The Clean Air Act's National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) include health standards for carbon monoxide, lead (1978 and 2008), nitrogen dioxide, 8-hour ozone (2008), particulate matter (PM-10 and PM-2.5 (1997, 2006)), and sulfur dioxide. The Act also establishes standards for the amounts of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) that may be emitted from new motor vehicle engines.

California gasoline's lower Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) blends are used in the summer to help prevent automotive refueling system vapor release, which reduces the air pollution that would otherwise occur.

The Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) is a measure of the amount of vapor that a fuel can release at a particular temperature.

Carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, nitrogen oxides (NOx), 8-hour ozone (2008), and particulate matter (PM-10 and PM-2.5 (1997, 2006)) are also considered air pollutants.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) enforces the RVP requirements for motor vehicle fuel, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enforces the standards for various other pollutants.

The table below shows the California gasoline RVP specifications for various companies.