

WAC 296-820-815 Identification of harmful exposures. The employer must determine the current PM_{2.5} for worksites covered by WAC 296-820-805 through 296-820-860 periodically as needed. The employer may use any of the following methods to determine employee exposures such that they are able to comply with the requirements in WAC 296-820-805 through 296-820-860:

(1) Check PM_{2.5} forecasts and the current PM_{2.5} from any of the following:

- (a) Washington department of ecology website;
- (b) Air Quality WA mobile app;
- (c) Washington smoke information website;
- (d) U.S. EPA Fire and Smoke Map;
- (e) U.S. EPA AirNow website;
- (f) U.S. EPA AirNow mobile app;
- (g) U.S. Forest Service AirFire website; or
- (h) Local clean air agency website.

(2) Obtain PM_{2.5} forecasts and the current PM_{2.5} directly from the Washington state department of ecology, U.S. EPA, U.S. EPA EnviroFlash.info, or local clean air agency by telephone, email, text, or other effective method; or

(3) Measure current PM_{2.5} levels at the work location in accordance with WAC 296-820-845.

The following table indicates the NowCast AQI values that may be used from the Washington state department of ecology, local clean air agency, or EPA to comply with this section:

CURRENT PM _{2.5}	NOWCAST AIR QUALITY INDEX FOR PM _{2.5} (AQI)
20.5 µg/m ³	69
35.5 µg/m ³	101
250.5 µg/m ³	301
500.4 µg/m ³	500
555 µg/m ³	Beyond the AQI

- Notes:
- The current PM_{2.5} is updated hourly.
 - Employers are not responsible for tracking employee exposures outside of working hours.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060, and chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 24-01-070, § 296-820-815, filed 12/14/23, effective 1/15/24.]