



Xylene Fact Sheet

for field use with mobile monitoring instruments

This Field Guide provides a summary of the different mobile monitoring comparison values developed by the Toxicology, Risk Assessment, and Research Division for use in evaluating real-time mobile monitoring data in the field.

All derived mobile monitoring comparison values are intended to be used as guidance. Field investigators and mobile monitoring staff should use their own discretion when deciding to mitigate exposure, such as when experiencing health effects or intense odors, regardless of measured concentrations.

What is Xylene?

- Xylene is a colorless liquid or gas with a sweet hydrocarbon odor
- Xylene is used as a solvent for paints and coatings and is added to gasoline
- Xylene may be released into the air from fuel terminals, as well as the production and use of paints, dyes, and lacquers

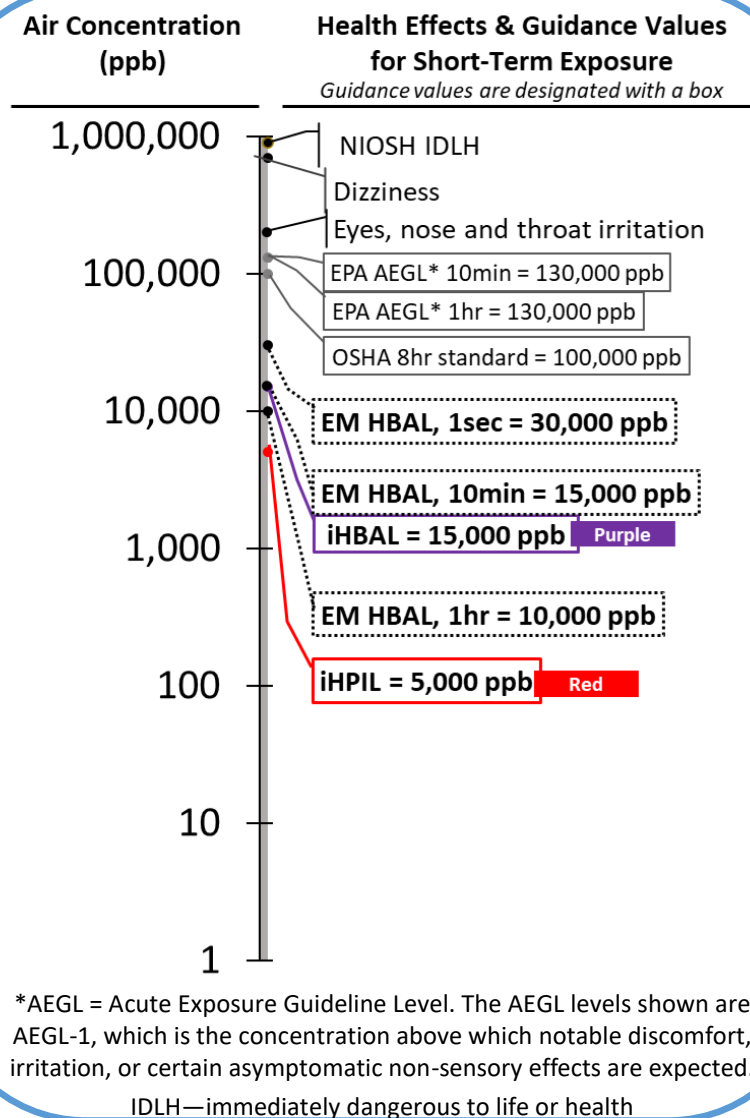
At What Levels Can Xylene Cause Harm?

Breathing high levels of xylene for a short period of time could result in throat irritation and breathing difficulty, fatigue, headache and dizziness. Long-term exposure can result in eye and nose irritation, sore throat, anxiety, forgetfulness, and a floating sensation.

Mobile Monitoring Comparison Values

	Xylene	
iBDIL (ppb)	Orange —	iBDIL - instantaneous baseline-derived investigation level
iHPIL (ppb)	Red 5,000	iHPIL - instantaneous health-protective investigation level
iHBAL (ppb)	Purple 15,000	iHBAL - instantaneous health-based action level
^{EM} HBAL _{10min} (ppb)	15,000	^{EM} HBAL _{10min} - 10-minute health-based action level for exposure mitigation
^{EM} HBAL _{1hr} (ppb)	10,000	^{EM} HBAL _{1hr} - 1-hour health-based action level for exposure mitigation
^{EM} HBAL _{1sec} (ppb)	30,000	^{EM} HBAL _{1sec} - 1-second health-based action level for exposure mitigation

All MMCVs are **safe levels**; AEGLs are health effects levels



For more information on EPA's AEGL values, please see EPA's website.

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