

Comparison of HK AQO and Air Quality Standards of other Countries/Authorities (in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Pollutant	Averaging Time	HK AQO (1)	Korea's Air Quality Standards	Japan's Air Quality Standards (2)	Singapore's Air Quality Standards (3)	USEPA NAAQS	EU Limit Values	WHO AQGs
Examples of cities/areas adopting the standards		Hong Kong	Seoul	Tokyo	Singapore	New York	London	There are no countries/cities completely adopting the WHO 2005 Global Update guidelines at present
Sulphur Dioxide	10-minute	-	-	-		-	-	500 ⁽⁴⁾
	1-hour	800 (3 exceedances per year)	390 (<0.15 ppm)	262 (0.1 ppm)		-	350 (24 exceedances per year; To be achieved by 1.1.2005)	-
	24-hour	350 (1 exceedance per year)	130 (<0.05 ppm)	105 (0.04 ppm)		365 (1 exceedance per year)	125 (3 exceedances per year; To be achieved by 1.1.2005)	20 (IT-1: 125, IT-2: 50) ⁽⁴⁾
	Annual	80	52 (<0.02 ppm)	-		80	-	-

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Examples of cities/areas adopting the standards		Hong Kong	Seoul	Tokyo	Singapore	New York	London	There are no countries/cities completely adopting the WHO 2005 Global Update guidelines at present
Respirable Suspended Particulate (PM10)	24-hour	180 (1 exceedance per year)	<150	100		150 (1 exceedance per year)	50 (Stage I: 35 exceedances per year; To be achieved by 1.1.2005) (Stage II: 7 exceedances per year; To be achieved by 1.1.2010)	50 (IT-1: 150, IT-2: 100, IT-3: 75) ⁽⁴⁾
	Annual	55	<70	-		Revoked	40 (To be achieved by 1.1.2005) 20 (To be achieved by 1.1.2010)	20 (IT-1: 70, IT-2: 50, IT-3: 30) ⁽⁴⁾

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Examples of cities/areas adopting the standards		Hong Kong	Seoul	Tokyo	Singapore	New York	London	There are no countries/cities completely adopting the WHO 2005 Global Update guidelines at present
	24-hour	-	-	-		35 (3-year average of the 98th percentile of 24-hour concentration; To be achieved by 1.4.2015 or 1.4.2020 for those areas with extension approved)	-	25 (IT-1: 75, IT-2: 50, IT-3: 37.5) ⁽⁴⁾

Pollutant	Averaging Time	HK AQO ⁽¹⁾	Korea's Air Quality Standards	Japan's Air Quality Standards ⁽²⁾	Singapore's Air Quality Standards ⁽³⁾	USEPA NAAQS	EU Limit Values	WHO AQGs
Examples of cities/areas adopting the standards		Hong Kong	Seoul	Tokyo	Singapore	New York	London	There are no countries/cities completely adopting the WHO 2005 Global Update guidelines at present
Fine Suspended Particulate (PM _{2.5})	Annual	-	-	-		15 (3-year average of the weighted annual mean; To be achieved by 1.4.2010 or 1.4.2015 for those areas with extension approved)	Proposed New EU Limit Values for PM _{2.5} 20 (To be met by 1.1.2015)	10 (IT-1: 35, IT-2: 25, IT-3: 15) ⁽⁴⁾
Nitrogen Dioxide	1-hour	300 (3 exceedances per year)	282 (<0.15 ppm)	-		-	200 (18 exceedances per year; To be achieved by 1.1.2010)	200 ⁽⁴⁾
	24-hour	150 (1 exceedance per year)	150 (<0.08 ppm)	75 – 113 (0.04 -0.06 ppm)		-	-	-

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Examples of cities/areas adopting the standards		Hong Kong	Seoul	Tokyo	Singapore	New York	London	There are no countries/cities completely adopting the WHO 2005 Global Update guidelines at present
	Annual	80	94 (<0.05 ppm)	-		100	40 (To be achieved by 1.1.2010)	40 ⁽⁴⁾
Ozone	1-hour	240 (3 exceedances per year)	200 (<0.1 ppm)	120 (0.06 ppm)		238 (USEPA revoked this standard on 15.6.2005 in all except 14 areas)		-

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Examples of cities/areas adopting the standards		Hong Kong	Seoul	Tokyo	Singapore	New York	London	There are no countries/cities completely adopting the WHO 2005 Global Update guidelines at present
	8-hour	-	120 (<0.06 ppm)	-		160 (3-year average of the fourth highest daily maximum 8-hour concentration To be achieved (i) within 5-10 years after designation taken effect on 15.6.2004; or (ii) 2007-2021 for the 14 non-attainment areas of 1-hour standard)	120 (Target value; 25 exceedances per year averaged over 3 years; To be achieved by 1.1.2010)	100 (High levels: 240, IT-1: 160) ⁽⁴⁾
Carbon Monoxide	15-minute	-	-	-		-	-	100,000
	30-minute	-	-	-		-	-	60,000

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Examples of cities/areas adopting the standards		Hong Kong	Seoul	Tokyo	Singapore	New York	London	There are no countries/cities completely adopting the WHO 2005 Global Update guidelines at present
	1-hour	30,000 (3 exceedances per year)	29,000 (<25 ppm)	23,000 (20 ppm)		40,000 (1 exceedance per year)	-	30,000
	8-hour	10,000 (1 exceedance per year)	10,000 (<9 ppm)	-		10,000 (1 exceedance per year)	10,000 (To be achieved by 1.1.2005)	10,000
Lead	3-month	1.5	-	-		1.5	-	-
	Annual	-	<0.5	-		-	0.5 (To be achieved by 1.1.2005)	0.5

Notes:

- (1) HKAQO for Total Suspended Particulate has not been included in the above table as other countries do not have such a standard for comparison.
- (2) Japan's Air Quality Standards, no exceedance allowed. Japan has also established the following standards with averaging times not commonly used by other countries/cities:
 - Respirable Suspended Particulates (PM-10) (1-h): 200 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
 - Carbon Monoxide (24-h): 11,500 (10 ppm)
- (3) Singapore does not have its own standards but just follows USEPA's standards.
- (4) WHO Air Quality Guidelines 2005 Global Update as announced by the WHO on 5 October 2006. IT stands for interim target.