

# Tonawanda Community Air Quality Study

Division of Air Resources  
Community Presentation

March 1, 2008

Sheridan Parkside Community  
Center

Tonawanda, NY



# Why Was Tonawanda Selected ?

- Community concerns about ambient concentrations of benzene;
- EPA's 1999 National-scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) results for Erie County;
- Coke Oven Residual Risk Assessment prepared by EPA

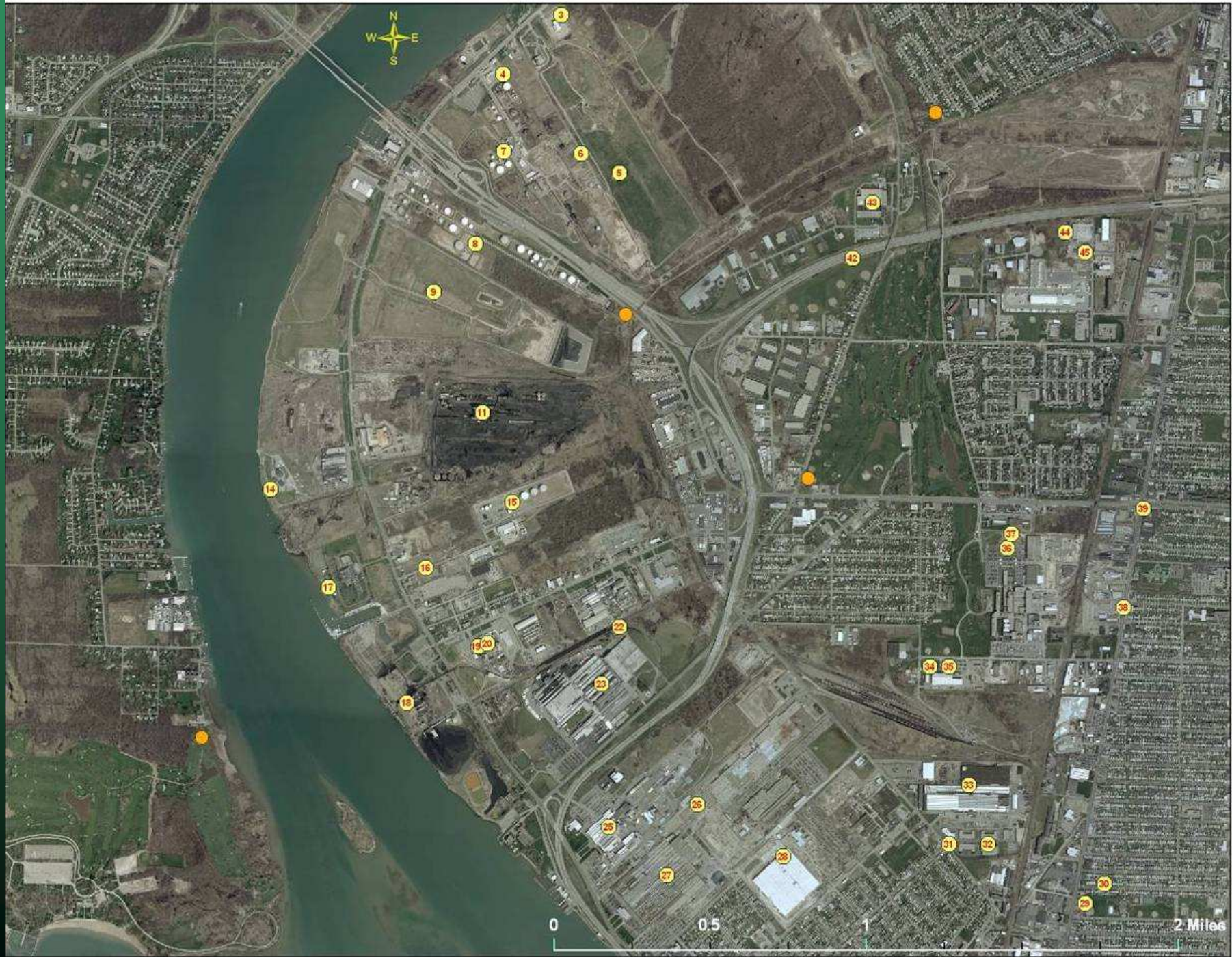


# Study Progress Report

- Air monitors/meteorological station installed and operating;
- Data capture (87 – 100%);
- Model ready inventory for major sources under development.

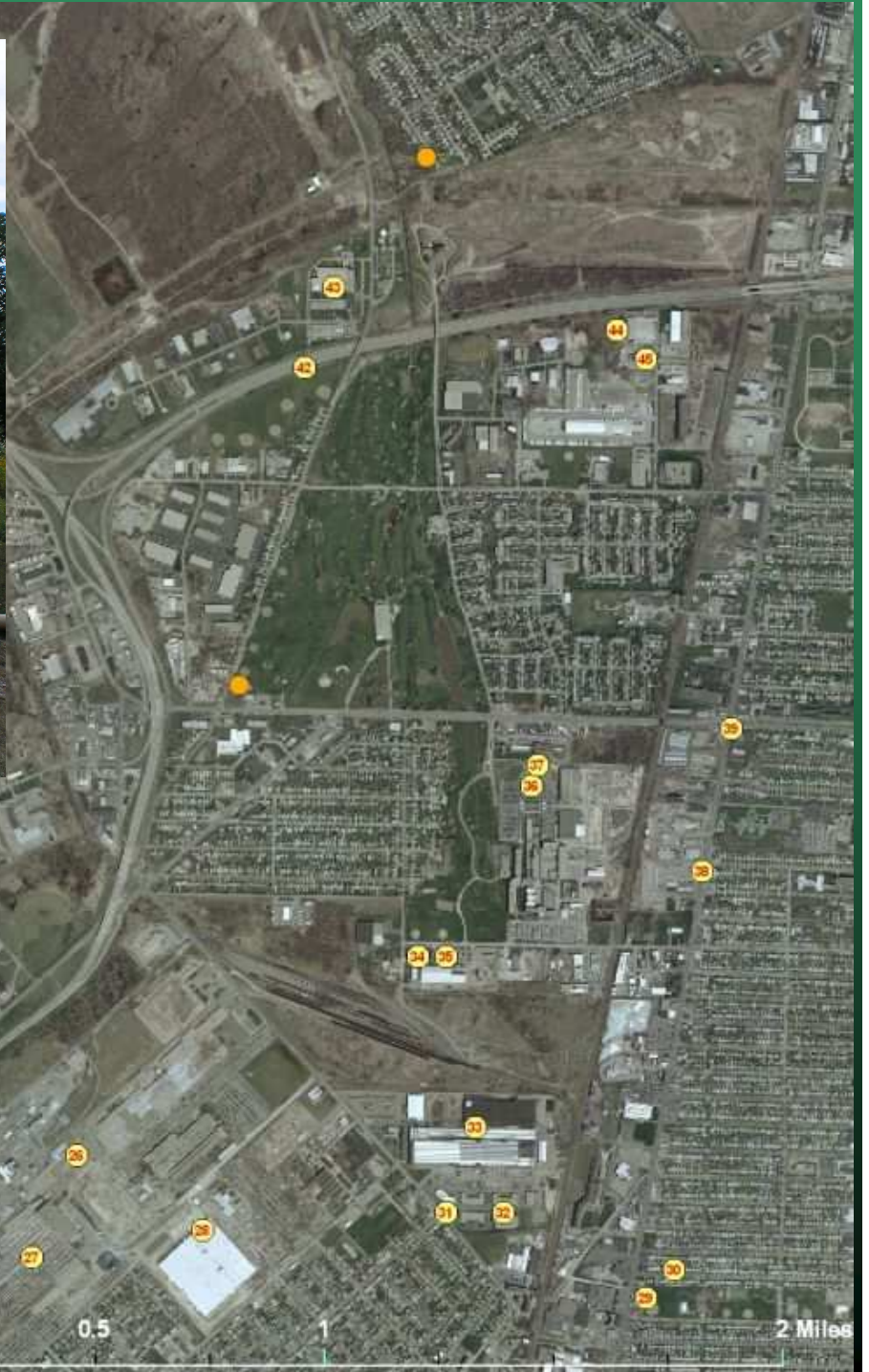








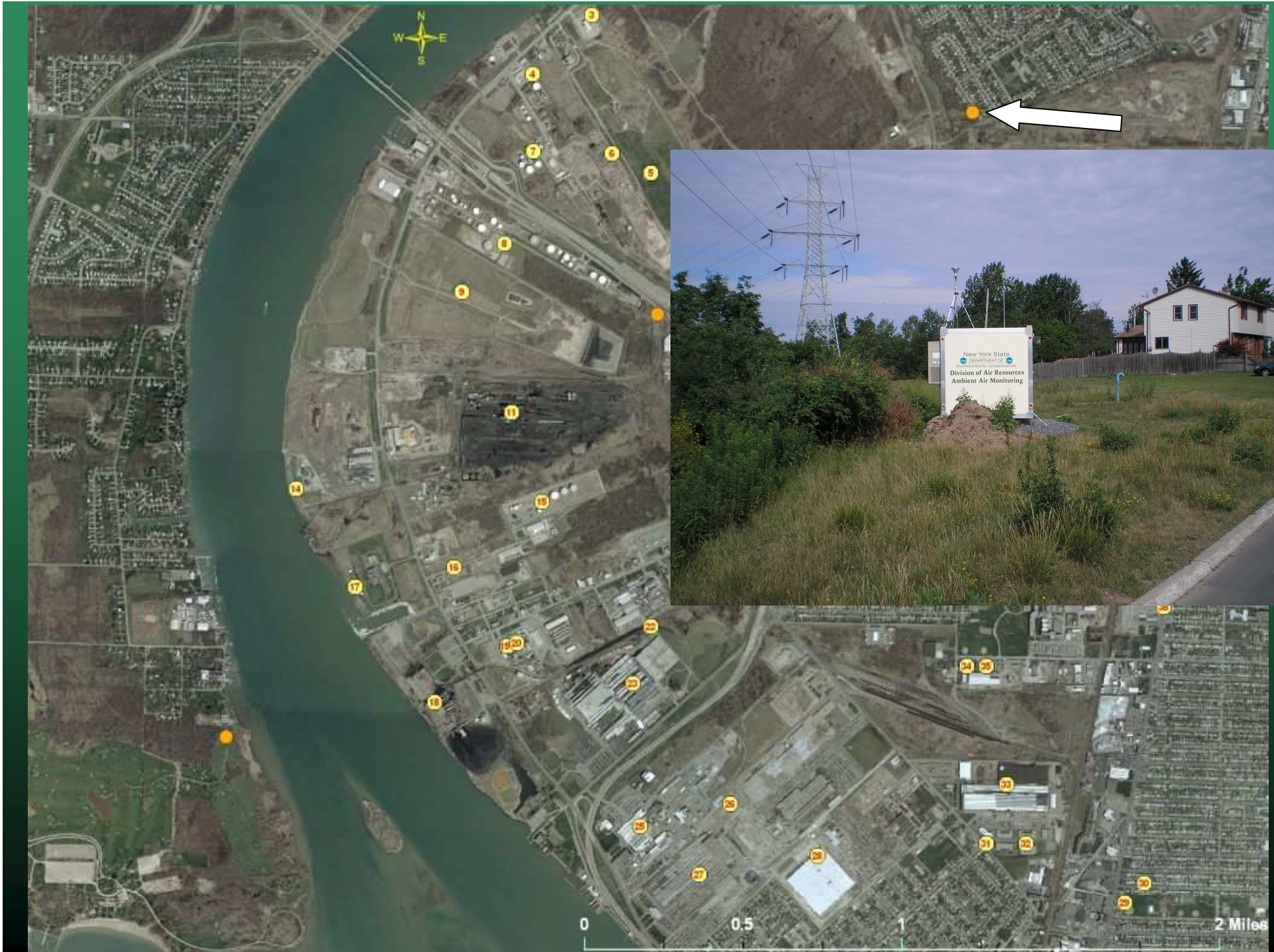
















# Air Toxics Measured

- 42 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and 10 Carbonyls;
- 1 in 6 day sampling schedule (24 hour sample);
- 15 of the chemicals are high priority urban air toxics targeted for reductions by the 1990 Clean Air Act.





# Particulate Matter

less than 2.5 microns  
Six month data



# Carbon Disulfide Sources

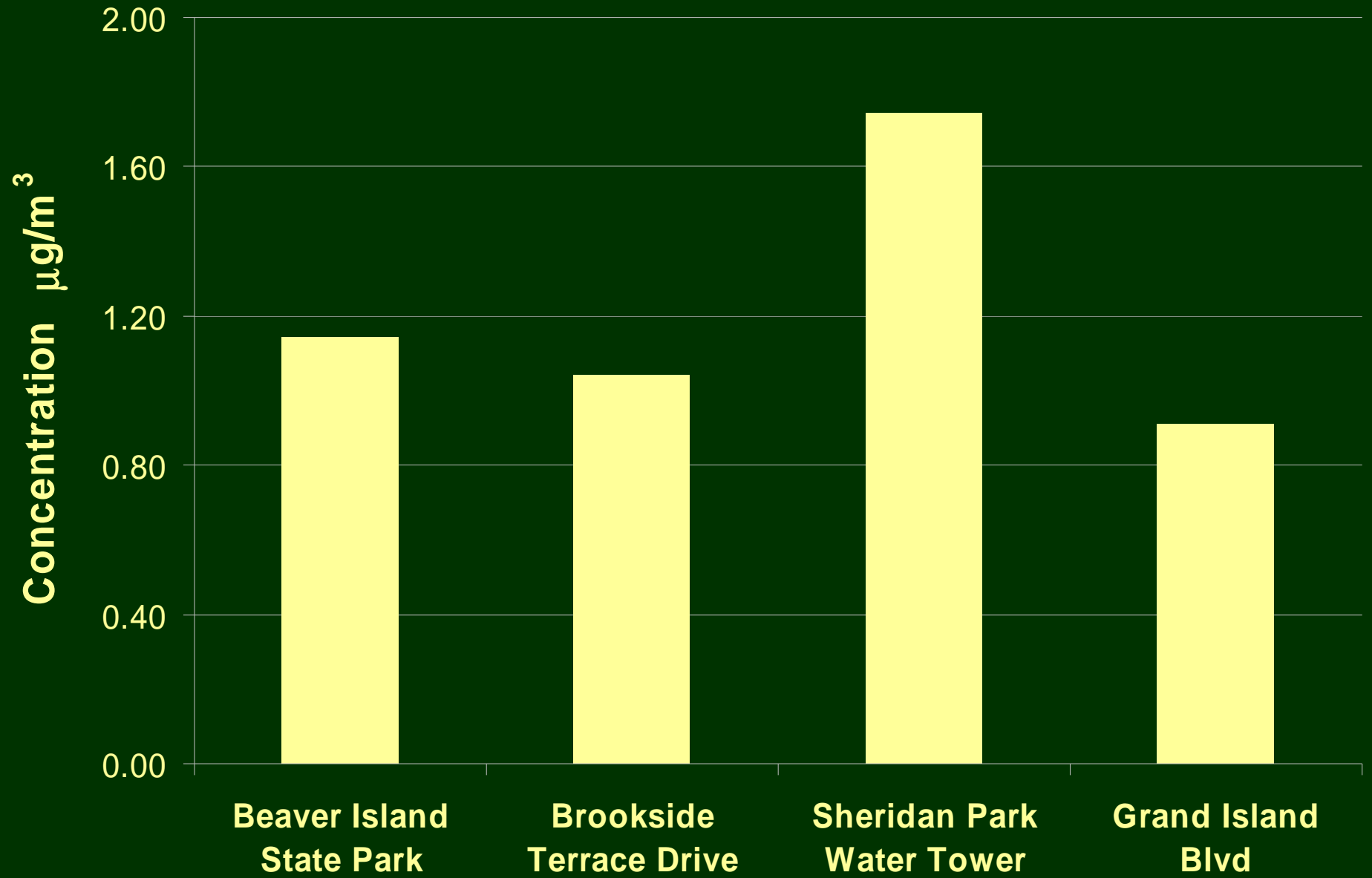
- Manmade sources include:
  - industrial sources manufacturing rayon, cellulose, and carbon tetrachloride
  - industrial sources producing rubber chemicals and pesticides
  - biological degradation and incineration of wastes
- Natural sources include emissions from marshes and wetlands; specific crop plants and trees

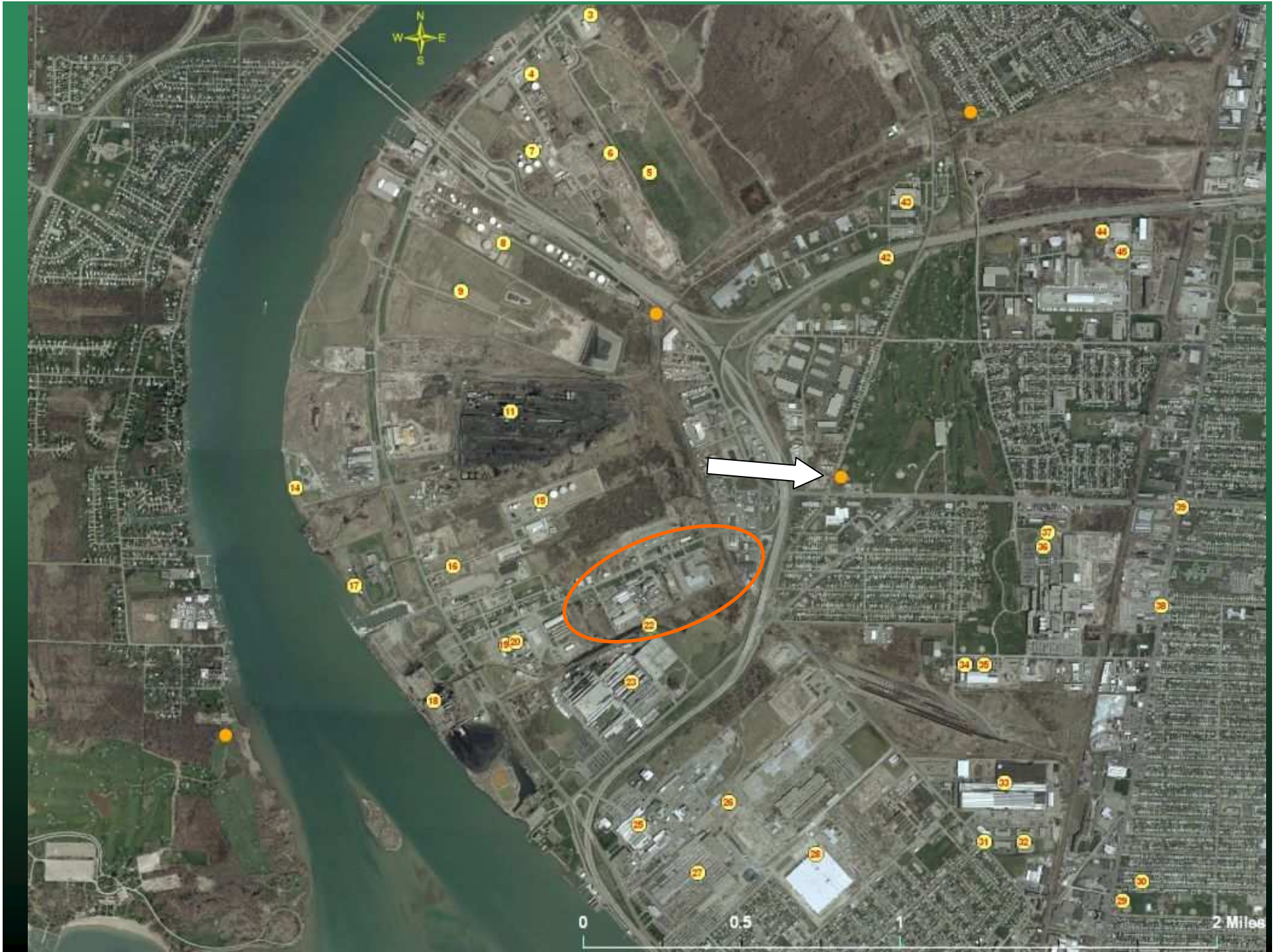




# Carbon Disulfide

Six month average







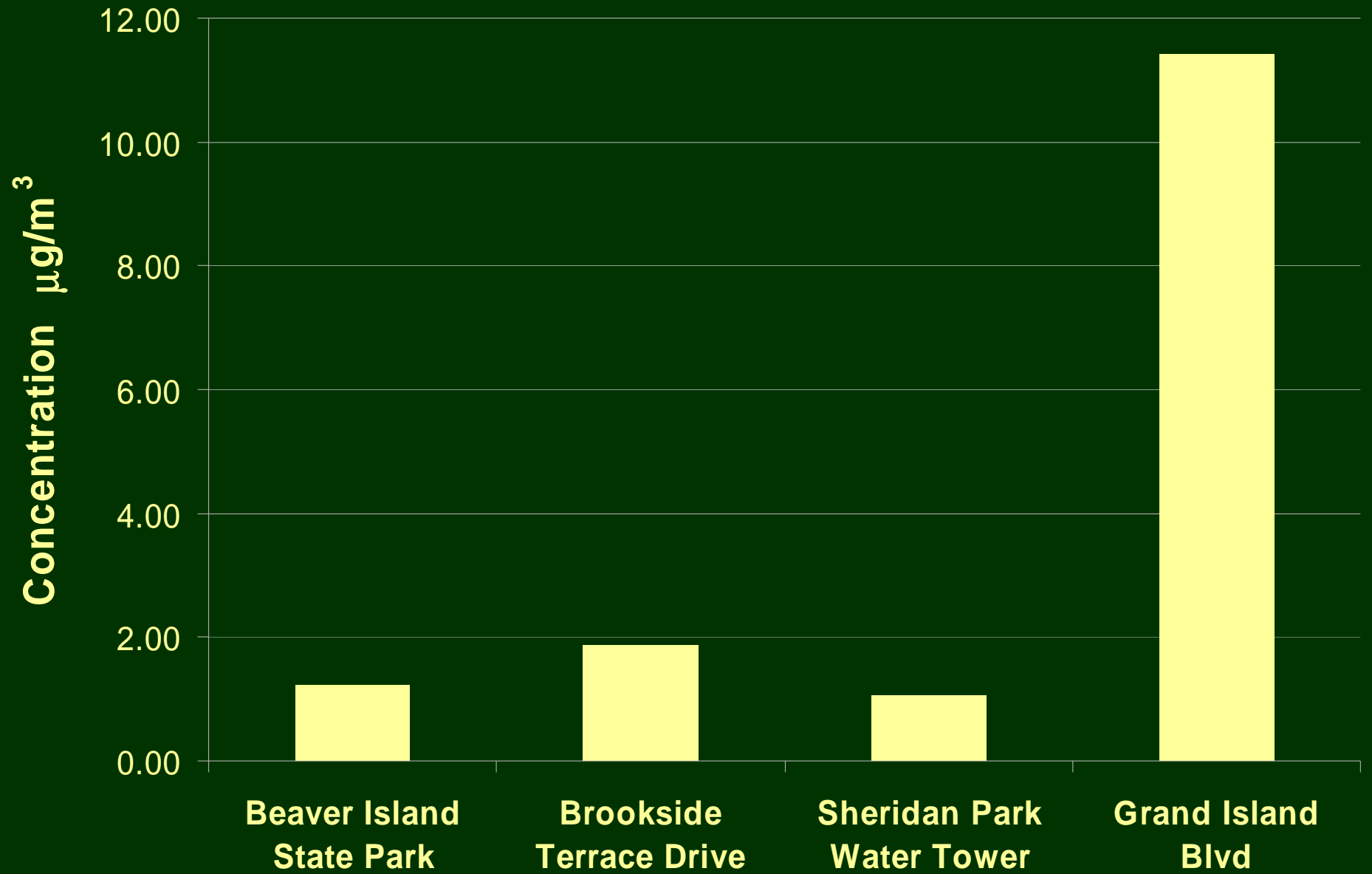
# Benzene Sources

- Manmade sources include:
  - tobacco smoke
  - motor vehicle
  - oil and natural gas production
  - petroleum refining & distribution
  - burning coal, oil and gas
  - gasoline service stations
  - coke ovens and coal chemical manufacturing
  - rubber tire manufacturing
  - storage or transport of benzene
- Natural sources include emissions from forest fires



# Benzene

six month average





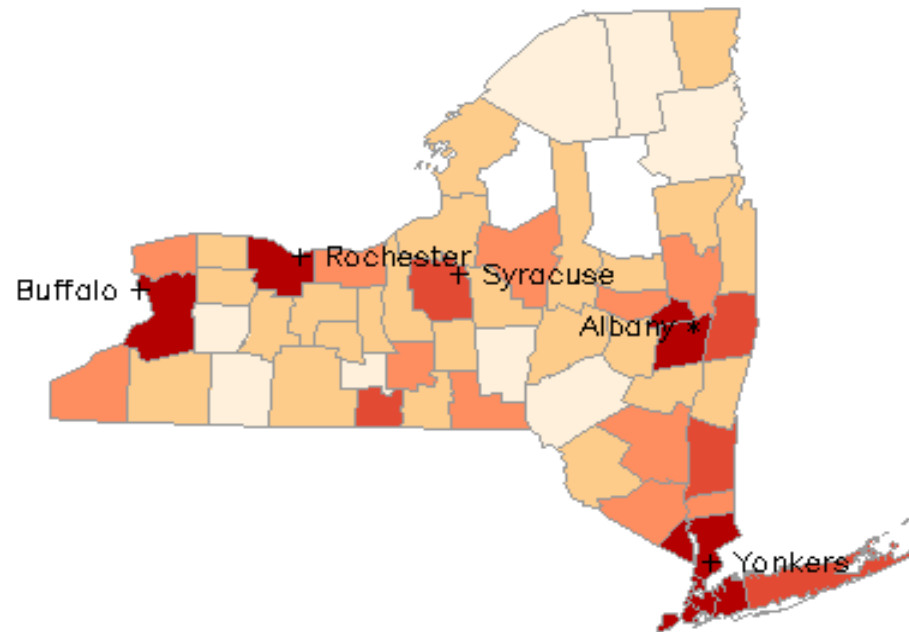
# Benzene

six month average



# 1999 NATA Results

1999 Estimated County Median Ambient Concentrations  
Benzene — NEW YORK Counties



**Distribution of U.S. Ambient Concentrations**

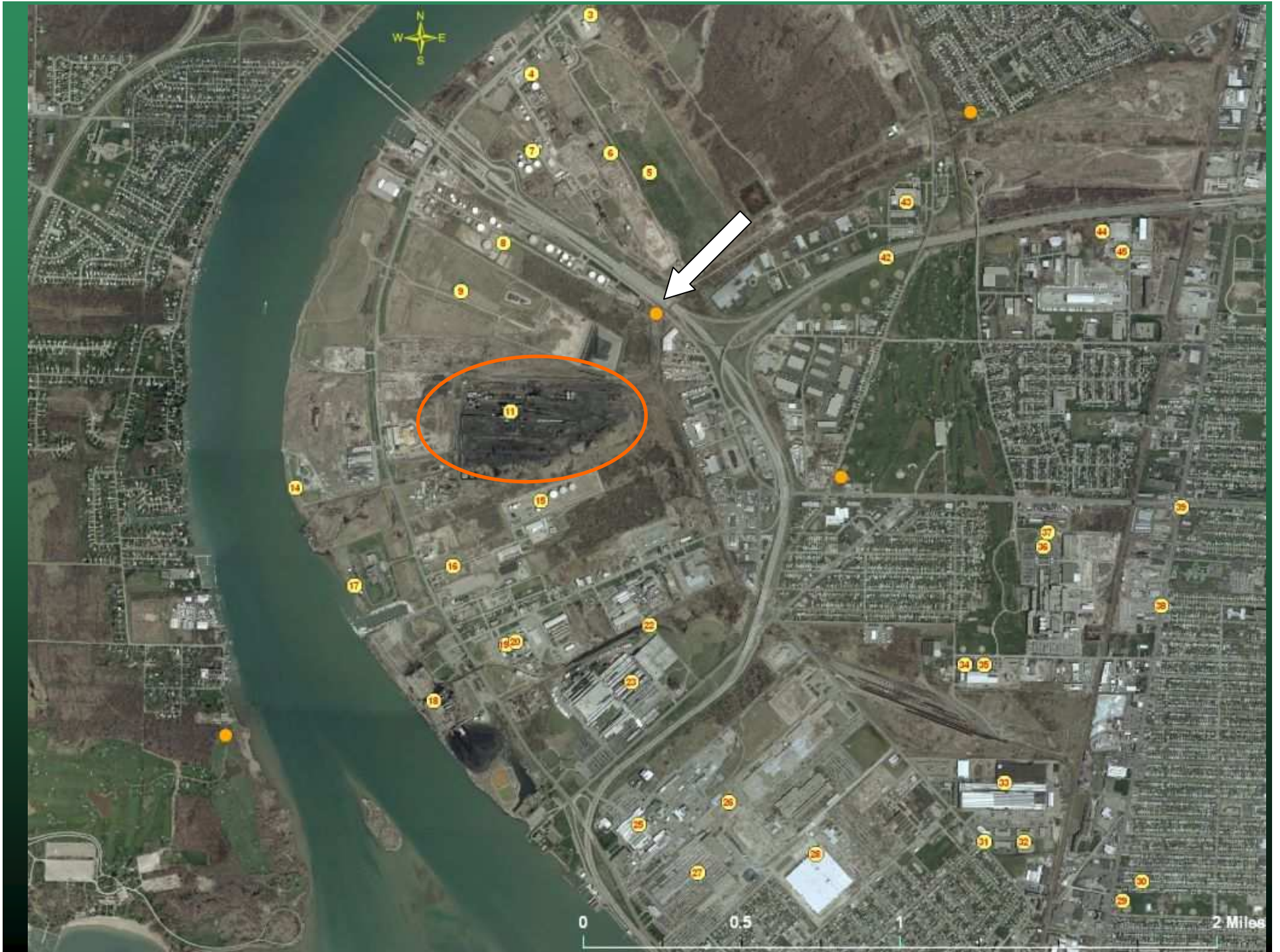
Highest In U.S.	4.93
95	1.38
90	1.10
75	0.71
50	0.45
25	0.33
Lowest In U.S.	0.063

County Median Ambient Pollutant Concentration  
(micrograms / cubic meter)

Source: U.S. EPA / QAQPS  
1999 NATA National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment







# 1,3-Butadiene

- Manmade sources
  - tobacco smoke
  - oil refineries
  - chemical manufacturing
  - commercial plastic and rubber factories
  - gasoline service stations
  - motor vehicle
- Natural sources include emissions from forest fires and biomass burning





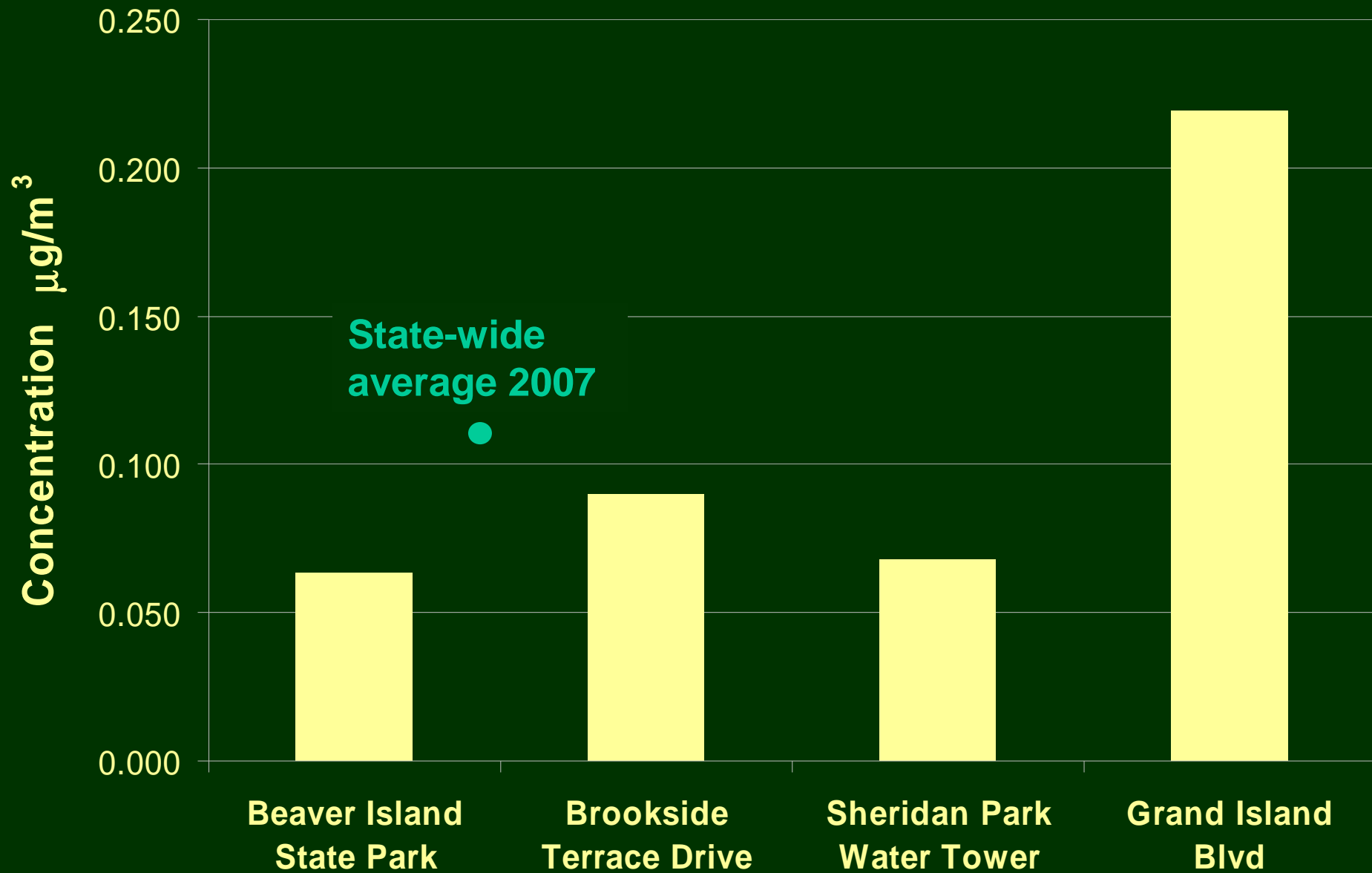
# 1,3-Butadiene

six month average



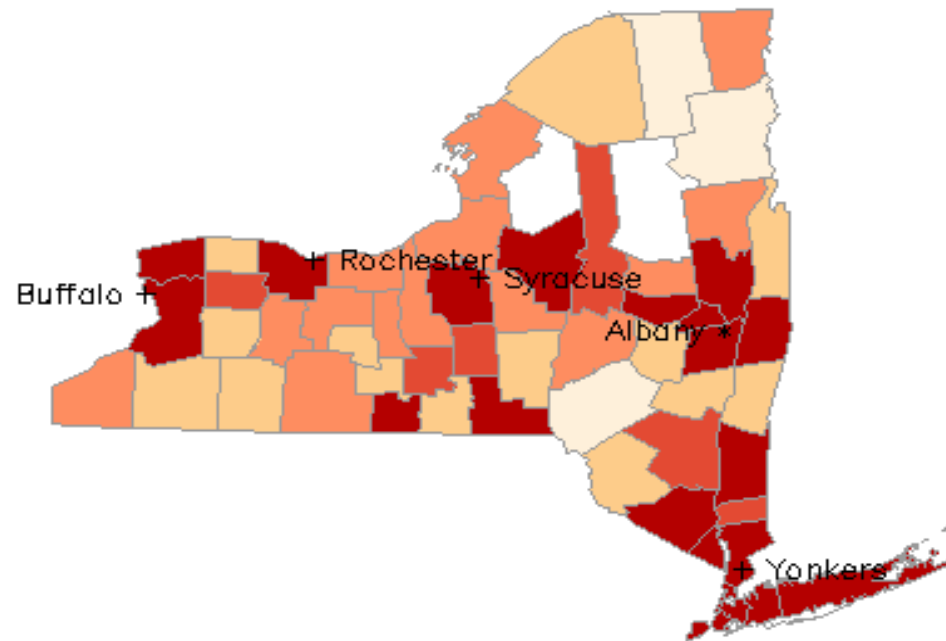
# 1,3-Butadiene

six month average



# 1999 NATA Results

1999 Estimated County Median Ambient Concentrations  
1,3-Butadiene – NEW YORK Counties



## Distribution of U.S. Ambient Concentrations

Highest In U.S.	0.70
95	0.11
90	0.078
Percentile 75	0.032
50	0.009 3
25	0.004 3
Lowest In U.S.	0.000 087

County Median Ambient Pollutant Concentration  
(micrograms / cubic meter)

Source: U.S. EPA / QAQPS

1999 NATA National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment





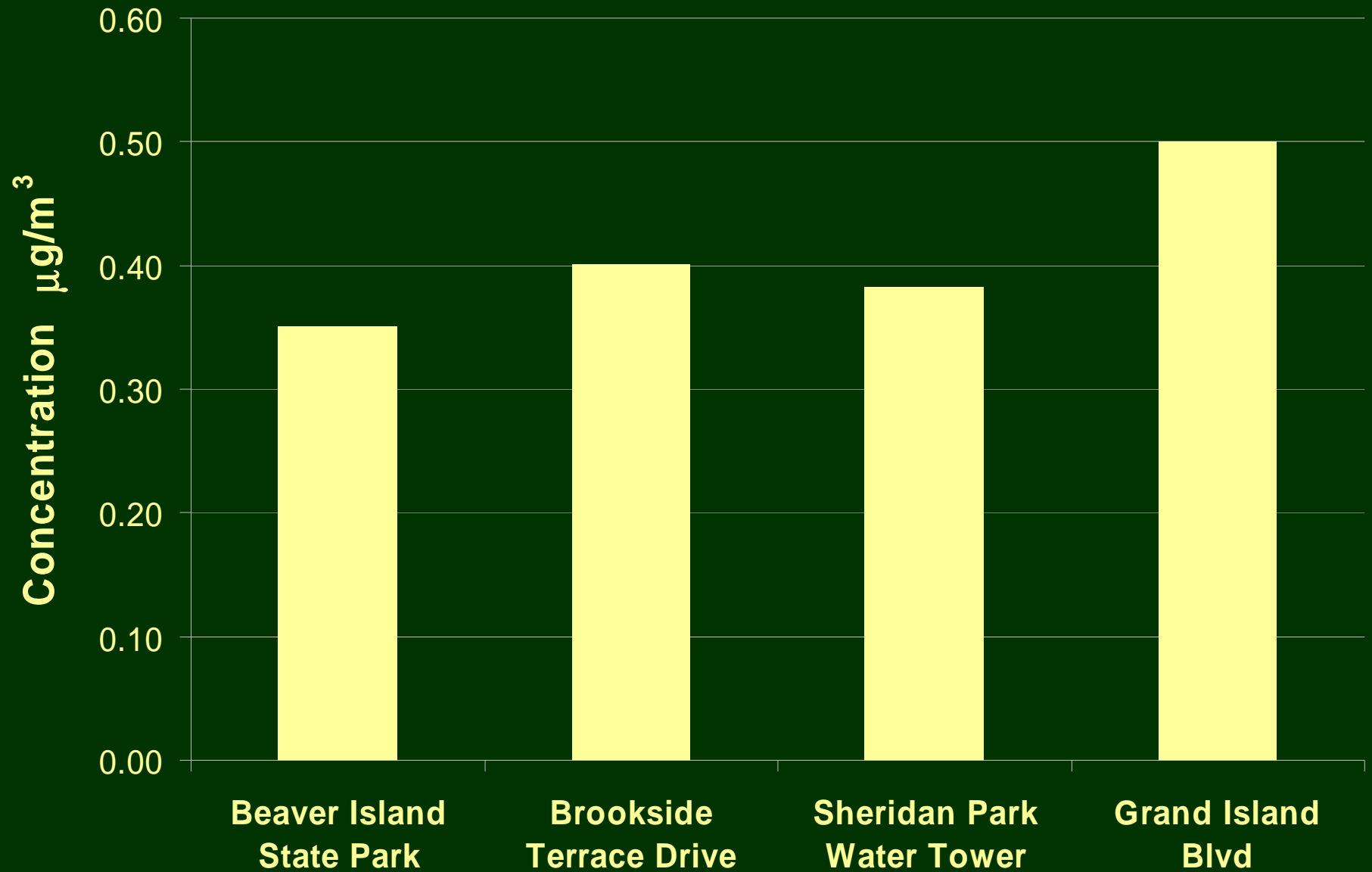
# Acrolein

- **Manmade sources**
  - tobacco smoke
  - chemical manufacturing (acrylic acid)
  - combustion of petrochemical fuels and coal
  - mobile source exhaust (cars, trucks, airplanes)
  - formed when cooking fats are overheated
  - breakdown by sunlight of various hydrocarbon pollutants (such as 1,3-butadiene)
  - used as an herbicide and algicide
- **Natural sources**
  - product of fermentation and ripening processes
  - released when organic matter such as trees and other plants, including tobacco, are burned



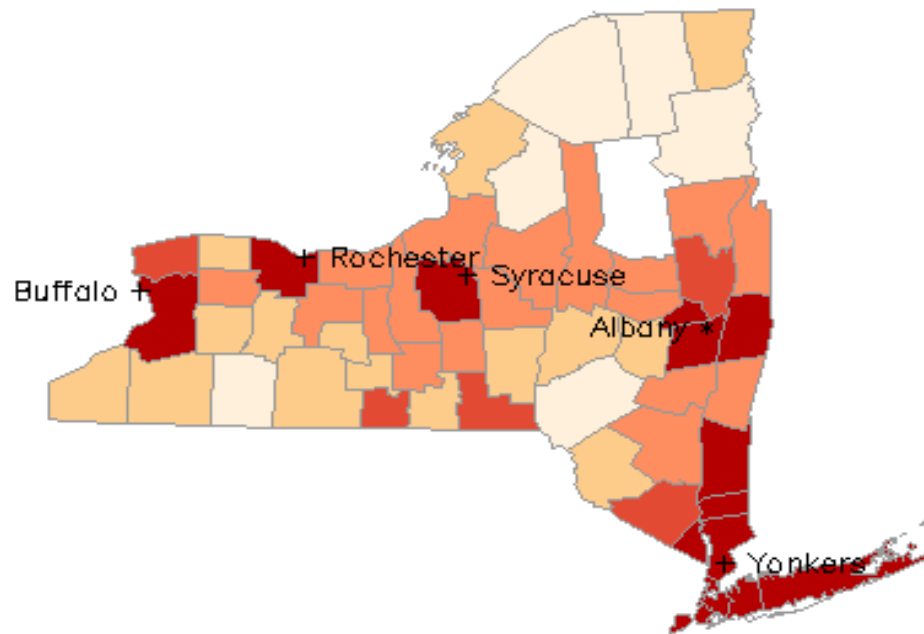
# Acrolein

six month average



# 1999 NATA Results

1999 Estimated County Median Ambient Concentrations  
Acrolein – NEW YORK Counties



**Distribution of U.S. Ambient Concentrations**

Highest In U.S.	0.63
95	0.13
90	0.085
Percentile 75	0.042
50	0.020
25	0.009 2
Lowest In U.S.	0.000 13

County Median Ambient Pollutant Concentration  
( micrograms / cubic meter )

Source: U.S. EPA / QAQPS  
1999 NATA National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment

