

Daily Air Quality Report August 29, 2020

Beaumont

Total Operational Near Real-Time Monitors: 2 for volatile organic compounds (VOCs); 3* for sulfur dioxide (SO₂); 1 for particulate matter (PM_{2.5}).

Air Quality Summary: Measured hourly VOC concentrations, including benzene and 1,3-butadiene, were generally low and in the typical range for the Beaumont area on August 29, 2020. All measured VOC concentrations remained far below levels of short-term health concern.

Hourly SO₂ concentrations measured in the Beaumont area remained low on August 29, 2020. All hourly SO₂ concentrations were well below a level of health concern.

Hourly PM_{2.5} concentrations measured in the Beaumont area on August 29, 2020 were within the range of typical concentrations for this area and were below concentrations of health concern.

**Update, September 3, 2020:* A data quality control assessment determined that the SO₂ data from the Port Arthur West 7th Street monitor may be invalid. Therefore, for August 29, 2020, there were data available from 2 SO₂ monitors, and all the hourly SO₂ concentrations were low and below a level of health concern.

Houston

Total Operational Near Real-Time Monitors: 8 for volatile organic compounds (VOCs); 7 for sulfur dioxide (SO₂); 6 for particulate matter (PM_{2.5}).

Air Quality Summary: Measured hourly VOC concentrations, including benzene and 1,3-butadiene, were generally low and in the typical range for the Houston Ship Channel area on August 29, 2020. Concentrations of benzene at the Galena Park, Lynchburg Ferry, and Channelview monitors were slightly higher than average for several hours, but even the highest concentrations were still more than 20-times lower than the health-based comparison level. Similarly, concentrations of 1,3-butadiene at the Galena Park and Milby Park monitors were slightly higher than average for several hours but were still more than 400-times lower than the health-based comparison level. All measured VOC concentrations remained far below levels of short-term health concern.

Hourly SO₂ concentrations measured in the Houston Ship Channel area remained low on August 29, 2020. The peak 1-hour SO₂ concentration measured at the Texas City Ball Park monitor and at the Houston Croquet monitor were somewhat higher than usual but were still more than 10-times lower than the level of the federal SO₂ standard. All hourly SO₂ concentrations were well below a level of health concern.

Hourly PM_{2.5} concentrations measured in the Houston Ship Channel area on August 29, 2020 were within the range of typical concentrations for this area and were below concentrations of health concern.