

2022 First Quarter Air Quality Monitoring Results Released

Fort Air Partnership (FAP), the organization that monitors the air local residents breathe, released 2022 first quarter [Air Quality Health Index](#) (AQHI) results today. The Government of Alberta calculates the AQHI using data collected at seven of FAP’s air monitoring stations.

Results show that AQHI in the Airshed was of low risk to health at least 89% of the time for the first three months of 2022, with Lamont County and Elk Island recording the highest percentage of low risk readings and Fort Saskatchewan the lowest. Risk to health increases as the index rises.

There were zero hours of high or very high AQHI rating for the calendar quarter.

FAP – 2022 Q1		Risk Level (% of time in each)			
Station Name	Hours Monitored	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Bruderheim	2071	92.37%	7.63%	0.00%	0.00%
Elk Island	2092	98.52%	1.48%	0.00%	0.00%
Fort Saskatchewan	2031	89.76%	10.24%	0.00%	0.00%
Gibbons	2111	92.18%	7.82%	0.00%	0.00%
Lamont County	1979	98.53%	1.47%	0.00%	0.00%
Redwater	1965	96.34%	3.66%	0.00%	0.00%
Town of Lamont	1947	97.74%	2.26%	0.00%	0.00%
Total hours	14196	13489	707	0	0

Results from the first quarter of 2022 are very similar to the 2021 first quarter results. In 2021, there was only one hour of high AQHI rating for the first quarter. The high risk occurrence in 2021 was due to a wintertime temperature inversion, a weather condition where cold air along with pollutants is trapped near the ground by a layer of warmer air above.

The 2021 first quarter results are provided on the following page for comparison.

FAP - 2021 Q1		Risk Level (% of time in each)			
Station Name	Hours Monitored	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Bruderheim	2,003	96.06%	3.94%	0.00%	0.00%
Elk Island	1,999	98.80%	1.20%	0.00%	0.00%
Fort Saskatchewan	1,951	89.85%	10.15%	0.00%	0.00%
Gibbons	2,003	89.87%	10.13%	0.00%	0.00%
Lamont County	2,014	98.11%	1.89%	0.00%	0.00%
Redwater	1,818	97.96%	1.98%	0.06%	0.00%
Sturgeon County (portable)	1,751	97.72%	2.28%	0.00%	0.00%
Total hours	13,539	12,920	618	1	0

The forecasted and daily Alberta Health Quality Index for the Fort Air Partnership Airshed can be found at fortair.org. The website also has a live data feed for a variety of substances that FAP measures, as well as weekly, quarterly and annual AQHI results.

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