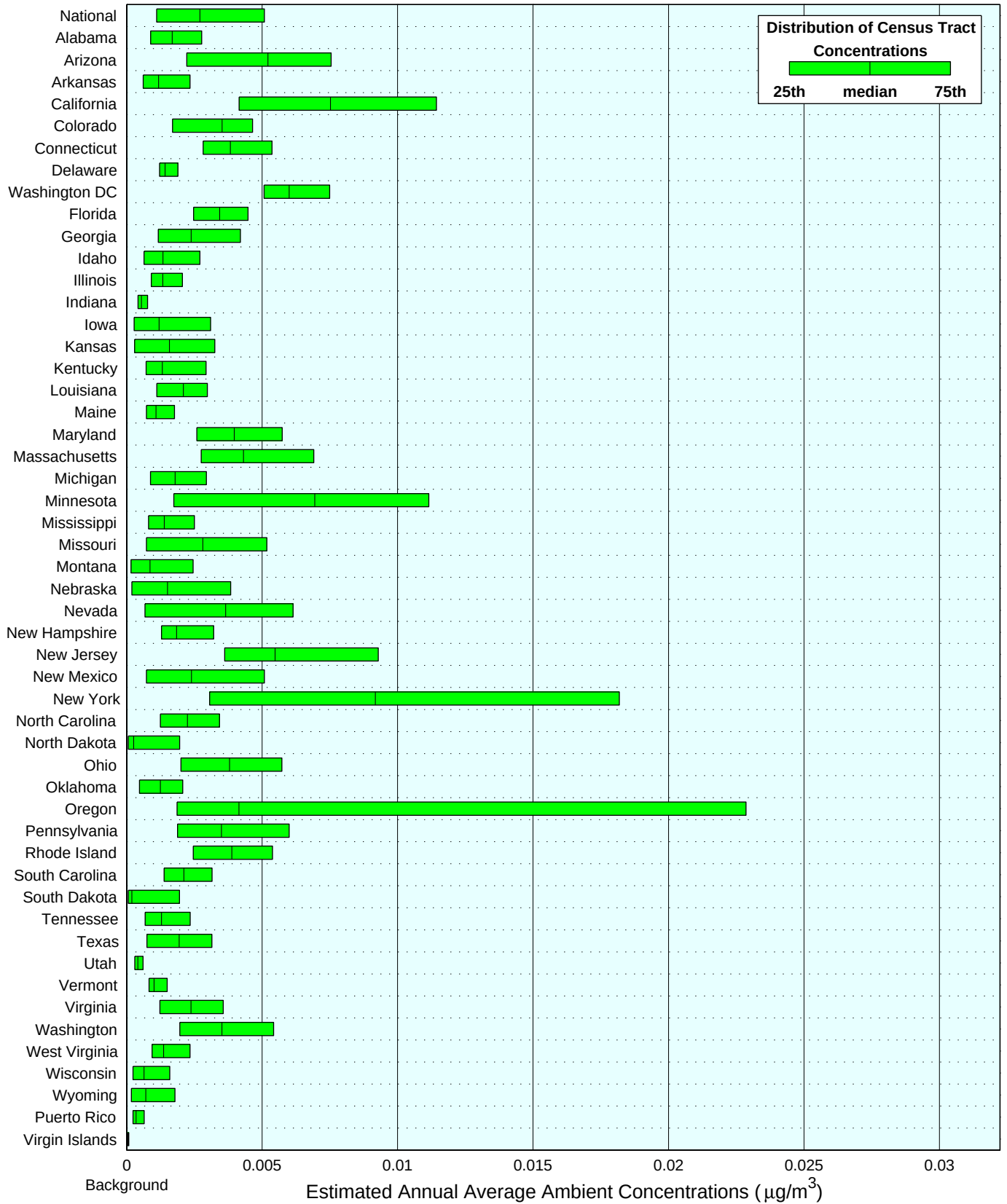
US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Overall Confidence: L
Lower
(Learn more)

1996 Modeled Ambient Concentrations
7−PAH − Statewide Concentration Distribution Estimates

(For limitations on the use of these data see page 2)



EPA strongly cautions that these modeling results should not be used to draw conclusions about local concentrations or risk. The results are most meaningful when viewed at the state or national level; for smaller areas, the modeling becomes less certain. In addition, these results represent conditions in *1996* rather than current conditions.

- The modeled estimates presented here are not a direct indicator of risk because they do not factor in the extent to which people are exposed to these pollutants or the widely varying toxic potential of different substances. EPA uses these ambient concentration estimates in combination with exposure modeling and health effects information to estimate risk.

- The emissions used in this assessment do not reflect potentially significant emission reductions that have taken effect since1996, including those from: 1) mobile source regulations which are being phased in over time; 2) many of the air toxics regulations EPA has issued for major industrial sources; 3) State or industry initiatives; and 4) any facility closures.

- Methods of estimating emissions, as well as simplified modeling assumptions, may introduce significant uncertainties into each component of the assessment. For a discussion of limitations, please see www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/nata/natsalim2.html.

- Because of these uncertainties, EPA will not use the results of this assessment to determine source-specific contributions or to set regulatory requirements. However, EPA expects to use these results to inform decisions about the priorities of the air toxics program as well as to guide the collection of additional data that could lead to regulatory decisions.

- Note that based on the persistence and bioaccumulation potential of lead, mercury, PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), hexachlorobenzene, 7-PAH (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), POM (polycyclic organic matter), and cadmium, ingestion rather than inhalation may contribute substantially to exposures of concern, and this assessment does not address pollutant levels that may be ingested from food, water, or soil.

- EPA has assigned an overall confidence level for each pollutant based on consideration of the combined uncertainties from emission estimation, ambient concentration modeling, and exposure modeling. For more information on how EPA assigned this cumulative confidence level, see www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/nata/conf.html.

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