Air Quality Summary | May 2021



Central Ohio

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission provides daily air quality forecasts and issues Air Quality Alerts to help you plan ahead and protect your health. For free Air Quality Alerts and more information please visit:

www.morcp.org/airquality

Air quality conditions in Columbus for May 2021 were worse than those observed in May 2020, and slightly better than those observed in May 2019.

Central Ohio experienced two vastly different weather regimes during the month of May. During the first half of the month, frequent storm systems enhanced dispersion and also brought cloudy skies and below-normal temperatures, which limited ozone production. Then, the weather pattern shifted for the second half of May, with a ridge of high pressure aloft producing above-normal temperatures and mainly dry conditions across the Buckeye State. These conditions enhanced ozone production, leading to 8 days of Moderate AQI levels. The maximum AQI values in the Columbus region occurred on May 21 and May 25, with high temperatures near 90°F and light southwesterly winds transporting regional pollutants into central Ohio.

