2016 ozone design values in the Atlanta CSA.

County	AQS Site ID	Local Site Name	DV 2013-2015	DV 2014-2016*
Fulton	131210055	Confederate Avenue	0.073	0.075
Rockdale	132470001	Monastery	0.072	0.074
Henry	131510002	McDonough-County Extension Office	0.071	0.074
Gwinnett	131350002	Gwinnett Tech	0.069	0.072
DeKalb	130890002	South DeKalb	0.067	0.071
Douglas	130970004	W. Strickland Street	0.066	0.068
Pike	132319991	Georgia Station	0.066	0.068
Cobb	130670003	Kennesaw-National Guard	0.065	0.066
Dawson	130850001	Dawsonville, Georgia Forestry Commission	0.064	0.065
Coweta	130770002	Newnan	0.062	0.066
Paulding	132230003	Yorkville, King Farm	0.062	0.062
Clarke	130590002	Fire Station # 7	0.061	0.064

^{*}The 2014-2016 preliminary design values are based on uncertified ozone data through August 21, 2016.

Factor 2: Emissions and Emissions-Related Data

EPD evaluated emissions of ozone precursors and other emissions-related data that provide information on areas contributing to the violating monitors.

NOx and VOC Emissions Data

EPD analyzed county-level emissions data for nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the 2011 National Emissions Inventory (NEI)¹. Most of the 2014 NEI data is still draft, but the 2014 point source emissions are very reliable since they matched the emissions that EPD submitted to EPA's Emissions Inventory System (EIS) for the 2014 NEI. Therefore, EPD replaced 2011 point source emissions data with 2014 point source emissions data. This is the best available data to represent recent NOx (Table 4) and VOC (Table 6) emission levels in the Atlanta CSA. In addition to the countylevel emissions (tons per year, tpy), emission densities (tons per year per square mile, tpy/mile²) were also calculated since all counties are not the same size geographically. Significant emissions levels in a nearby county may indicate the potential for that area to contribute to observed ozone violations. Percent of NOx (Table 5) and VOC (Table 7) emissions by source categories (including fire, nonpoint, nonroad, onroad, and point) are summarized by each county in the Atlanta CSA. Fire emissions include prescribed fires and wildfires. Nonpoint (area source) emissions include small-scale industrial, commercial, and residential sources that generate emissions. Nonroad vehicles do not typically operate on roads or highways and include agricultural equipment; construction and mining equipment; lawn and garden equipment; aircraft and airport equipment; locomotives; and commercial marine vessels. Onroad mobile emission sources consist of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and other motor vehicles traveling on public roadways. Point sources include Electric Generating Units (EGUs) and non-EGUs.

¹ Obtained from https://www.epa.gov/ozone-designations/ozone-designations-guidance-and-data.

NOx emissions from 6 counties (Fulton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Cobb, Bartow, and Clayton) are each higher than 10,000 tpy. Also, each of these counties has more than double (>100%) the CSA average NOx emissions, has a NOx emission density of more than 26 tpy/mi², and are more than 75% higher than the Atlanta CSA average NOx emission density. None of the other 33 counties in the Atlanta CSA meet any of these criteria. In total, NOx emissions from Fulton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Cobb, Bartow, and Clayton account for 51.5% of all NOx emissions in the Atlanta CSA. The majority of the NOx emissions in Fulton (70.6%), Gwinnett (68.3%), DeKalb (76.8%), and Cobb (61.6%) come from on-road mobile sources. The NOx emissions in Bartow mostly come from on-road mobile (33.9%) and point (55.6%), some of which is attributed to Georgia Power's Plant Bowen. The NOx emissions in Clayton mostly come from on-road mobile (45.0%) and non-road mobile (55.6%), some of which is attributed to airport emissions from the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

Modeling studies have demonstrated that emission reductions of anthropogenic VOCs have a much smaller impact on daily 8-hour ozone concentrations in the Southeastern U.S. compared to NOx emissions². In addition, GA EPD has demonstrated that the Atlanta area is strongly NOx limited as presented in the Atlanta 8-hour Ozone Attainment Demonstration submitted to EPA on October 21, 2009. For this reason, the VOC emission factor will account for a lower total percent of emissions than in our NOx analysis. VOC emissions from 4 counties (Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, and DeKalb) are each higher than 20,000 tpy. Also, each of these counties is more than 75% higher than the CSA average VOC emissions. Cobb, DeKalb, and Clayton have a VOC emission density of more than 65 tpy/mi², and are more than 65% higher than the Atlanta CSA average VOC emission density. None of the other 34 counties in the Atlanta CSA meet any of these criteria. In total, VOC emissions from Fulton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Cobb, and Clayton account for 23.4% of all VOC emissions in the Atlanta CSA. The majority of the VOC emissions in Fulton (65.4%), Gwinnett (60.9%), Cobb (64.0%), DeKalb (62.2%), and Clayton (61.6%) come from nonpoint (area) sources.

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² Odman M.T., Hu Y., Russell A.G., Hanedar A., Boylan J.W., and Brewer P.F., 2009, Quantifying the sources of ozone, fine particulate matter, and regional haze in the Southeastern United States, *Journal of Environmental Management*, 90, 3155–3168.

Table 4. NO_X Emissions by county in the Atlanta CSA. Red values meet EPD thresholds.

County	NOx	NOx % CSA	NOx % CSA	NOx Density	NOx Density % of
	(tpy)	Total	Average	(tpy/sq mi)	CSA Average
Fulton	23,218	13.0%	408.1%	43.48	194.9%
Gwinnett	16,576	9.3%	262.8%	37.93	157.2%
DeKalb	14,617	8.2%	219.9%	53.94	265.8%
Cobb	13,716	7.7%	200.2%	39.76	169.6%
Bartow	13,059	7.3%	185.8%	27.79	88.4%
Clayton	10,675	6.0%	133.6%	74.13	402.7%
Henry	6,786	3.8%	48.5%	20.75	40.7%
Hall	5,347	3.0%	17.0%	12.46	-15.5%
Coweta	4,998	2.8%	9.4%	11.21	-24.0%
Carroll	4,464	2.5%	-2.3%	8.86	-39.9%
Cherokee	4,375	2.5%	-4.3%	10.08	-31.6%
Jackson	4,012	2.3%	-12.2%	11.70	-20.7%
Troup	3,884	2.2%	-15.0%	8.71	-40.9%
Forsyth	3,690	2.1%	-19.3%	14.94	1.3%
Gordon	3,469	1.9%	-24.1%	9.69	-34.3%
Douglas	3,046	1.7%	-33.3%	15.15	2.8%
Heard	3,031	1.7%	-33.7%	10.07	-31.7%
Clarke	3,027	1.7%	-33.8%	25.02	69.7%
Newton	3,017	1.7%	-34.0%	10.81	-26.7%
Paulding	2,688	1.5%	-41.2%	8.56	-42.0%
Madison	2,540	1.4%	-44.4%	8.88	-39.8%
Walton	2,424	1.4%	-47.0%	7.35	-50.2%
Morgan	2,364	1.3%	-48.3%	6.66	-54.8%
Fayette	2,240	1.3%	-51.0%	11.26	-23.7%
Barrow	2,229	1.3%	-51.2%	13.68	-7.2%
Rockdale	2,117	1.2%	-53.7%	16.04	8.8%
Butts	1,900	1.1%	-58.4%	10.10	-31.5%
Meriwethe	1,869	1.0%	-59.1%	3.70	-74.9%
Haralson	1,743	1.0%	-61.9%	6.16	-58.2%
Spalding	1,714	1.0%	-62.5%	8.57	-41.9%
Polk	1,562	0.9%	-65.8%	5.01	-66.1%
Upson	1,399	0.8%	-69.4%	4.27	-71.1%
Oconee	1,370	0.8%	-70.0%	7.37	-50.0%
Lamar	1,141	0.6%	-75.0%	6.13	-58.4%
Pickens	1,089	0.6%	-76.2%	4.67	-68.3%
Dawson	760	0.4%	-83.4%	3.55	-75.9%
Jasper	730	0.4%	-84.0%	1.96	-86.7%
Pike	674	0.4%	-85.2%	3.08	-79.1%
Oglethorpe	644	0.4%	-85.9%	1.46	-90.1%
Average	4,569			14.75	
Total	178,201	100.0%			

Table 5. Percent of NO_x emissions by county and source categories in the Atlanta CSA.

County	Fires	Nonpoint	Nonroad	Onroad	Point
Fulton	0.0%	10.5%	17.0%	70.6%	1.9%
Gwinnett	0.0%	8.0%	23.7%	68.3%	0.0%
DeKalb	0.0%	8.9%	13.4%	76.8%	0.9%
Cobb	0.0%	13.8%	18.9%	61.6%	5.7%
Bartow	0.1%	6.5%	3.9%	33.9%	55.6%
Clayton	0.0%	4.1%	49.8%	45.0%	1.0%
Henry	0.1%	9.2%	13.1%	53.6%	24.0%
Hall	0.0%	9.7%	16.6%	70.5%	3.2%
Coweta	1.2%	11.3%	9.8%	52.3%	25.5%
Carroll	0.4%	9.8%	11.1%	77.9%	0.8%
Cherokee	0.1%	7.4%	23.0%	67.2%	2.3%
Jackson	0.1%	6.2%	9.6%	77.0%	7.2%
Troup	1.3%	16.1%	8.2%	73.0%	1.4%
Forsyth	0.0%	6.1%	27.0%	65.4%	1.4%
Gordon	0.1%	23.1%	7.7%	68.8%	0.2%
Douglas	0.1%	10.0%	12.4%	77.5%	0.0%
Heard	0.9%	4.2%	2.1%	10.1%	82.6%
Clarke	0.0%	9.8%	16.6%	66.1%	7.5%
Newton	0.6%	8.5%	15.0%	74.9%	1.0%
Paulding	0.2%	18.3%	15.3%	66.2%	0.0%
Madison	0.5%	11.7%	2.1%	28.1%	57.5%
Walton	0.5%	10.3%	16.6%	67.7%	4.8%
Morgan	1.9%	11.7%	6.6%	75.1%	4.8%
Fayette	0.0%	14.5%	21.6%	63.5%	0.3%
Barrow	0.1%	12.9%	10.4%	74.9%	1.8%
Rockdale	0.1%	9.5%	15.6%	72.2%	2.6%
Butts	0.8%	20.6%	4.9%	73.7%	0.0%
Meriwether	6.3%	33.4%	4.4%	44.4%	11.4%
Haralson	0.8%	18.9%	3.6%	76.7%	0.0%
Spalding	0.9%	12.0%	10.4%	76.7%	0.0%
Polk	1.0%	28.7%	7.6%	58.2%	4.5%
Upson	5.4%	13.6%	4.9%	42.4%	33.6%
Oconee	0.5%	11.3%	15.1%	73.1%	0.0%
Lamar	1.1%	12.5%	5.4%	59.3%	21.7%
Pickens	1.0%	10.4%	13.9%	74.3%	0.4%
Dawson	1.3%	10.1%	16.8%	71.8%	0.0%
Jasper	13.6%	25.8%	8.9%	47.7%	4.0%
Pike	5.9%	20.7%	9.4%	64.0%	0.0%
Oglethorpe	9.0%	26.1%	10.8%	54.2%	0.0%
All counties in CSA	0.4%	10.6%	16.2%	62.7%	10.1%

Table 6. Anthropogenic VOC emissions by county in the Atlanta CSA. Red values meet EPD thresholds.

County	voc	VOC % CSA	VOC % CSA	VOC Density	VOC Density %
	(tpy)	Total	Average	(tpy/sq mi)	CSA Average
Fulton	30,934	6.3%	147.3%	57.93	43.5%
Gwinnett	26,794	5.5%	114.2%	61.31	51.9%
Cobb	23,603	4.8%	88.7%	68.41	69.5%
DeKalb	21,988	4.5%	75.8%	81.14	101.0%
Hall	16,310	3.3%	30.4%	38.02	-5.8%
Meriwether	16,142	3.3%	29.0%	31.97	-20.8%
Troup	16,013	3.3%	28.0%	35.9	-11.1%
Bartow	15,601	3.2%	24.7%	33.19	-17.8%
Cherokee	15,509	3.2%	24.0%	35.73	-11.5%
Carroll	15,403	3.2%	23.1%	30.56	-24.3%
Coweta	14,826	3.0%	18.5%	33.24	-17.7%
Oglethorpe	13,694	2.8%	9.5%	30.98	-23.3%
Jasper	13,128	2.7%	4.9%	35.2	-12.8%
Upson	12,712	2.6%	1.6%	38.76	-4.0%
Paulding	11,592	2.4%	-7.3%	36.92	-8.6%
Morgan	11,579	2.4%	-7.4%	32.62	-19.2%
Henry	11,494	2.4%	-8.1%	35.15	-12.9%
Gordon	11,265	2.3%	-10.0%	31.47	-22.1%
Newton	11,071	2.3%	-11.5%	39.68	-1.7%
Polk	11,022	2.3%	-11.9%	35.33	-12.5%
Clayton	10,996	2.3%	-12.1%	76.36	89.1%
Heard	10,796	2.2%	-13.7%	35.87	-11.2%
Walton	10,651	2.2%	-14.9%	32.27	-20.1%
Forsyth	10,553	2.2%	-15.6%	42.72	5.8%
Haralson	10,351	2.1%	-17.3%	36.58	-9.4%
Jackson	10,230	2.1%	-18.2%	29.82	-26.1%
Douglas	9,660	2.0%	-22.8%	48.06	19.0%
Madison	8,938	1.8%	-28.5%	31.25	-22.6%
Pickens	8,649	1.8%	-30.9%	37.12	-8.1%
Fayette	8,554	1.8%	-31.6%	42.99	6.5%
Butts	8,162	1.7%	-34.8%	43.41	7.5%
Pike	8,059	1.7%	-35.6%	36.8	-8.9%
Clarke	7,829	1.6%	-37.4%	64.7	60.3%
Spalding	7,728	1.6%	-38.2%	38.64	-4.3%
Lamar	7,588	1.6%	-39.3%	40.8	1.0%
Dawson	7,555	1.5%	-39.6%	35.31	-12.6%
Barrow	7,132	1.5%	-43.0%	43.75	8.4%
Rockdale	7,010	1.4%	-44.0%	53.1	31.5%
Oconee	6,774	1.4%	-45.9%	36.42	-9.8%
Average	12,510			40.37	
Total	487,894	100.0%			

Table 7. Percent of anthropogenic VOC emissions by county and source categories in the Atlanta CSA.

County	Fires	Nonpoint	Nonroad	Onroad	Point
Fulton	0.0%	65.4%	9.6%	24.2%	0.8%
Gwinnett	0.0%	60.9%	14.3%	24.6%	0.3%
Cobb	0.0%	64.0%	12.6%	21.4%	2.1%
DeKalb	0.0%	62.2%	6.2%	25.8%	5.8%
Hall	0.0%	73.7%	9.9%	13.8%	2.6%
Meriwether	1.5%	94.6%	1.3%	2.2%	0.4%
Troup	0.7%	84.6%	4.7%	6.6%	3.5%
Bartow	0.1%	81.3%	4.7%	11.6%	2.2%
Cherokee	0.1%	84.0%	5.4%	10.3%	0.2%
Carroll	0.2%	84.1%	2.8%	11.1%	1.8%
Coweta	0.8%	88.5%	2.4%	7.6%	0.6%
Oglethorpe	0.9%	97.0%	0.6%	1.5%	0.0%
Jasper	1.5%	95.3%	0.7%	1.6%	0.9%
Upson	1.2%	92.8%	0.6%	3.0%	2.4%
Paulding	0.1%	88.8%	2.4%	8.7%	0.0%
Morgan	0.8%	90.5%	2.2%	4.2%	2.3%
Henry	0.1%	75.9%	5.0%	15.2%	3.8%
Gordon	0.1%	86.4%	4.1%	8.9%	0.5%
Newton	0.3%	80.4%	3.5%	12.1%	3.6%
Polk	0.3%	91.6%	0.9%	5.1%	2.1%
Clayton	0.1%	61.6%	14.4%	22.0%	1.9%
Heard	0.5%	94.2%	0.9%	1.6%	2.9%
Walton	0.2%	85.3%	2.7%	10.8%	0.9%
Forsyth	0.0%	73.8%	12.4%	11.9%	1.9%
Haralson	0.3%	90.5%	0.6%	5.0%	3.7%
Jackson	0.1%	85.4%	1.8%	10.7%	2.0%
Douglas	0.1%	85.5%	2.5%	11.9%	0.0%
Madison	0.3%	91.3%	2.3%	4.7%	1.5%
Pickens	0.2%	91.7%	2.7%	5.3%	0.0%
Fayette	0.0%	82.0%	6.0%	11.1%	0.8%
Butts	0.4%	92.6%	1.2%	5.8%	0.0%
Pike	0.9%	93.2%	2.6%	3.3%	0.0%
Clarke	0.0%	80.0%	3.4%	16.3%	0.3%
Spalding	0.4%	86.3%	1.7%	10.8%	0.8%
Lamar	0.3%	92.0%	0.7%	4.0%	3.1%
Dawson	0.3%	94.0%	1.5%	4.2%	0.0%
Barrow	0.1%	82.9%	2.4%	13.8%	0.8%
Rockdale	0.1%	83.1%	3.7%	10.6%	2.5%
Oconee	0.2%	89.5%	2.0%	8.3%	0.0%
All counties in CSA	0.3%	81.3%	5.0%	11.7%	1.6%

Population Density and VMT Data

EPD evaluated the population and vehicle use characteristics and trends in the Atlanta CSA. This information is a good indicator for nonpoint, on-road mobile, and non-road mobile source emissions. Areas of dense population and traffic usually are associated with higher nonpoint and mobile emissions, and may contribute to counties with violating ozone monitors. Rapid growth of population and VMT in a county indicates increasing integration with the core urban area.

2010 population data was obtained from the designation data provided by EPA³. 2013 population data was obtained from the Georgia statistics center⁴. Table 8 summarizes 2010 and 2013 population data, as well as population density and population trends. 2010 and 2013 population in five counties (Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, DeKalb, and Clayton) are each higher than 250,000 people. Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, DeKalb, and Clayton have a population density of more than 1,500 person/mi², and are more than triple (>200%) the CSA average population. The 2013-2010 increase in population is over 20,000 people in Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, and DeKalb which is more than 225% higher compared to the Atlanta CSA average. None of the other 34 counties in the Atlanta CSA meet any of these criteria. In total, population from Fulton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Cobb, and Clayton account for 57.4% of all people in the Atlanta CSA.

2011 vehicle miles traveled (VMT) data was obtained from the designation data provided by EPA². 2014 VMT data was developed by EPD as part of the 2014 NEI. Table 9 summarizes 2011 and 2014 VMT data. VMT from 6 counties (Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, DeKalb, Clayton, and Henry) are each higher than 2.2x10⁹ miles for 2011 and higher than 2.4x10⁹ miles for 2014. VMT from Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, DeKalb, Clayton, and Henry are each 30% higher compared to the Atlanta CSA average. None of the other 33 counties in the Atlanta CSA meet any of these criteria. In total, VMT from Fulton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Cobb, Clayton, and Henry account for 60.8% of all VMT in the Atlanta CSA.

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³ Download from https://www.epa.gov/ozone-designations/ozone-designations-guidance-and-data#F2.

⁴ http://georgiastats.uga.edu

 Table 8. Population and growth in the Atlanta CSA. Red values meet EPD thresholds.

	2010	2013	% CSA	2013	% CSA	2013-2010	% CSA Change
County	Population	Population	Total	Density	Average	Change	Average
Fulton	920,581	984,293	15.97%	1,843	261.5%	63,712	886.4%
Gwinnett	805,321	859,304	13.94%	1,966	285.6%	53,983	735.8%
Cobb	688,078	717,190	11.64%	2,079	307.7%	29,112	350.7%
DeKalb	691,893	713,340	11.58%	2,632	416.2%	21,447	232.1%
Clayton	259,424	264,220	4.29%	1,835	259.8%	4,796	-25.7%
Cherokee	214,346	225,106	3.65%	519	1.7%	10,760	66.6%
Henry	203,922	211,128	3.43%	646	26.6%	7,206	11.6%
Forsyth	175,511	195,405	3.17%	791	55.1%	19,894	208.0%
Hall	179,684	187,745	3.05%	438	-14.2%	8,061	24.8%
Paulding	142,324	146,950	2.38%	468	-8.2%	4,626	-28.4%
Douglas	132,403	136,379	2.21%	679	33.1%	3,976	-38.4%
Coweta	127,317	133,180	2.16%	299	-41.4%	5,863	-9.2%
Clarke	116,714	121,265	1.97%	1,002	96.5%	4,551	-29.5%
Carroll	110,527	112,355	1.82%	223	-56.3%	1,828	-71.7%
Fayette	106,567	108,365	1.76%	545	6.8%	1,798	-72.2%
Newton	99,958	102,446	1.66%	367	-28.0%	2,488	-61.5%
Bartow	100,157	101,273	1.64%	215	-57.7%	1,116	-82.7%
Rockdale	85,215	86,919	1.41%	658	29.1%	1,704	-73.6%
Walton	83,768	85,754	1.39%	260	-49.0%	1,986	-69.3%
Barrow	69,367	71,453	1.16%	438	-14.0%	2,086	-67.7%
Troup	67,044	69,053	1.12%	155	-69.6%	2,009	-68.9%
Spalding	64,073	63,829	1.04%	319	-37.4%	-244	-103.8%
Jackson	60,485	61,044	0.99%	178	-65.1%	559	-91.3%
Gordon	55,186	55,757	0.90%	156	-69.5%	571	-91.2%
Polk	41,475	41,183	0.67%	132	-74.1%	-292	-104.5%
Oconee	32,808	34,035	0.55%	183	-64.1%	1,227	-81.0%
Pickens	29,431	29,584	0.48%	127	-75.1%	153	-97.6%
Haralson	28,780	28,495	0.46%	101	-80.3%	-285	-104.4%
Madison	28,120	28,057	0.46%	98	-80.8%	-63	-101.0%
Upson	27,153	26,566	0.43%	81	-84.1%	-587	-109.1%
Butts	23,655	23,361	0.38%	124	-75.6%	-294	-104.6%
Dawson	22,330	22,686	0.37%	106	-79.2%	356	-94.5%
Meriwet	21,992	21,232	0.34%	42	-91.8%	-760	-111.8%
Lamar	18,317	17,959	0.29%	97	-81.1%	-358	-105.5%
Pike	17,869	17,796	0.29%	81	-84.1%	-73	-101.1%
Morgan	17,868	17,781	0.29%	50	-90.2%	-87	-101.3%
Oglethor	14,899	14,548	0.24%	33	-93.5%	-351	-105.4%
Jasper	13,900	13,601	0.22%	36	-92.8%	-299	-104.6%
Heard	11,834	11,558	0.19%	38	-92.5%	-276	-104.3%
Average	151,546	158,005		509		6,459	
Total	5,910,296	6,162,195	100%				

Table 9. VMT data in the Atlanta CSA. Red values meet EPD thresholds.

County	2011 VMT (10 ⁶)	2014 VMT (10 ⁶)	% Total CSA	% CSA Average
Fulton	12,222	13,389	18.79%	632.67%
Gwinnett	7,422	8,655	12.14%	373.61%
Cobb	6,617	8,029	11.27%	339.35%
DeKalb	7,644	7,956	11.16%	335.37%
Clayton	2,881	2,834	3.98%	55.06%
Henry	2,215	2,441	3.42%	33.56%
Forsyth	1,690	2,124	2.98%	16.23%
Cherokee	1,872	2,119	2.97%	15.96%
Hall	1,762	2,067	2.90%	13.14%
Bartow	1,651	1,908	2.68%	4.42%
Douglas	1,588	1,758	2.47%	-3.82%
Coweta	1,460	1,699	2.38%	-7.02%
Carroll	1,249	1,602	2.25%	-12.31%
Paulding	940	1,179	1.65%	-35.48%
Newton	870	1,108	1.56%	-39.35%
Rockdale	985	1,089	1.53%	-40.40%
Fayette	888	1,040	1.46%	-43.09%
Clarke	952	1,038	1.46%	-43.22%
Jackson	930	1,026	1.44%	-43.87%
Troup	969	976	1.37%	-46.59%
Walton	698	906	1.27%	-50.42%
Barrow	704	858	1.20%	-53.04%
Gordon	798	773	1.08%	-57.69%
Spalding	550	677	0.95%	-62.93%
Oconee	478	477	0.67%	-73.90%
Morgan	465	457	0.64%	-75.01%
Polk	377	366	0.51%	-80.00%
Haralson	343	338	0.47%	-81.50%
Butts	333	334	0.47%	-81.70%
Pickens	315	315	0.44%	-82.79%
Meriwether	297	278	0.39%	-84.76%
Madison	287	265	0.37%	-85.48%
Dawson	220	232	0.32%	-87.33%
Lamar	248	226	0.32%	-87.65%
Upson	249	219	0.31%	-88.02%
Pike	168	158	0.22%	-91.33%
Oglethorpe	140	125	0.18%	-93.16%
Jasper	136	121	0.17%	-93.38%
Heard	124	107	0.15%	-94.13%
Average	1,634	1,827		
Total	63,736	71,268	100.00%	

Factor 3: Meteorological Data

Meteorological impacts on violating monitors were evaluated using the Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory Model (HYSPLIT) modeling results provided by EPA⁵.

24-hour back-trajectories were created for all exceedance days (> 70 ppb) at each violating ozone monitor from 2013-2014 (Figures 2 - 6). Back-trajectories were developed for three different heights: 1000 meters (green), 500 meters (blue), and 100-meters (red). For the South DeKalb monitor (13-089-0002), the majority of the back-trajectories pass over DeKalb, Fulton, and Cobb counties. For the Confederate Avenue monitor (13-121-0055), the majority of the back-trajectories pass over DeKalb, Fulton, Cobb, and Bartow counties. For the Gwinnett Tech monitor (13-135-0002), the majority of the back-trajectories pass over Henry, DeKalb, Fulton, Cobb, Clayton, and Bartow counties. For the Conyers monitor (13-247-0001), the majority of the back-trajectories pass over Rockdale, DeKalb, Fulton, and Cobb counties.

Factor 4: Geography/Topography

This factor did not play a significant role in this evaluation of the Atlanta CSA since it does not have any geographical or topographical barriers significantly limiting air pollution transport within its air shed.

Factor 5: Jurisdictional Boundaries

All counties discussed in this technical analysis are within Georgia and fall within the jurisdiction of GA EPD. The Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Gainesville CBSA has previously established nonattainment boundaries associated with both the 1-hour and the 8-hour ozone NAAQS (Table 10).

Table 10. Nonattainment counties associated with the 1-hour, 1997 8-hour, and the 2008 8-hour ozone standards.

Atlanta nonattainment boundary	Atlanta nonattainment boundary	Atlanta nonattainment boundary
for the 1-hour ozone standard	for the 1997 8-hour ozone standard	for the 2008 8-hour ozone standard
Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta,	Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Cherokee,	Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb,
DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth,	Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb,	Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette,
Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding,	Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton,	Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry,
and Rockdale.	Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Newton,	Newton, Paulding, and Rockdale.
	Paulding, Rockdale, Spalding, and	
	Walton.	

⁵ Download from https://www.epa.gov/ozone-designations/ozone-designations-guidance-and-data#F2.

EPA Ozone Designations Mapping Tool - 130890002 HYSPLIT

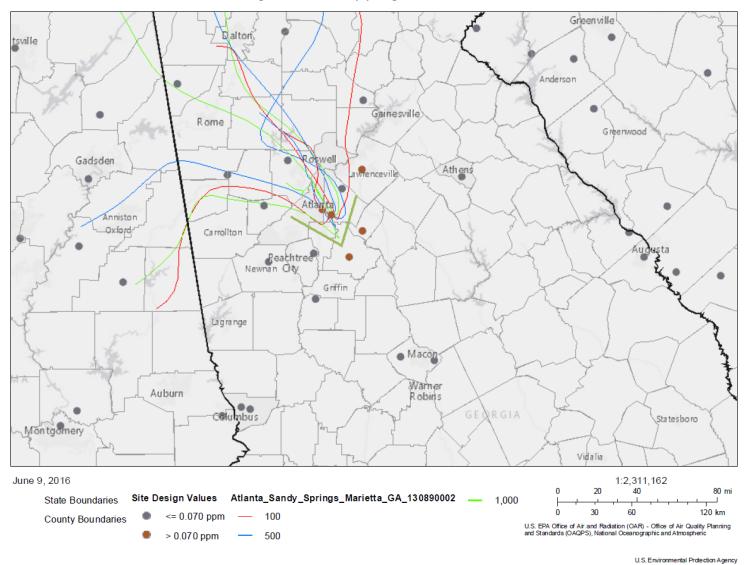


Figure 2. HYSPLIT modeling results for ozone exceedance days in 2013-2014 at the South DeKalb monitor (13-089-0002) in DeKalb County.

EPA Ozone Designations Mapping Tool - 131210055 HYSPLIT

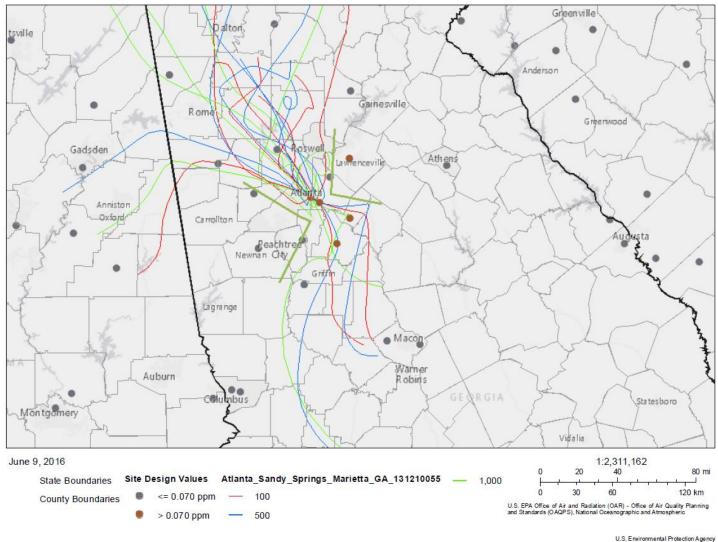


Figure 3. HYSPLIT modeling results for ozone exceedance days in 2013-2014 at the Confederate Avenue monitor (13-121-0055) in Fulton County.

EPA Ozone Designations Mapping Tool - 131350002 HYSPLIT

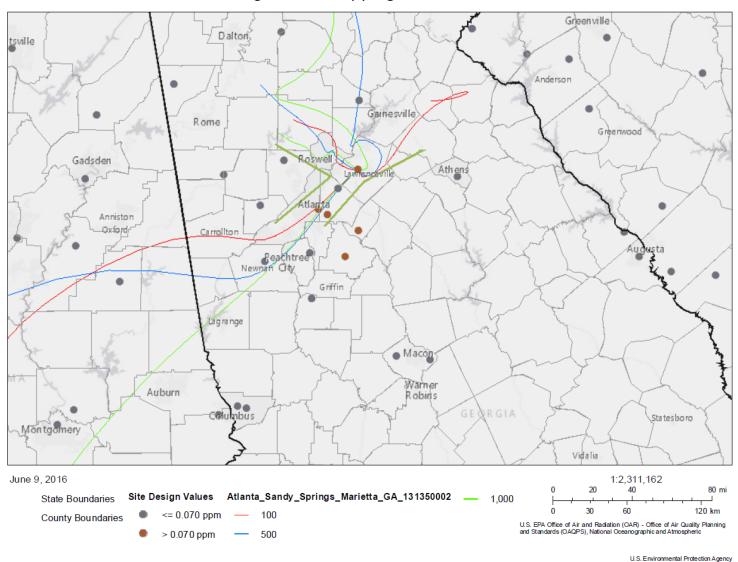


Figure 4. HYSPLIT modeling results for ozone exceedance days in 2013-2014 at the Gwinnett Tech monitor (13-135-0002) in Gwinnett County.

EPA Ozone Designations Mapping Tool - 131510002 HYSPLIT

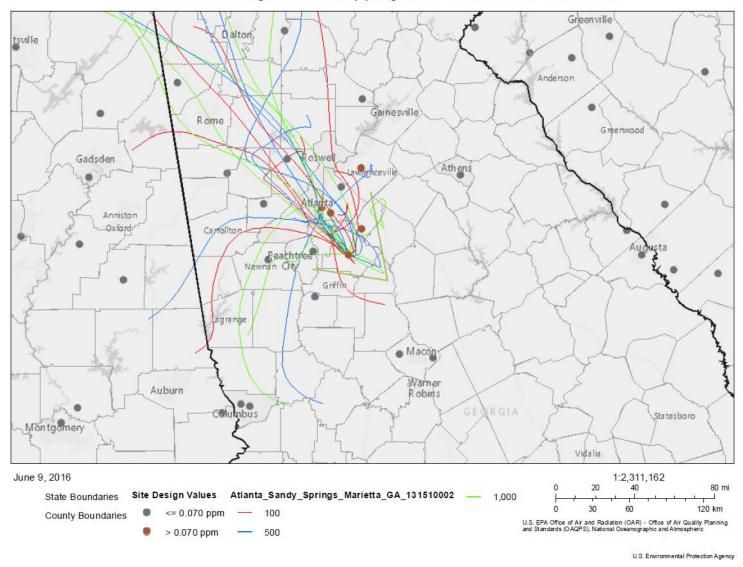


Figure 5. HYSPLIT modeling results for ozone exceedance days in 2013-2014 at the McDonough monitor (13-151-0002) in Henry County.

EPA Ozone Designations Mapping Tool - 132470001 HYSPLIT

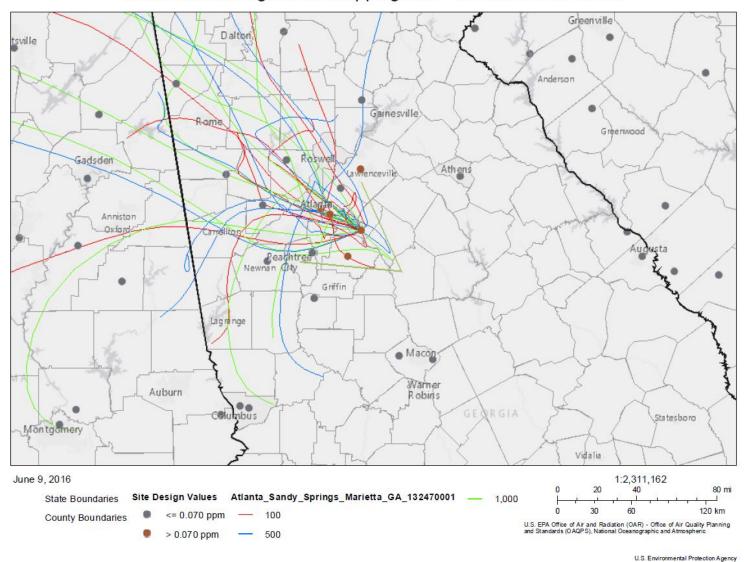


Figure 6. HYSPLIT modeling results for ozone exceedance days in 2013-2014 at the Conyers monitor (13-247-0001) in Rockdale County

Source Apportionment with CAMx-APCA

EPA's designation guidance memo states that source apportionment modeling can be used as part of the initial area designation process. EPD applied the Comprehensive Air Quality Model with eXtensions (CAMx) model⁶ (version 6.2) with its Anthropogenic Precursor Culpability Assessment (APCA) tool to determine the contribution of each of the 39 counties in the Atlanta CSA to the five violating ozone monitors. EPD used a similar approach with CAMx-APCA as EPA used for the proposed Cross-State Air Pollution Rule modeling⁷ (hereafter, Transport Rule Modeling).

EPD conducted the CAMx-APCA run for the ozone season from April 1 to October 31 using 2017 projected emissions and 2011 meteorology on a 12-km grid centered on the Atlanta CSA and covering most of Georgia and parts of neighboring states (Figure 7). The year 2017 was chosen since EPA's designations will be finalized by October 1, 2017 and high-quality modeling data used for EPA's Transport Rule Modeling was readily available. EPD also conducted 2011 modeling to evaluate model performance. EPD conducted Sparse Matrix Object Kernel Emission (SMOKE) modeling for 2017 emissions to tag anthropogenic emissions from each of the 39 counties in the Atlanta CSA as an individual source region; anthropogenic emissions from all other counties in the modeling domain were tagged as the "other" region, and emissions from biogenic sources, wildfires, and prescribed burning were tagged as the "biogenic" source group. The 2017 emissions used for the Transport Rule Modeling were updated to include more accurate 2017 EGU emission projections based on information that EPD sent to EPA as part of Georgia's comments on the Transport Rule NODA. Additional details on the SMOKE, CAMx, and CAMx-APCA modeling can be found in the attached modeling technical support document.

This modeling combines the first four factors discussed of the five-factor analysis into a single contribution value for each county (Table 11). A contribution threshold of 1.0 ppb was used to determine which counties significantly contribute to the violating monitors. The 1.0 ppb threshold was chosen because it is EPA's recently proposed significant impact level for single source PSD modeling⁸. The following counties had more than a 1.0 ppb impact on a violating ozone monitor: Fulton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Cobb, Bartow, Clayton, and Henry.

⁶ Environ, CAMx Overview, http://www.camx.com/about/default.aspx

⁷ EPA, Proposed Cross-State Air Pollution Update Rule, https://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/proposed-cross-state-air-pollution-update-rule

⁸ EPA, 2016. Draft Guidance on Significant Impact Levels for Ozone and Fine Particles in the Prevention of Significant Deterioration Permitting Program.

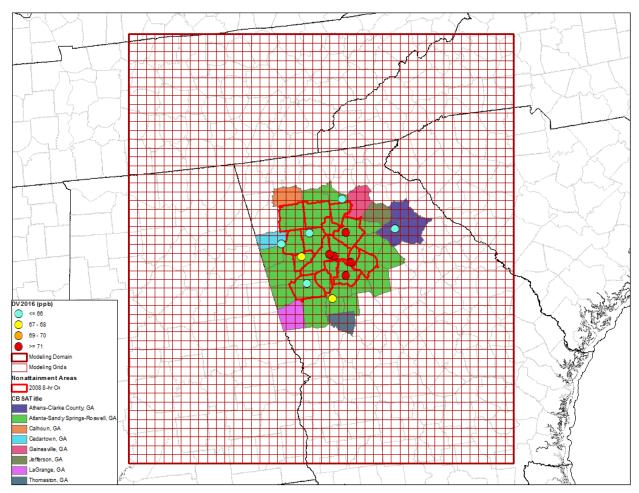


Figure 7. GA EPD's modeling domain for the source contribution assessment. Also shown are the preliminary 2014-2016 design values, nonattainment counties for the 2008 ozone NAAQS, and the Atlanta CSA broken down by CBSAs.

Table 11. Contributions of 39 counties in the Atlanta CSA to violating ozone monitors. Red values indicate more than 1.0 ppb contribution to a violating ozone monitor.

	Confederate Ave.	Conyers	McDonough	Gwinnett Tech	South DeKalb
Monitor	(13-121-0055)	(13-247-0001)	(13-151-0002)	(13-135-0002)	(13-089-0002)
Barrow	0.12	0.06	0.10	0.23	0.10
Bartow	1.17	0.77	0.97	1.45	0.96
Butts	0.04	0.07	0.14	0.02	0.04
Carroll	0.24	0.33	0.15	0.09	0.26
Cherokee	0.40	0.30	0.36	0.64	0.33
Clarke	0.08	0.03	0.10	0.09	0.08
Clayton	3.54	4.22	3.85	0.68	3.26
Cobb	2.69	1.50	1.72	2.49	2.05
Coweta	0.24	0.38	0.29	0.14	0.23
Dawson	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03
DeKalb	3.04	3.07	3.17	2.33	5.56
Douglas	0.68	0.41	0.33	0.16	0.55
Fayette	0.21	0.31	0.40	0.07	0.18
Forsyth	0.29	0.26	0.24	0.78	0.24
Fulton	8.74	4.12	4.07	3.92	5.98
Gordon	0.15	0.11	0.14	0.07	0.13
Gwinnett	1.71	1.93	1.60	8.25	1.58
Hall	0.26	0.18	0.16	0.61	0.19
Haralson	0.07	0.10	0.03	0.04	0.09
Heard	0.14	0.26	0.16	0.09	0.15
Henry	0.55	2.65	4.08	0.26	0.88
Jackson	0.16	0.07	0.12	0.29	0.13
Jasper	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01
Lamar	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01
Madison	0.07	0.03	0.07	0.11	0.07
Meriwether	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Morgan	0.06	0.02	0.08	0.03	0.06
Newton	0.17	0.29	0.34	0.06	0.21
Oconee	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.04	0.04
Oglethorpe	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paulding	0.35	0.20	0.22	0.20	0.29
Pickens	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.05
Pike	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Polk	0.09	0.06	0.05	0.07	0.08
Rockdale	0.23	0.95	0.41	0.09	0.31
Spalding	0.04	0.10	0.15	0.03	0.05
Troup	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04
Upson	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Walton	0.16	0.09	0.20	0.14	0.17

Summary and Recommendations

EPD performed a detailed analysis that considered EPA's five factors. In addition, EPD performed source contribution modeling with CAMx-APCA. A summary of the factors that were evaluated for the Atlanta CSA are contained in Table 12. Based on this analysis, EPD recommends that the following eight (8) counties be designated as **nonattainment** for the 2015 ozone NAAQS (Figure 8):

- Fulton (based on Factors 1, 2, 3, 5, and CAMx-APCA);
- **Gwinnett** (based on Factors 1, 2, 3, 5, and CAMx-APCA);
- **DeKalb** (based on Factors 1, 2, 3, 5, and CAMx-APCA);
- **Cobb** (based on Factors 2, 3, 5, and CAMx-APCA);
- Bartow (based on Factors 2, 3, 5, and CAMx-APCA);
- Clayton (based on Factors 2, 3, 5, and CAMx-APCA);
- Henry (based on Factors 1, 2, 3, 5, and CAMx-APCA); and
- **Rockdale** (based on Factors 1, 3, and 5).

The remaining 151 counties in Georgia are recommended as unclassifiable/attainment.

Table 12. Summary of the Atlanta CSA counties exceeding EPD thresholds for various factors.

County	Air Quality	NOx	VOCs				CAMx-APCA
,	Data	Emissions	Emissions	Population	VMT	HYSPLIT	Source
	(Factor 1)	(Factor 2)	(Factor 2)	(Factor 2)	(Factor 2)	(Factor 3)	Contribution
Barrow	,	,	,	,	,	, ,	
Bartow		X				X	X
Butts							
Carroll							
Cherokee							
Clarke							
Clayton		X	X	X	X	Х	X
Cobb		X	X	X	X	X	X
Coweta							
Dawson							
DeKalb	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Douglas							
Fayette							
Forsyth							
Fulton	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gordon							
Gwinnett	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hall							
Haralson							
Heard							
Henry	X				X	X	X
Jackson							
Jasper							
Lamar							
Madison							
Meriweth							
Morgan							
Newton							
Oconee							
Oglethorp							
Paulding							
Pickens							
Pike							
Polk							
Rockdale	X					X	
Spalding							
Troup							
Upson							
Walton							

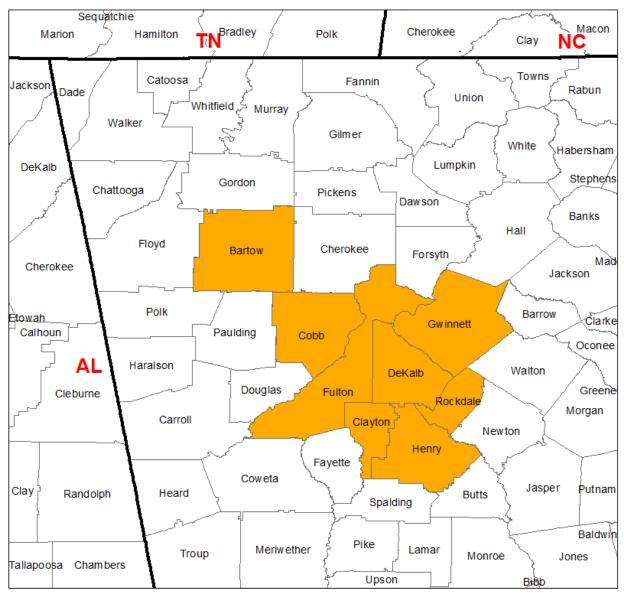


Figure 8. Map of eight counties (orange shading) in the Atlanta CSA recommended by EPD as nonattainment for the 2015 ozone NAAQS.