



AIR QUALITY PROGRAM UPDATES: 2023 END OF SEASON REPORT, EPA PROJECT, AND NEW AIR QUALITY STANDARD

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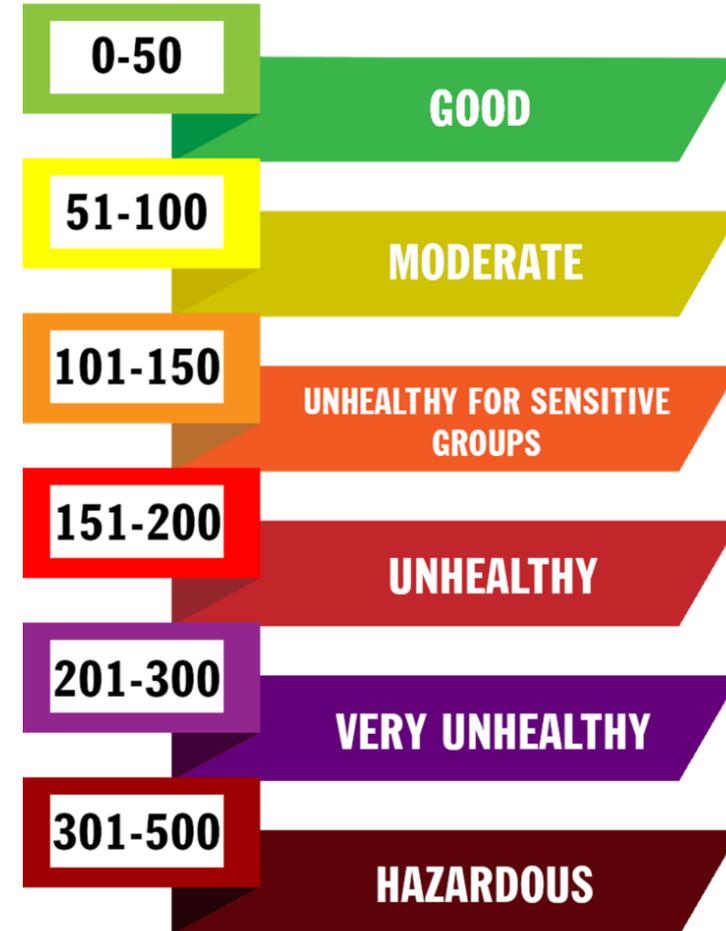
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2023 END OF SEASON REPORT



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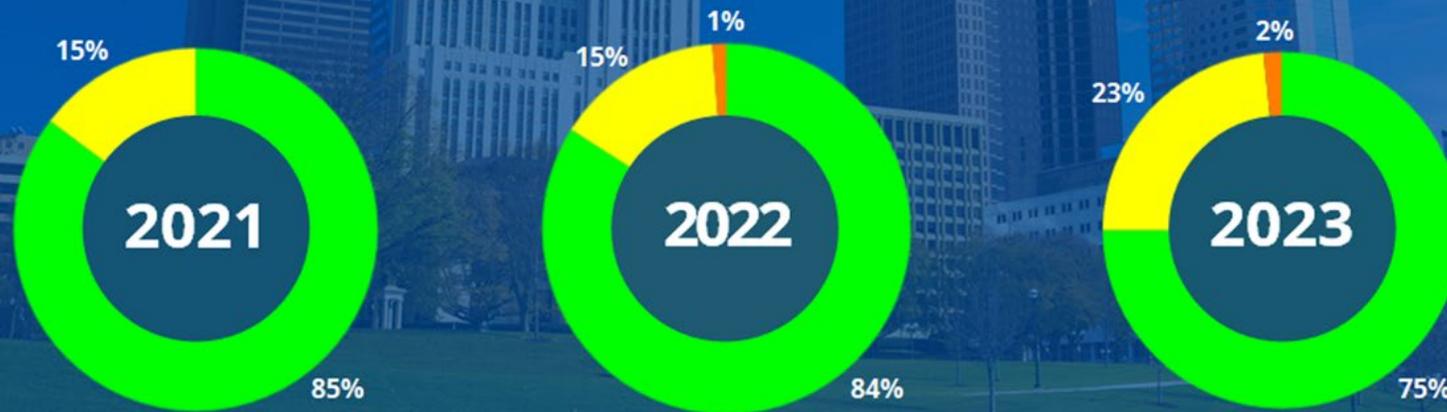
- **Release date: March 1** (start of 2024 ozone monitoring season)
- **11 air quality alerts issued**
 - PM 2.5 was the primary pollutant of concern on 9 of the occasions
- **Ozone: Four days with Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups Air Quality Index (AQI) levels** were observed during the ozone forecast season - the most recorded since 2016.
- **PM2.5: Two days with Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI levels and three days with Unhealthy AQI levels – it's been 12 years we've seen this category in the Columbus Region.**



Percentage of Days at Each AQI Category—PM_{2.5} (November 2022-October 2023)



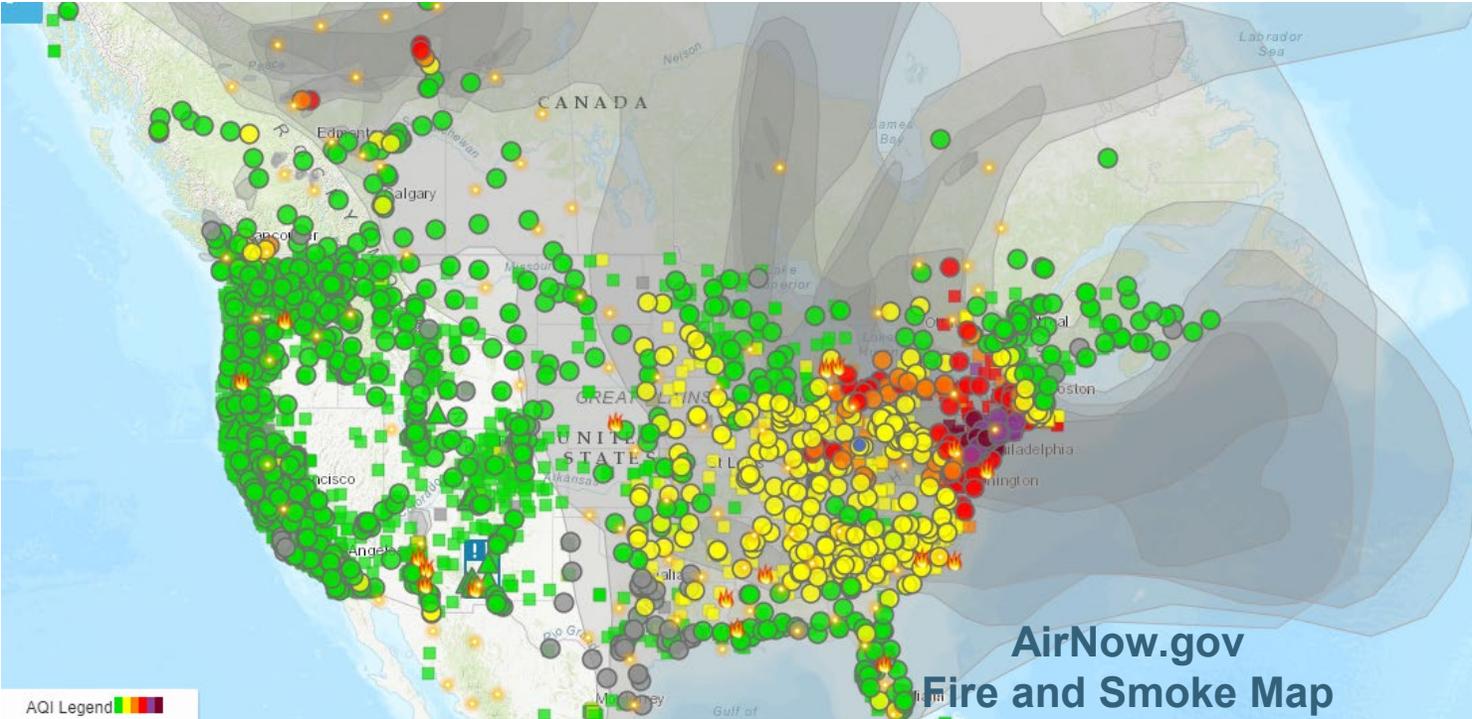
Percentage of Days at Each AQI Category—Summertime Ozone (March-October 2023)



WILDFIRE EFFECTS ON COLUMBUS AIR QUALITY



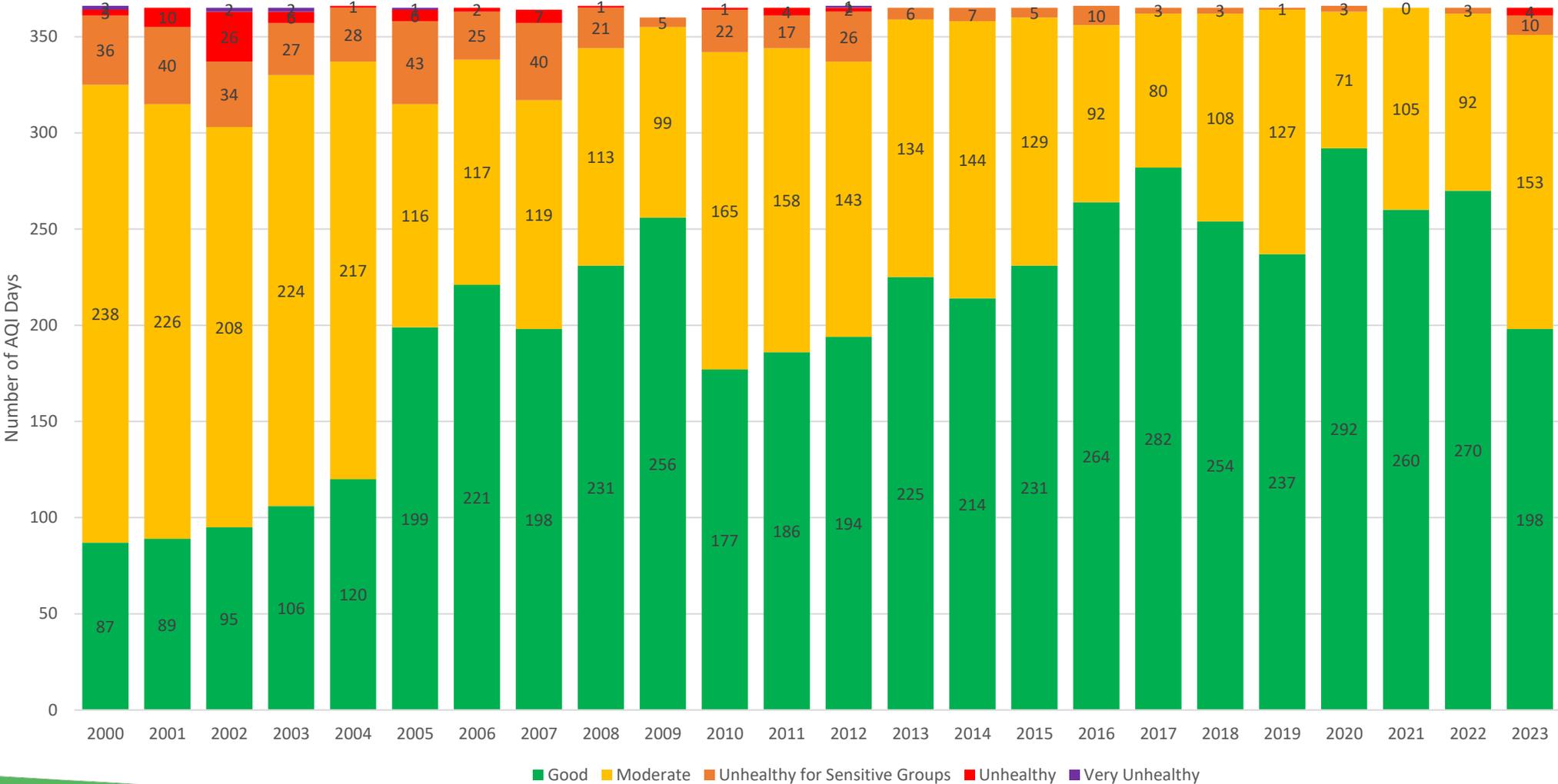
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LONG-RANGE LOOK AT AIR QUALITY



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U.S. EPA CLEAN PROJECT UPDATES



- “Community Led Enhanced Air Quality Network” (CLEAN), co-led by MORPC and Franklin County Public Health
- Collocating (calibrating) 40 PurpleAir sensors against the EPA’s monitors to test performance
- Crafting outreach materials and plan
- Assembled a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) of 14 Franklin County professional- and community-leaders
- Engaging the PAC on sensor siting



NEW EPA PM 2.5 STANDARD



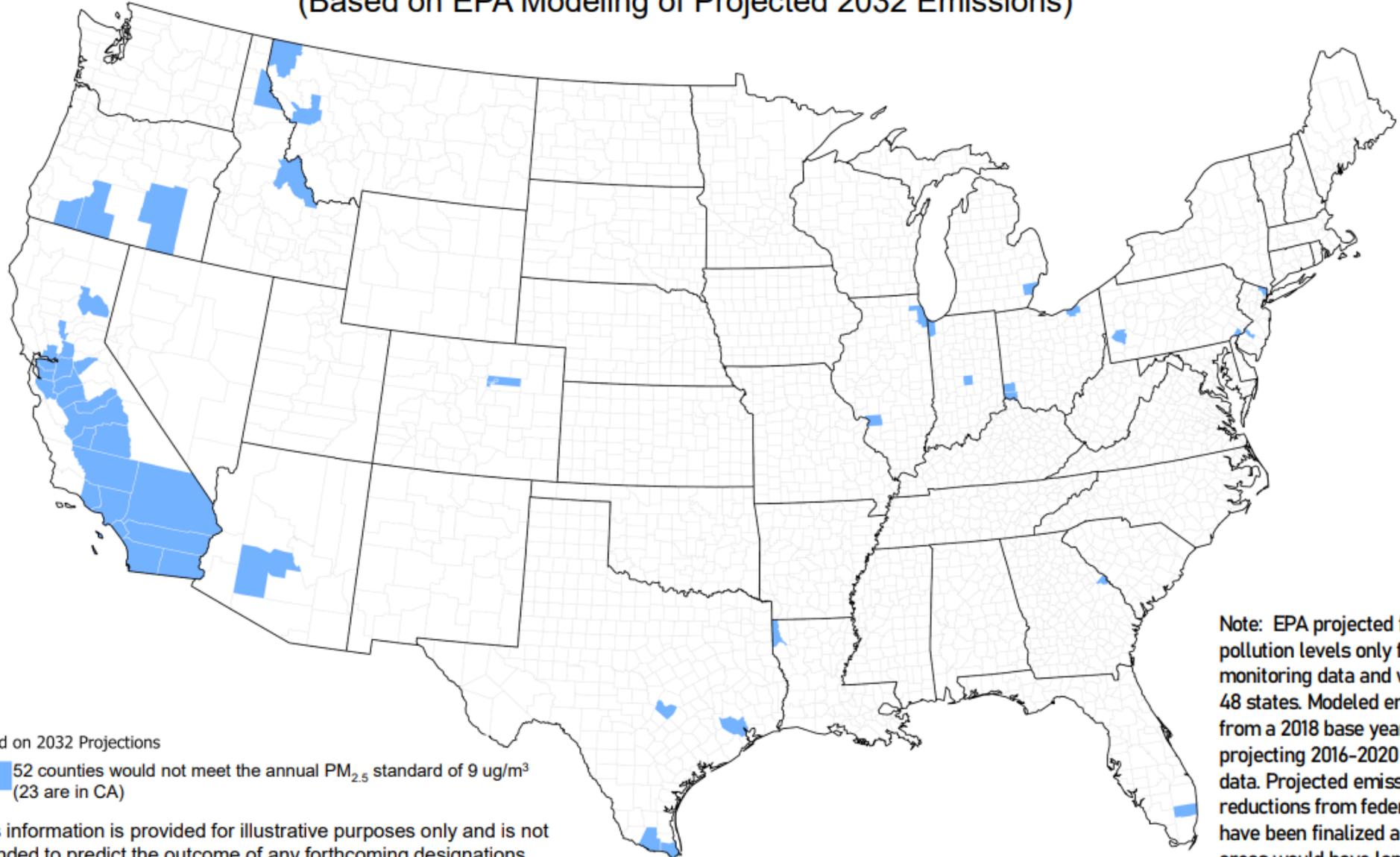
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- Announced on February 7, 2024, the EPA revised the level of the primary (health-based) annual PM_{2.5} standard to 9.0 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$); previously this was 12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- EPA estimates that the new standard will **prevent** “an estimated 4,500 premature deaths every year and **ultimately yield** \$46 billion in net health benefits annually.”
- What does this mean for Ohio?
 - Most areas are already in attainment and projected to continue to be in attainment in 2032.
 - Cuyahoga, Hamilton, Montgomery, and Stark Counties are currently in unattainment but will be given <10 years to reach the new standard.

Ohio	Allen County	6.4
Ohio	Athens County	5.9
Ohio	Clark County	8.4
Ohio	Cuyahoga County	9.3
Ohio	Franklin County	8.8
Ohio	Hamilton County	10.5
Ohio	Lake County	6.4
Ohio	Lawrence County	8.1
Ohio	Medina County	6.6
Ohio	Montgomery County	9.4
Ohio	Preble County	8.1
Ohio	Stark County	9.2
Ohio	Summit County	8.4
Ohio	Trumbull County	7.4

EPA Projects More than 99% of Counties would Meet the Revised Fine Particle Pollution Standard

Projection of Counties with Monitors that would not Meet in 2032 (Based on EPA Modeling of Projected 2032 Emissions)



Based on 2032 Projections

 52 counties would not meet the annual PM_{2.5} standard of 9 ug/m³
(23 are in CA)

This information is provided for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to predict the outcome of any forthcoming designations process.

Note: EPA projected future fine particle pollution levels only for counties with monitoring data and within the contiguous 48 states. Modeled emissions are developed from a 2018 base year and used in projecting 2016–2020 monitoring data. Projected emissions reflect expected reductions from federal regulations that have been finalized as of March 2023. Some areas would have longer than 2032 to attain the revised PM_{2.5} standard.

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