

## Information on sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)

### Limit values

	Averaging period	Limit value
Hourly limit value for the protection of human health	1 hour	350 µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a calendar year
Daily limit value for the protection of human health	24 hours	125 µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a calendar year
Limit value for the protection of ecosystems	Calendar year and winter (1 October to 31 March)	20 µg/m <sup>3</sup>

The volume must be standardised at a temperature of 293 K and an atmospheric pressure of 101,3 kPa.

### Alert threshold

If more than 500 µg/m<sup>3</sup> are measured over three consecutive hours at locations representative of air quality over at least 100 km<sup>2</sup> or an entire zone or agglomeration, whichever is the smaller, the Member State has to apprehend adequate measures.

### Upper and lower assessment thresholds

	Health protection	Ecosystem protection
Upper assessment threshold	75 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (daily mean), not to be exceeded more than 3 times in any calendar year	12 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (annual mean)
Lower assessment threshold	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (daily mean), not to be exceeded more than 3 times in any calendar year	8 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (annual mean)

## Data quality objectives

Data collection	Data quality objective
<i>Continuous measurement</i>	
Uncertainty	15 %
Minimum data capture	90 %
<i>Indicative measurement</i>	
Uncertainty	25 %
Minimum data capture	90 %
Minimum time coverage	14 % (One day's measurement a week at random, evenly distributed over the year, or eight weeks evenly distributed over the year.)
<i>Modelling</i>	
Uncertainty	
Hourly averages	50 %
Daily averages	50 %
Annual averages	30 %
<i>Objective estimation</i>	
Uncertainty	75 %

## Reference method for the analysis of sulphur dioxide

The reference method for the measurement of sulphur dioxide is that described in EN 14212:2005 “Ambient air quality - Standard method for the measurement of the concentration of sulphur dioxide by ultraviolet fluorescence”.

## Minimum details to be made available to the public when the alert threshold for sulphur dioxide is exceeded

Details to be made available to the public should include at least:

- the date, hour, place and the reasons for the occurrence,
- any forecasts of: changes in concentrations together with the reasons for those changes,
- the geographical area concerned,
- the duration of the occurrence,
- the type of population potentially sensitive to the occurrence,
- the precautions to be taken by the sensitive population concerned.

## Legal basis

- Directive 2008/50/EC of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (OJ EC. L 152/1)
- 39th Ordinance Implementing the Federal Immission Control Act (Ordinance on Air Quality Standards and Emission Ceilings - 39. BImSchV)