

As an example of the information from this file, a sample state and county are provided.

To assist in examining the historical emission trends on a regional scale, tables have been prepared in which the states are grouped according to the appropriate EPA regional offices (Regions I through V). Trends in SO_x and NO_x emissions for each state along with a summary for each grouping of the states (by regional office) are shown in the tables.

The current emission rates reported here for the United States are based on estimates of actual rates for numerous sectors of the economy. The values used in this summary are taken from National Air Pollution Emission Estimates (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). Basically, the methodology for deriving these estimates used an inventory of sources, determinations of fuel consumption, and air pollution emission factors.

The inventory of sources, and associated fuel consumption rates, were taken from the National Emissions Data System (NEDS). The data in NEDS were provided by State agencies as an inventory of sources for each state. NEDS is constantly being updated and the version used here reflects values for 1978. However, NEDS is not complete and some source categories are more accurate than others. Estimates of the accuracy of this information are unavailable at this time.

The emissions factors used in developing these emission estimates are from the U.S. EPA report AP-42. The emission factor is an average estimate of the rate at which a pollutant is released to the atmosphere as a result of some activity. The emission factors are estimates based on source testing, process material balances, and engineering appraisals. As a result, some emission factors are more accurate than others. In general, the emission factors are more often applied to regional or national emission estimates, than to single source estimates where the inaccuracies would be considerable.

SO₂ and NO_x emissions are shown on a state-by-state basis in the table. Only 33 states are represented in the table. Data for the 15 Western States and Alaska and Hawaii are unavailable at this time. The values in table represent 80% of the SO₂ and 76% of the NO_x emissions for the entire United States.

The emissions estimates can be further disaggregated to show emissions by source category for each state.