

# Quarterly Data: 2020 vs. 2021 (Quarters 1, 2, & 3)

The data presented here compare emissions, emission rates, and heat input from power plant units in the ARP, CSAPR, CSAPR Update, the Revised CSAPR Update, and MATS. These files compare quarterly emission data from 2020 with data for the same quarters from 2021.

The first three quarters of 2021 show significant changes compared to the first three quarters 2020 data:

- 10 percent increase for NO<sub>x</sub>
- 30 percent increase for SO<sub>2</sub>
- 10 percent increase for CO<sub>2</sub>
- 19 percent increase for Hg

The increases in emissions are due primarily to changes in the mix of fossil fuel-fired electricity generation. The first three quarters of 2021 showed a total fossil generation increase of 5 percent compared to the first three quarters of 2020. There was a 23 percent increase in coal generation and a 6 percent decrease in natural gas generation, which resulted in significant emissions increases from the same time period last year.

For context, emissions are still down as compared to the same time period in 2019:

- 11 percent decrease for NO<sub>x</sub>
  - 0 percent change for SO<sub>2</sub>
  - 3 percent decrease for CO<sub>2</sub>
  - 5 percent decrease for Hg
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