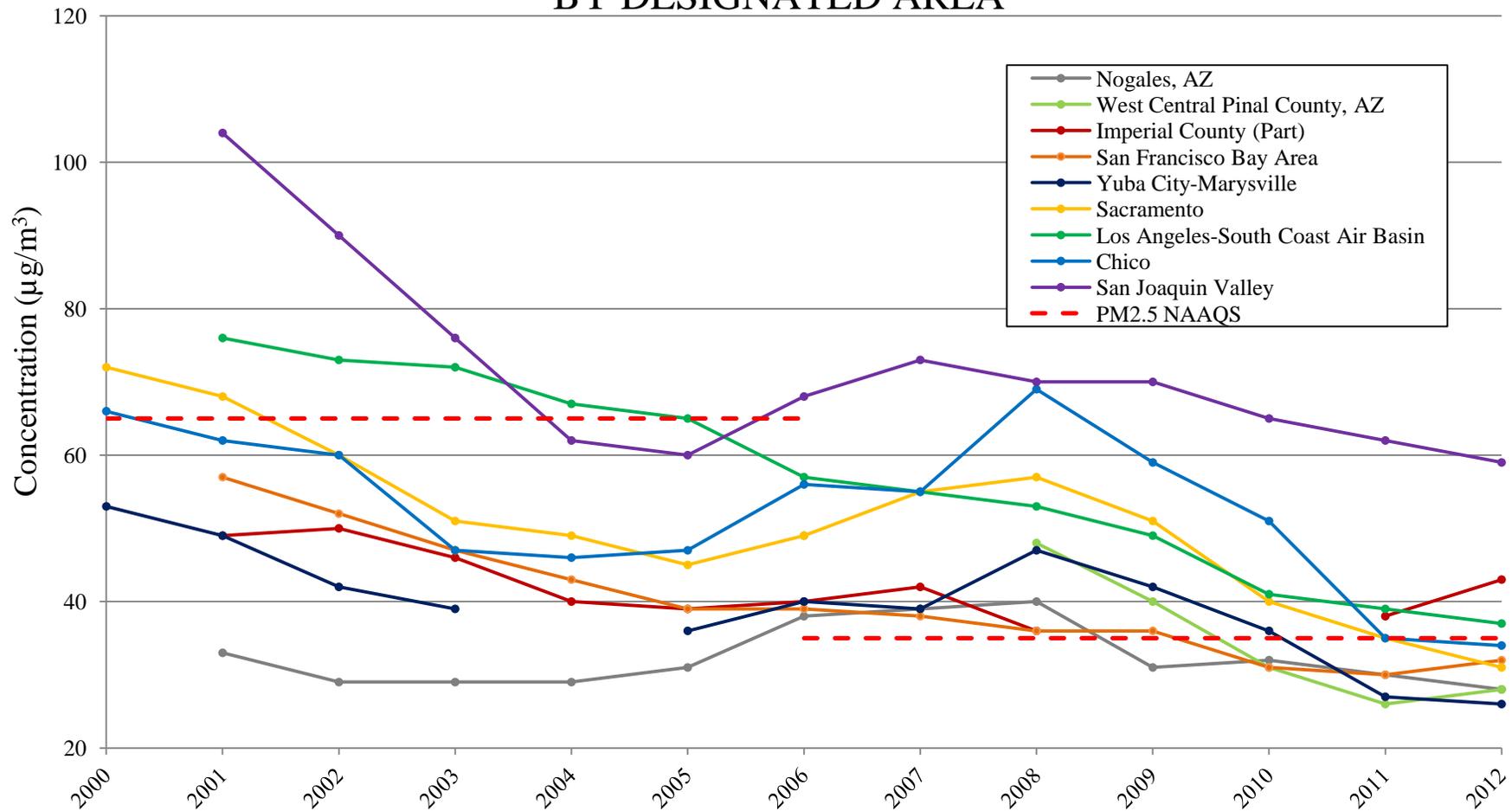


## US EPA REGION 9 AIR QUALITY TRENDS, 2000-2012 24-HOUR FINE PARTICULATE MATTER (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) DESIGN VALUES BY DESIGNATED AREA



Source: US EPA's Air Quality Systems (AQS) database (July 11, 2012 and July 10, 2013; last updated August 9, 2013).

The 2006 national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for 24-hour fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) is 35 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m<sup>3</sup>). The design value for 24-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> is the three-year average of third-highest daily values. X-axis values represent the last year of a monitoring site's three year time period.

Although one or more sites in the *Imperial County (Part)* area has violated the NAAQS prior to 2010-2012 and does not have a valid 2010-2012 design value, data for 2009 and 2010 have been included. All exceptional event data (e.g., high winds and wildfires) that EPA has concurred on have been excluded from design value calculations.