

Threshold Limit Values and Flammability of Some Commonly Used Gases

Substance	ACGIH Ceiling Level (C) or TLV-TWA*	Flammability
Acetylene [C ₂ H ₂]		High, Explosive
Ammonia [NH ₃]	25	High
Arsine [AsH ₃]	0.05	High, Explosive
Boron Trifluoride [BF ₃]	(C) 1	Low
1,3 Butadiene [C ₄ H ₆]	2	High
Carbon Dioxide [CO ₂]	5000	Low
Carbon Disulfide [CS ₂]	10	High
Carbon Monoxide [CO]	25	High
Chlorine [Cl ₂ *]	0.5	Low
Cyanogen [C ₂ H ₂ *]	10	High
Cyanogen Chloride [CNCl]	(C) 0.3	Low
Diazomethane [CH ₂ NO ₂]	0.2	Explosive
Diborane [B ₂ H ₆]	0.1	High
Ethylene [C ₂ H ₄]		High
Ethylene Oxide [C ₂ H ₄ O]	1.0	High
Fluorine	1	Low
Formaldehyde [CH ₂ O]	(C) 0.3	High
Hydrogen [H ₂]		High, Explosive
Hydrogen chloride (anhydrous) [HCl]	(C) 5.0	Low
Hydrogen Cyanide	(C) 4.7	High

Hydrogen Fluoride [HF]	(C)3.0	Low
Hydrogen Selenide [H ₂ Se]	0.05	High
Hydrogen Sulfide [H ₂ S]	10	High
Methane [CH ₄]		High
Methyl Acetylene [C ₃ H ₄]	1000	High
Methyl Acetylene Propadiene Mixture [MAPP]	1000	High
Methyl Bromide [CH ₃ Br]	1	High
Methyl Chloride [CH ₃ Cl]	50	High
Methyl Mercaptan [CH ₄ S]	0.5	High
Nickel Carbonyl [Ni(CO) ₄]	0.05	High
Nitric Oxide [NO]	25	Low
Nitrogen Dioxide [NO ₂]	3	Low
Nitrogen Trifluoride [NF ₃]	10	Low
Oxygen Difluoride [OF ₂]	(C) 0.05	Low
Ozone [O ₃]	0.05 - 0.2 γ	Low
Phosgene [CCl ₂ O]	0.1	Low
Phosphine [PH ₃]	0.3	High
Propane [C ₃ H ₈]	2500	High, Explosive
Propylene [C ₃ H ₆]		High
Silane (Silicon Tetrahydride) [SiH ₄]	5	High
Stibine [SbH ₃]	0.1	High
Sulfur Dioxide [SO ₂]	2	Low

Sulfur Tetrafluoride [SF4]	(C) 0.1	Low
Trifluorobromomethane (Halon 1301) [CBrF3]	1000	Low
Vinyl Chloride [C2H3Cl]	1	High

* parts per million

γ Depending on type of work.

References: CRC Handbook of Laboratory Safety 3rd Edition 2000 Threshold Limit Values and Biological Exposure Indices, ACGIH 1991 NFPA 45 Standard on Fire Protection for Laboratories Using Chemicals

ACGIH TLV-TWA: Threshold limit value (see [glossary](#))

ACGIH TLV-C: Ceiling value (see [glossary](#))