



Fact Sheet

AirNow API

[Home](#)[Web Services](#)[Data Feeds](#)[File Products](#)[FAQ](#)[Air Quality 101](#)

AirNow API

The Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow API (AirNowAPI.org) is for software developers, researchers, the media, and the public to retrieve air quality forecasts and data in real time. The AirNow API suite of tools includes web services, data feeds, and other files.

An AirNow API account is required to access these services and feeds. Sign up for an account on the [Log In](#) page to get started. You will receive an email with a confirmation code needed to activate your account. After you create and activate your account, please note that your API key will be in the upper right corner of the [Web Services](#) page if needed.

Home

Find information about the AirNow API website and [partner agencies](#) on the Home page. Any important information regarding AirNow web services or data feeds is posted here, such as planned maintenance periods.

FAQ

Find answers, definitions of common AirNow terminology, and recommendations in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section, including how to use the AirNow API to extract the data of interest to you.

Contact us at dmc@airnowtech.org if you have a question that is not answered.

Air Quality 101

Learn the basics in the Air Quality 101 section, including information on the Air Quality Index (AQI) categories and how real-time air quality data are reported.

Contacts

AirNow Data Management Center (DMC)

dmc@airnowtech.org

Web Services

Obtain the latest U.S. air quality data and forecasts. Data are available for a specific Zip Code or geographic coordinates (latitude/longitude). The **Documentation** sub-page for each web service defines the input and output parameters.

Available web services include:

- **Forecasts:** Air quality forecasts and action days issued by air quality agencies.
- **Observations by Monitoring Site:** Current and historical air quality observations by monitoring site.
- **Current Observations by Reporting Area:** Real-time air quality observations (NowCast AQI) for each pollutant measured by reporting areas – cities or other reporting areas defined by air quality agencies.
- **Historical Observations by Reporting Area:** Historical air quality observations (daily AQI) for each pollutant measured by reporting areas.
- **Contour Maps:** Current or historical AQI-colored spatial polygons – PM2.5, Ozone, or combined pollutants.

Use the **Query Tool** to generate a URL and return output.

Observations by Monitoring Site Query

1 Start

2021-12-02 UTC

End: 2021-12-02 UTC

Bounding Box (degrees)

Max Y: 38.988796

Min X: -77.19610 Max X: -76.88848

Min Y: 38.792119

Parameters

Ozone (O3)

PM_{2.5}

PM₁₀

CO

NO₂

SO₂

Monitor Type: 0 (Permanent Monitors Only)

Data Type: A (AQI)


Format: text/csv

Verbose: Yes No

Include Raw: Yes No

Concentration: Yes No

Build



○ Navigate ● Draw Box

2 Generated URL

```
https://www.airnowapi.org/aq/data/?startDate=2021-12-02T05:00&endDate=2021-12-02T20:00&parameters=PM25&BBOX=-77.196101,38.792119,-76.888484,38.988796&dataType=A&format=text/csv&verbose=1&monitorType=0&includerawconcentrations=0&API_KEY=
```

Run

3 Output

```
"38.921848",-77.013176,"2021-12-02T05:00","PM2.5","31","1","McMillan Reservoir","District of Columbia - Department of Energy and Environment","110010043","840110010043"
"38.875161",-77.012816,"2021-12-02T05:00","PM2.5","38","1","King Greenleaf Rec Center","District of Columbia - Department of Energy and Environment","840110010053","840110010053"
"38.895683",-76.958089,"2021-12-02T05:00","PM2.5","31","1","RIVER Terrace","District of Columbia - Department of Energy and Environment","110010041","840110010041"
"38.894749",-76.953427,"2021-12-02T05:00","PM2.5","34","1","DCNearRoad","District of Columbia - Department of Energy and Environment","110010051","840110010051"
```

Output can be returned on the page (click **Build**, then **Run**) or can be exported using the Generated URL. Data can be returned in CSV, JSON, or XML formats.



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[Home](#)[Web Services](#)[Data Feeds](#)[File Products](#)[FAQ](#)[Air Quality 101](#)

Data Feeds

Access data using RSS feeds. Data options include air quality forecasts, action days, or current conditions for a reporting area.

AirNow API - Data Feeds

RSS feeds are grouped by state and available by reporting area. Select a state to begin.

State:

City	Forecast RSS	Action Day RSS	Current Conditions RSS
Narragansett			
Newport			
Providence			
West Greenwich			

File Products

Access to several types of air quality data products and formats are available from <http://files.airnowtech.org>. Fact Sheets for file products can be found on the [File Products](#) page of the AirNow API.

We typically recommend the use of file products over the Web Services when an AirNow user needs to extract data across a large time period and/or geographic area.

If no file product or web service meets your needs, please contact us with the following information:

1. The geographic region, dates/years, and pollutants of interest.
2. Parameters of interest: forecasts, daily AQI observations, hourly (NowCast) AQI values, or raw concentrations.
3. For AQI data only: Monitoring site-level (not aggregated) or city/reporting area-level (aggregated).

Contacts

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dmc@airnowtech.org