

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



# The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program: *Update Since SAFETEA-LU*

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Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative Meeting

**SAFETEA-LU**

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act:  
A Legacy for Users



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration



## Today's Discussion:

- Background on the CMAQ Program
- SAFETEA-LU (2005) CMAQ Provisions
- More recent issues and developments





## CMAQ & Title 23: *What and why?*

Section 149: *The CMAQ program is established for transportation projects that contribute to the attainment or maintenance of the national ambient air quality standards for ozone, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter.*





# Basic Eligibility Requirements

- Transportation Project
- Reduces emissions
- Nonattainment or maintenance area





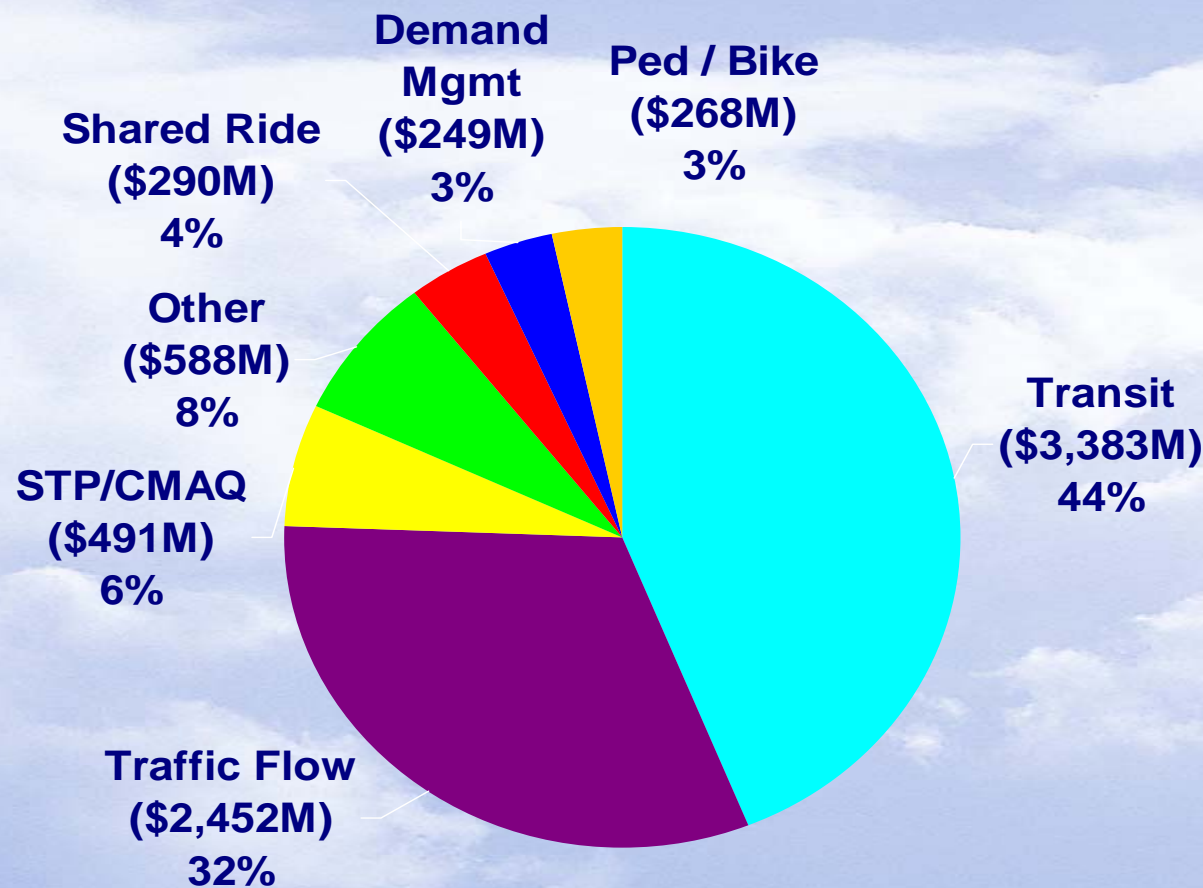
## Projects Funded

- More than \$13 billion invested in 16,000+ projects since 1992
- Wide range of eligible projects
  - ❖ transit improvements
  - ❖ shared ride services
  - ❖ traffic flow improvements
  - ❖ demand management
  - ❖ bicycle and pedestrian projects
  - ❖ alternative fuels
  - ❖ inspection & maintenance programs
  - ❖ freight services
  - ❖ experimental pilots
  - ❖ public / private partnerships
  - ❖ diesel retrofits
  - ❖ anti-idling facilities





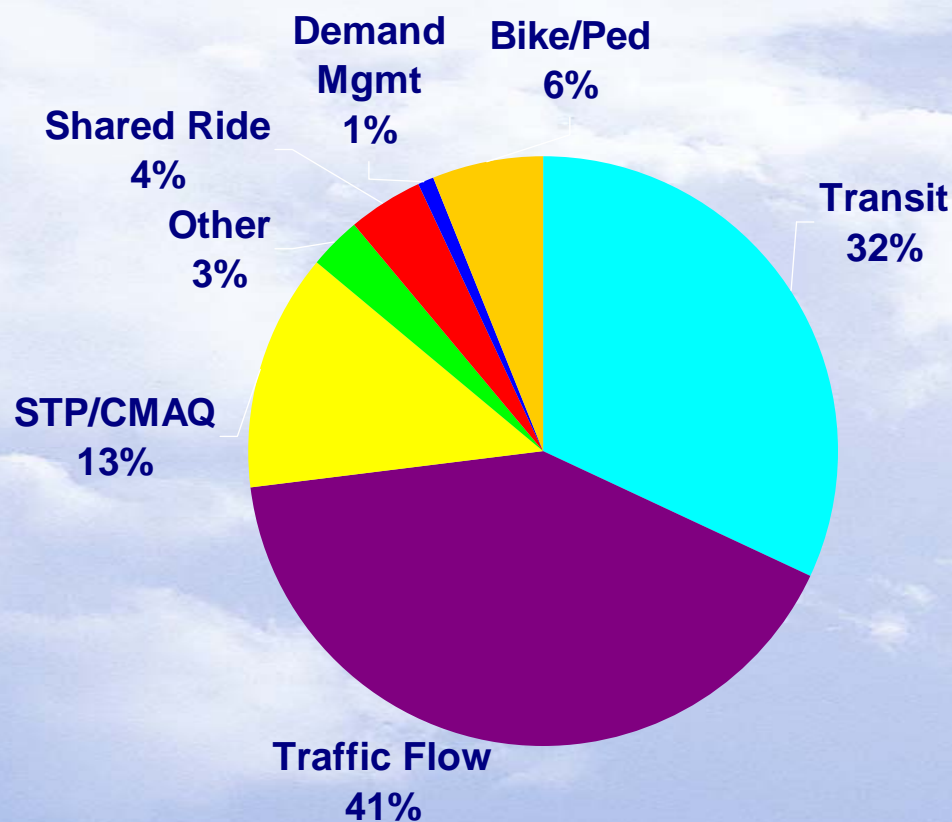
# CMAQ Funding by Project Type --- through FY 2000







# CMAQ Funding by Project Type 2006





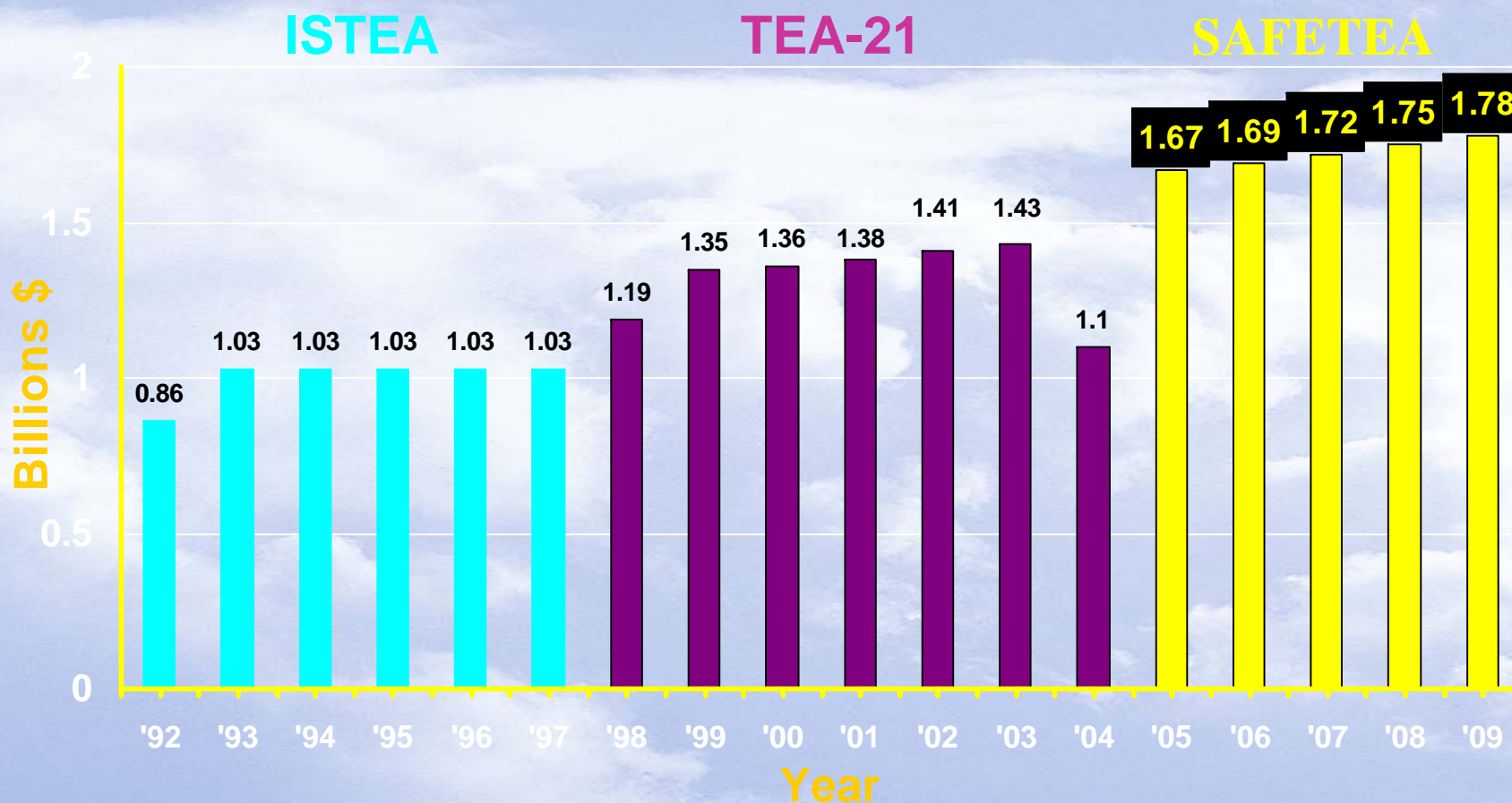


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# CMAQ Authorization Levels





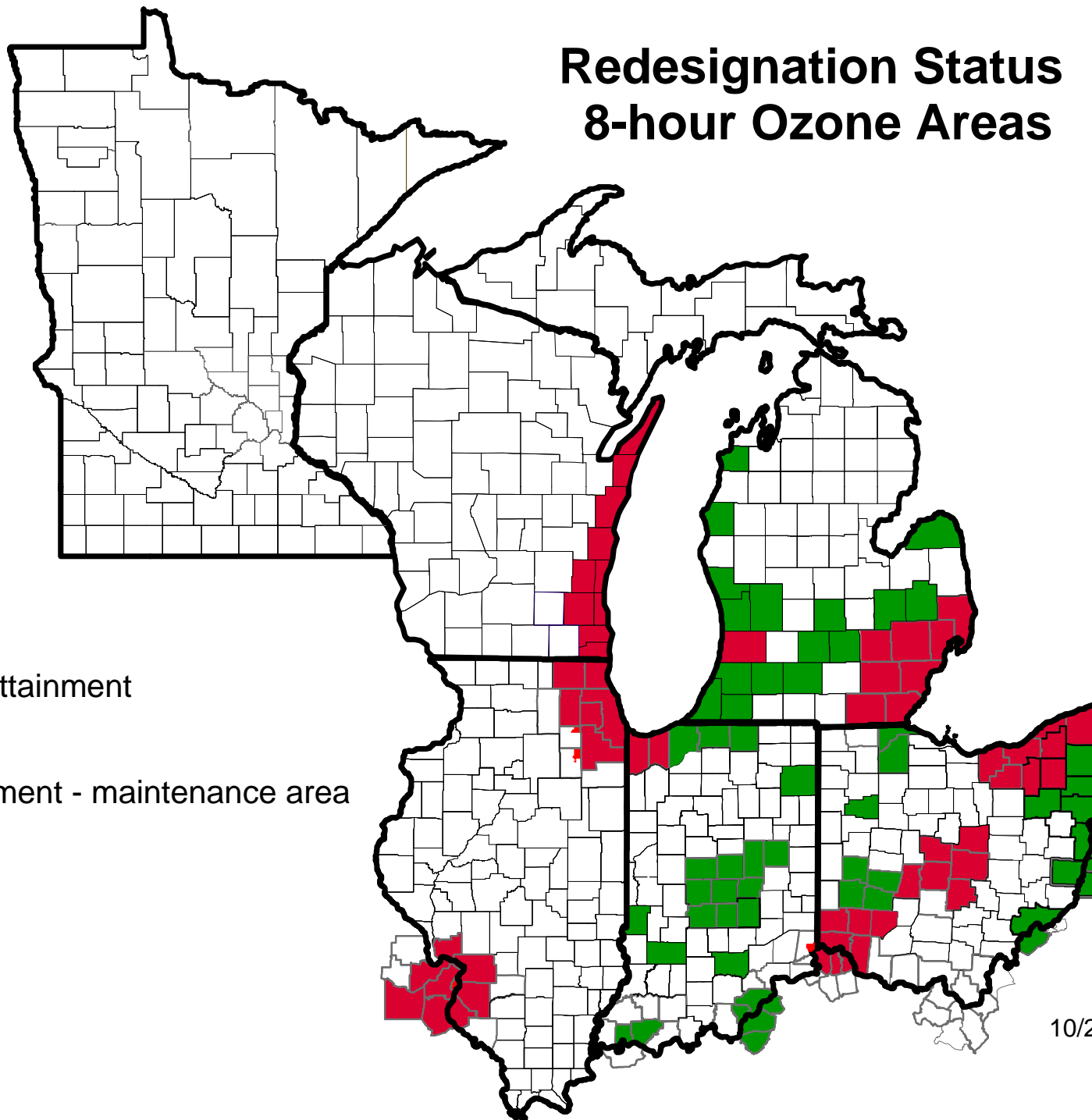


# Apportionment Formula

- Funds apportioned to States based on:
  - ❖ Population in Ozone and CO areas
  - ❖ Severity of the air quality problem
  - ❖ Multiple pollutants earn extra weight
- All States guaranteed a 0.5% minimum apportionment
- PM is NOT included in the formula

## Redesignation Status 8-hour Ozone Areas

-  Nonattainment
-  Attainment - maintenance area

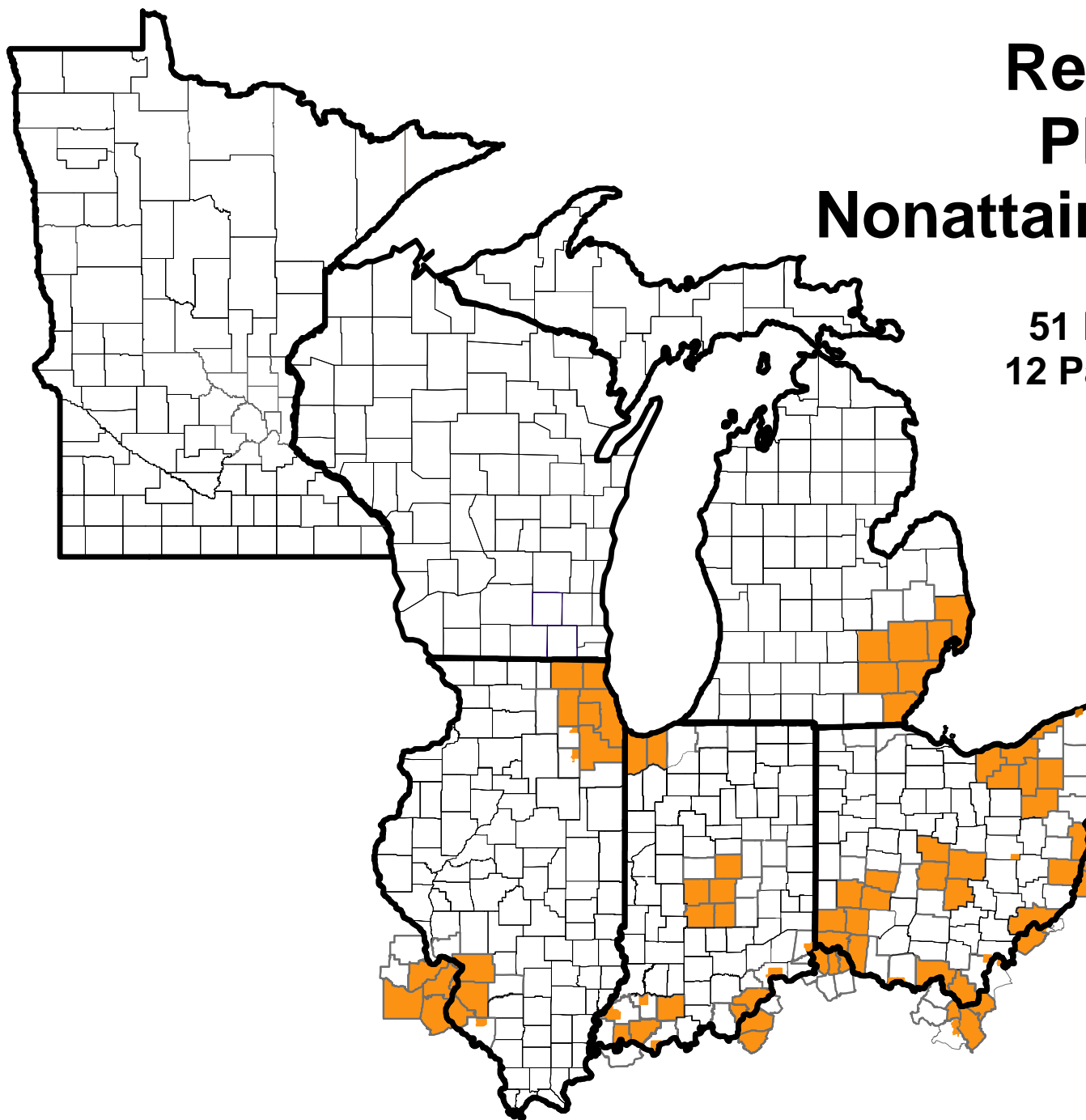


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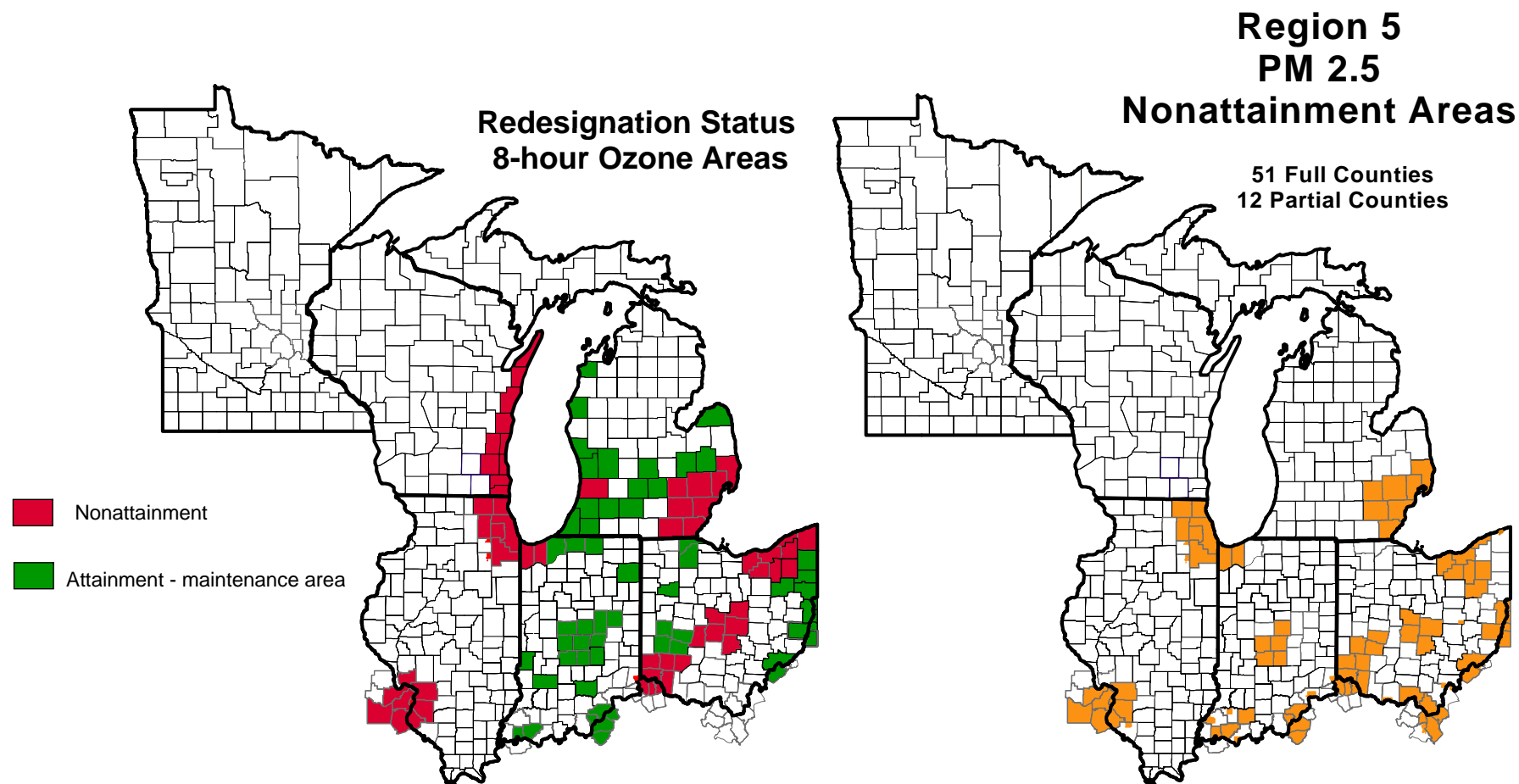
# Region 5 PM 2.5 Nonattainment Areas

51 Full Counties  
12 Partial Counties



5/31/2006

# Non-Attainment Area Comparison





## CMAQ & Project Selection

- Processes vary at the State & local level
- FHWA encourages a competitive approach
- DOTs & MPOs should consult with each other and with environmental agencies
- First contact usually is MPO or other local government committee (e.g., air quality, etc.)





# Highlighted Eligible Projects

- Diesel retrofits for on-road and off-road engines used in construction projects in ozone or PM nonattainment or maintenance areas
  - ❖ Includes replacement, repowering, rebuilding, after treatment technology.
- Outreach activities for diesel retrofits
- Creditable for conformity





## Highlighted Eligible Activities (cont.)

- More on Diesels:
  - ❖ *Smart-way technology*
  - ❖ *Locomotives*
  - ❖ *Intermodal facilities*
  - ❖ *Auxiliary power units*
  - ❖ *Heavy-duty scrappage*
  - ❖ *On-road vehicles*







## The Good News

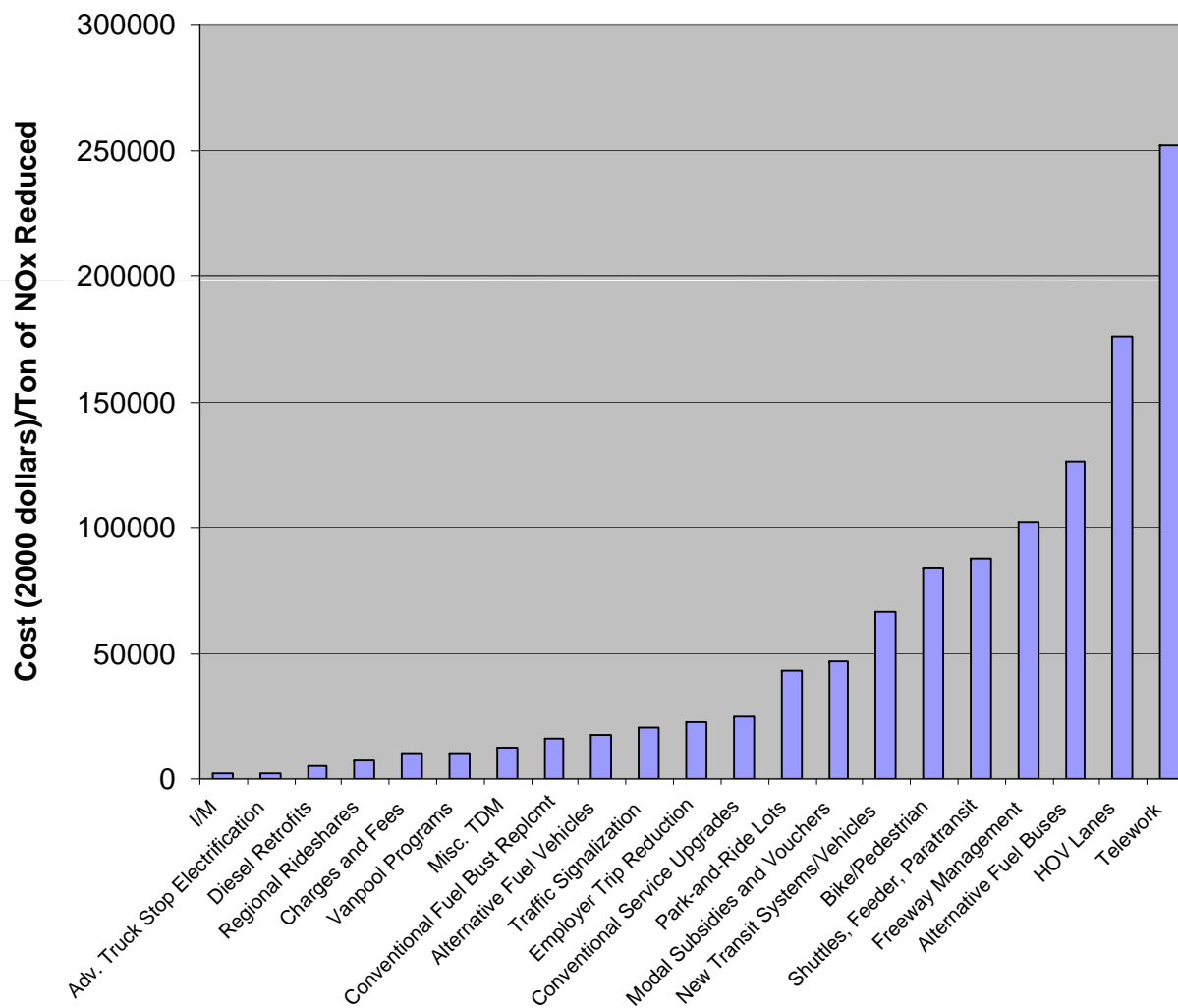
- Diesel retrofits are cost effective
- Cost effectiveness is becoming more important







## Cost-Effectiveness of Selected CMAQ Projects



Source: National Academy of Sciences, Environmental Protection Agency



## ***Demand grows in focus areas....***

- Diesel retrofits—  
SAFETEA-LU focus
- Cost-effective projects,  
generally
- Congestion relief

*Competing priorities for  
limited funds!!*







## Other Issues

- Rail, freight projects are CMAQ-eligible
- Private sector can be a partner
- Freight carries dual benefits—emissions & congestion relief







## The Bad News

- Diesel retrofits are just one (small) portion of the overall CMAQ program
- CMAQ focuses on Ozone (for now)
- As competition grows, dollars shrink





## Federal-aid Rescissions

- CMAQ among hardest hit
- Recent \$3.47 billion rescission—half-billion from CMAQ
- Historically, program is 4 percent of F-Aid, but 20 percent of rescissions
- Annual returns—becoming routine??



# CMAQ Tracking System

- OMB approves the data collection effort
- Minor changes, such as congestion relief, diesel elements
- Public access version in development







# Resources

- Contacts

- ❖ Your FHWA Division Office rep (varies by state)
- ❖ Chris DiPalma – [chris.dipalma@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:chris.dipalma@fhwa.dot.gov)

- Web

- ❖ <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cmaqpgs/index.htm>



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# Questions?

