

I was a resident of New York City for a decade before returning to Portland, and I was immediately struck by how much worse the air pollution is here—a city that's less than 1/10 of NYC by population. According to EPA, Multnomah is in the worst 1.3% of all U.S. counties for diesel particulates. A study supported by Multnomah County and the city of Portland states that "Mobile sources including trucks, cars, trains, and construction equipment are most likely to spew dangerous emissions. Those sources are the main driver of air pollution in the Portland metro region." Oregon's diesel emission limit is staggeringly 30 times higher than California's limit, and nothing is done to enforce it. Old, filterless diesel trucks that have been banned in both California and Washington are used in Oregon, spewing diesel soot and making the air here 25-50 times more dangerous than is deemed safe by Oregon's already lenient (practically non-existent) standards. Do the right thing and protect the health and safety of Oregonians by controlling diesel emissions.