

تونس في 18 ماي 2020

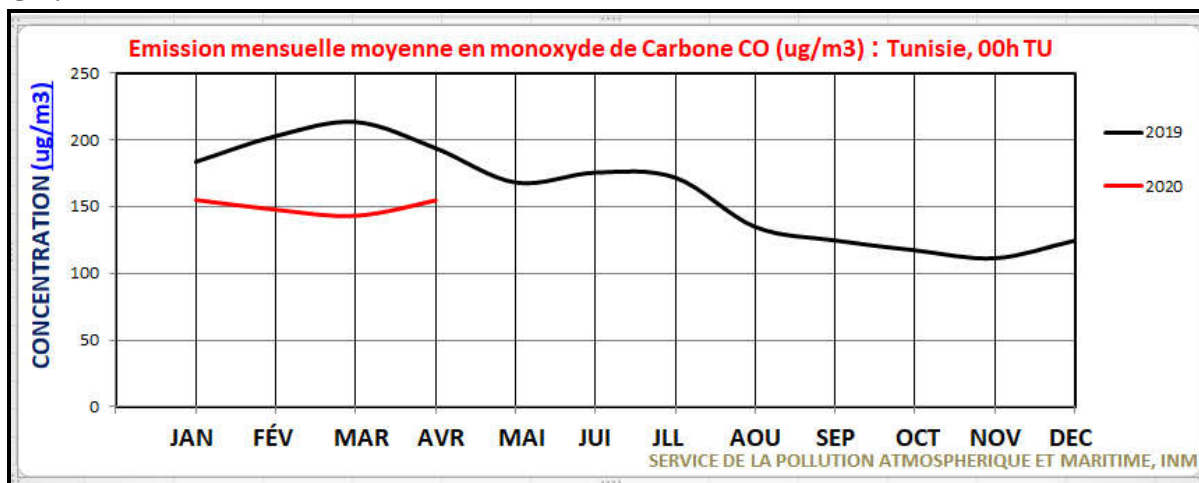
## Confinement and coronavirus: falling air pollution in Tunisia



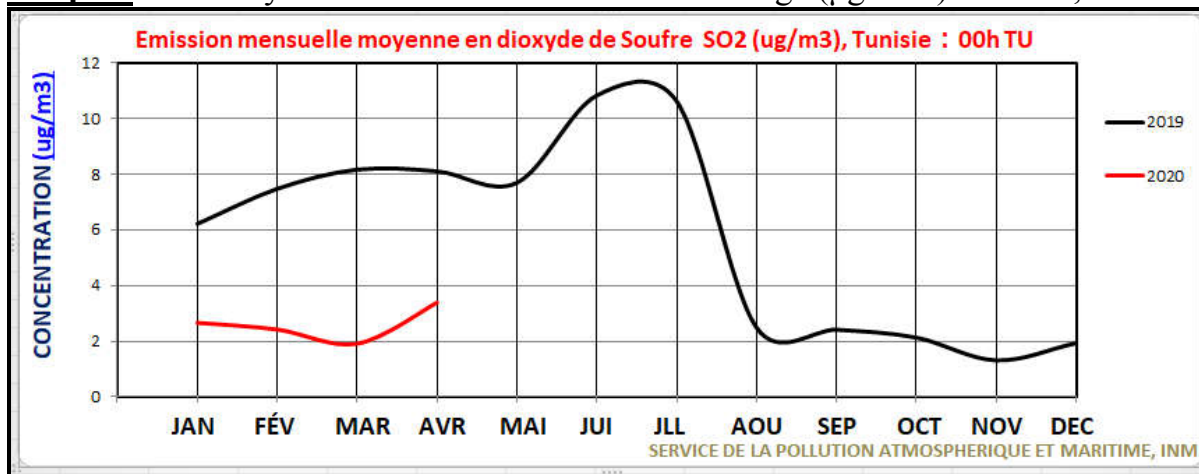
Air quality improved significantly during the confinement, which has now lasted almost a month and a half (March and April). A spectacular fall in nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and Carbon Monoxide (CO) produced mainly by human activities, was observed during this period in several Tunisian cities and in particular in the North and at the Center, using satellite measurements from the European center by the European Earth monitoring program - COPERNICUS -, analyzed and developed at the National Institute of Meteorology (INM).

Four graphs (graphs 1 to 4) were produced showing average monthly emissions of four pollutants; are Carbon Monoxide CO, Sulfur Dioxide SO<sub>2</sub>, Nitrogen Dioxide NO<sub>2</sub> and Ozone O<sub>3</sub> in Tunisia. These first three pollutants showed a remarkable decrease during the confinement period mainly linked to the reduction in emissions from road traffic and industries. As for Ozone (graph 4), it showed significant growth mainly due to a combination of oxygen and nitrogen, which most often occurs in the context of combustion phenomena at high temperature in the presence of excess oxygen. This type of combustion can occur in the context of natural phenomena such as in the presence of thunderstorms, of a high temperature prevailing in the vicinity of lightning or around forest fires ..., so results from human activities.

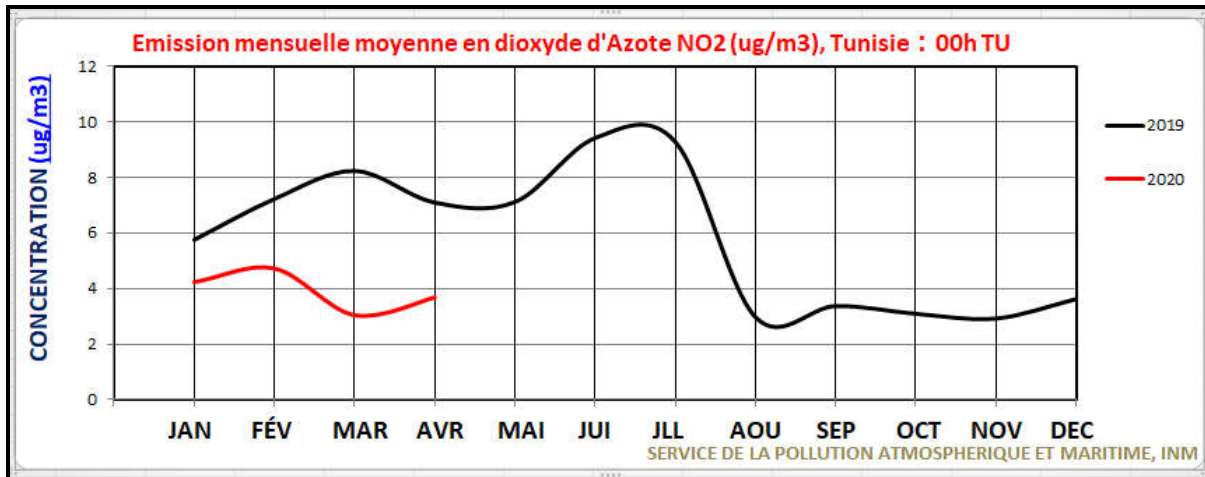
**Graph 1** : Monthly carbon monoxide CO emission average ( $\mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ ): Tunisia, 00h UT.



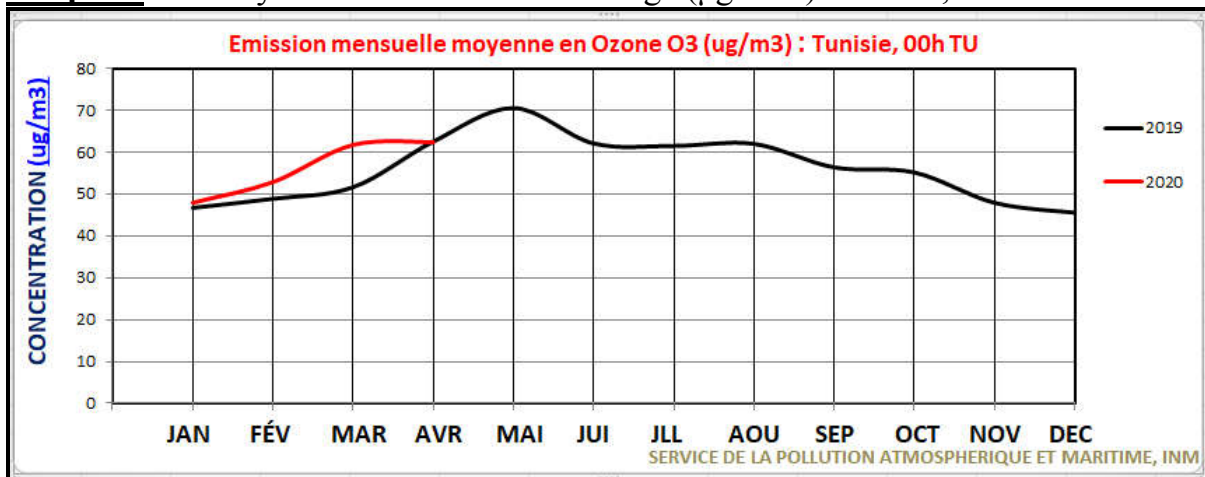
**Graph 2** : Monthly sulfur dioxide SO<sub>2</sub> emission average ( $\mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ ): Tunisia, 00h UT.



**Graph 3 :** Monthly nitrogen dioxide NO<sub>2</sub> emission average (µg / m<sup>3</sup>): Tunisia, 00h UT.



**Graph 4:** Monthly emission Ozone O<sub>3</sub> average (µg / m<sup>3</sup>): Tunisia, 00h UT.



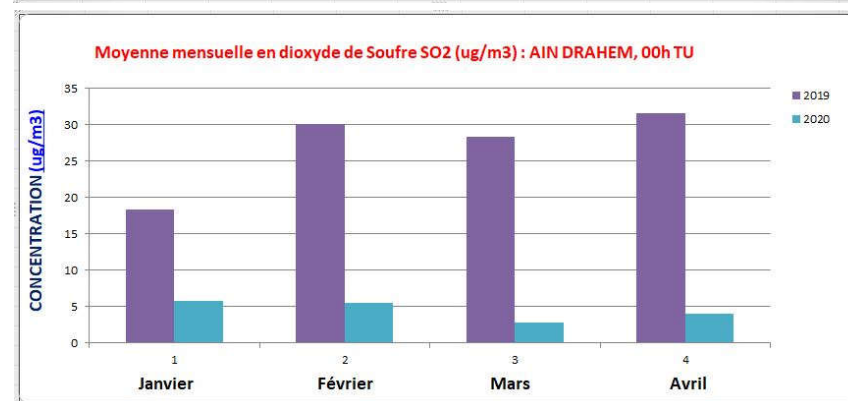
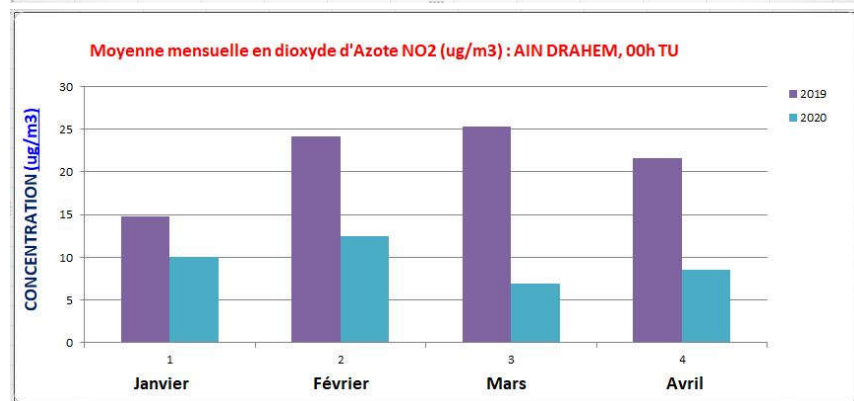
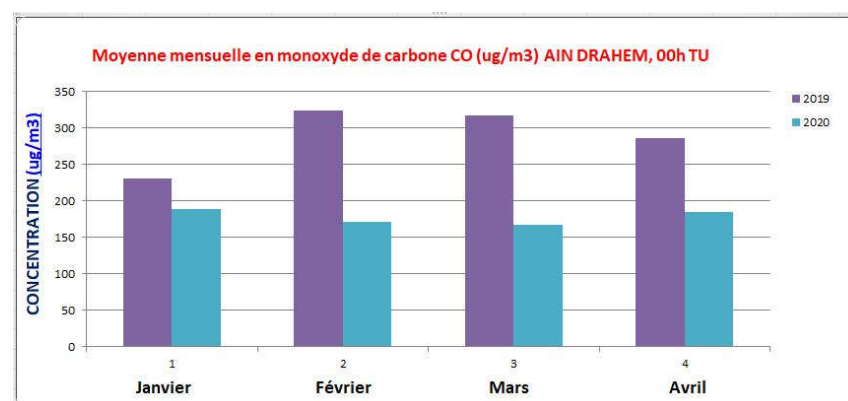
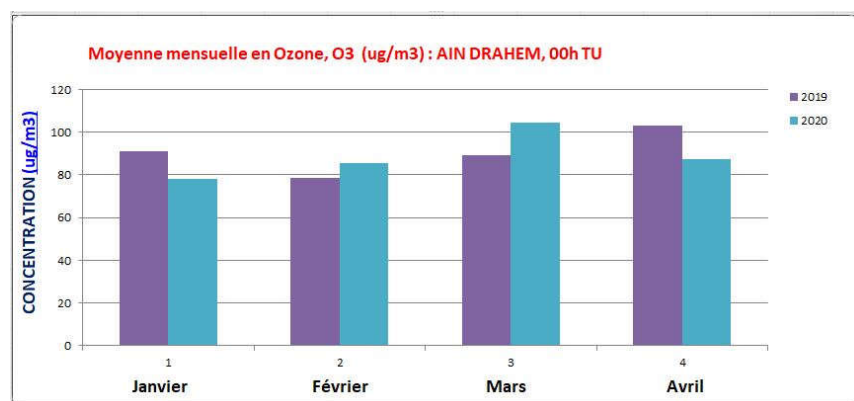
Monthly graphs were also produced for the majority of Tunisian regions, making it possible to visualize the effects of confinement on air quality. This is concerned the nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO) and ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), pollutants concentrations known to have deleterious effects on human health.

Here, we compare a normal situation (from the previous year, 2019) to the situation observed since confinement (2020); either for the two months of March and April. This general decline in pollution observed having an impact on health and on the climate in the atmosphere. According to the data collected, all of Europe, North America and China have seen this decrease. These monthly graphs show remarkable differences in the concentrations of these four pollutants in Tunisia. These first three pollutants showed a remarkable decrease in the north and the center of more than 40% during the confinement period linked mainly to the reduction in emissions from road traffic and industries. Conversely, the Ozone showed growth of almost 20% in the center west of the country and a slight decrease of 10% in the northwest and south of the country. The monthly charts by region are presented in appendix A show all these variations by region from Bizerte to El Borma.

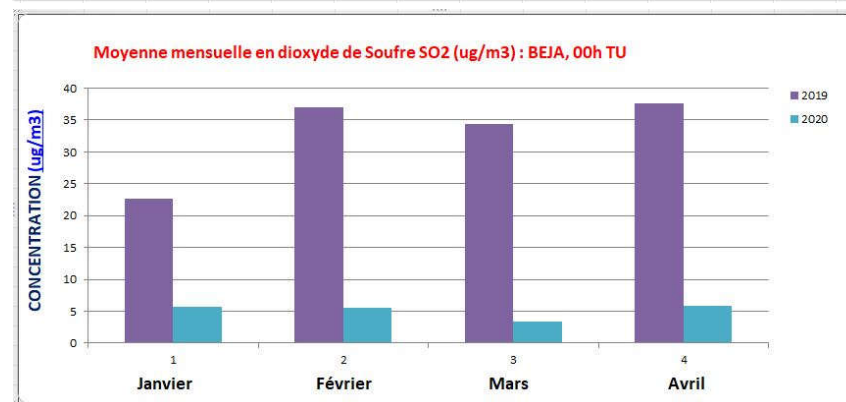
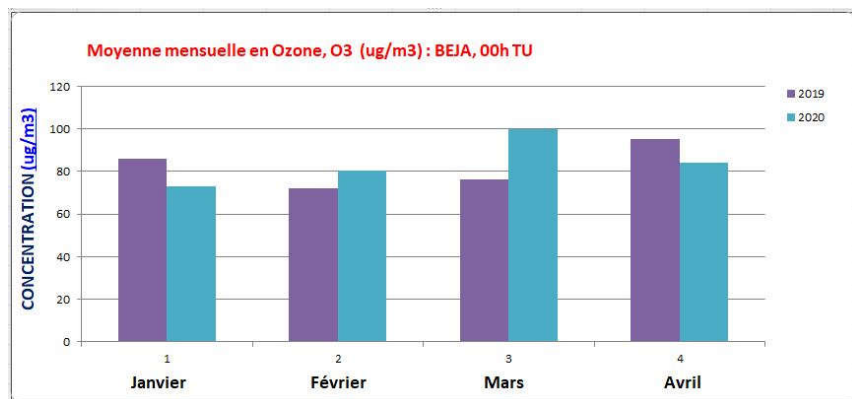
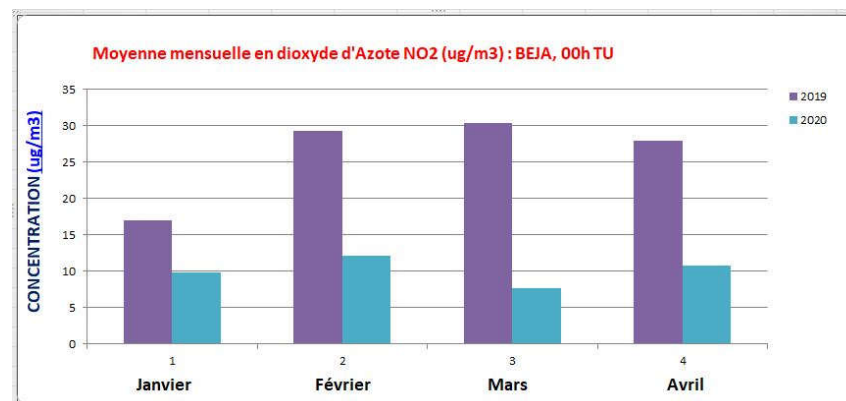
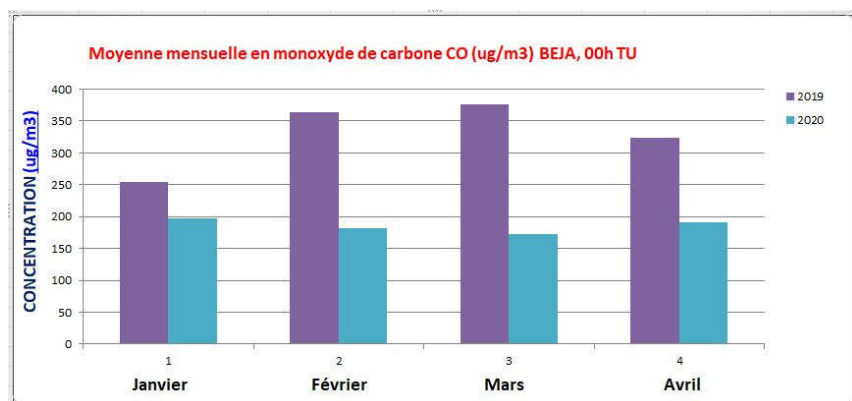
## Appendix A

### (Air pollution in Tunisia, January to April 2019 & 2020)

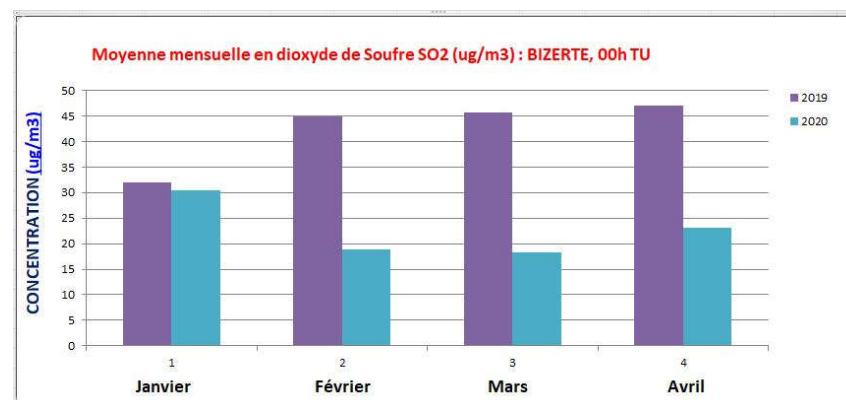
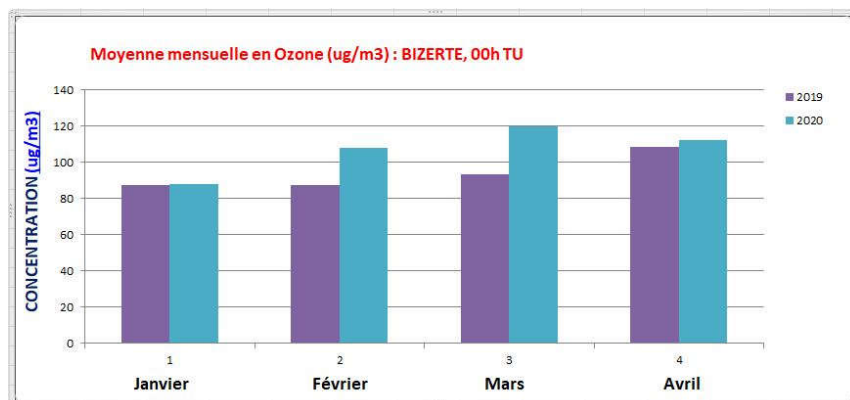
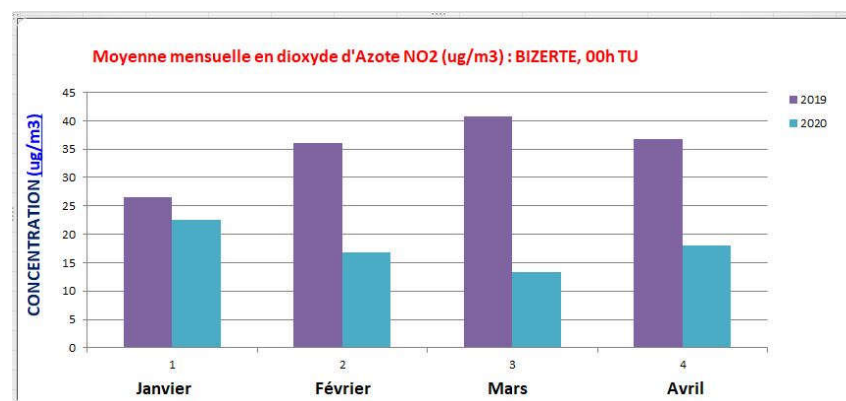
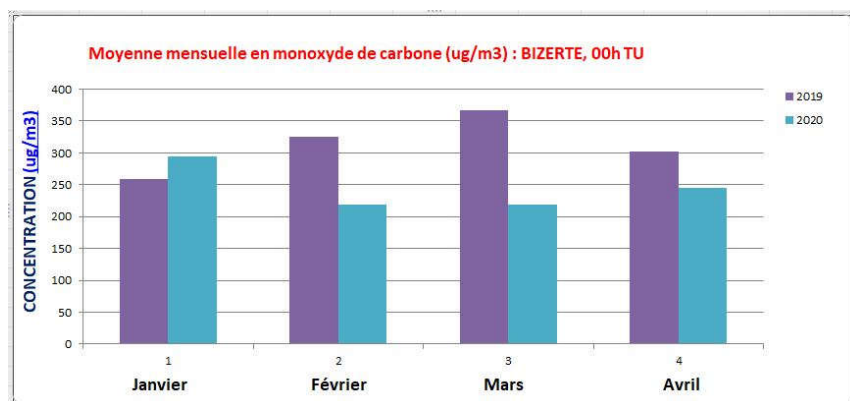
#### Ain Drahem



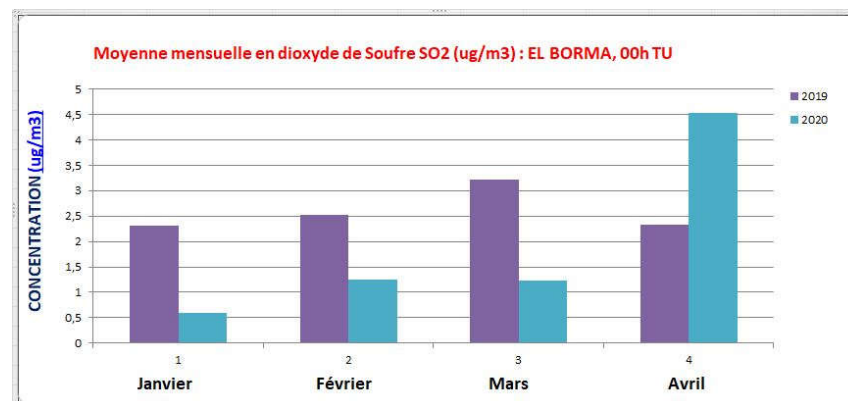
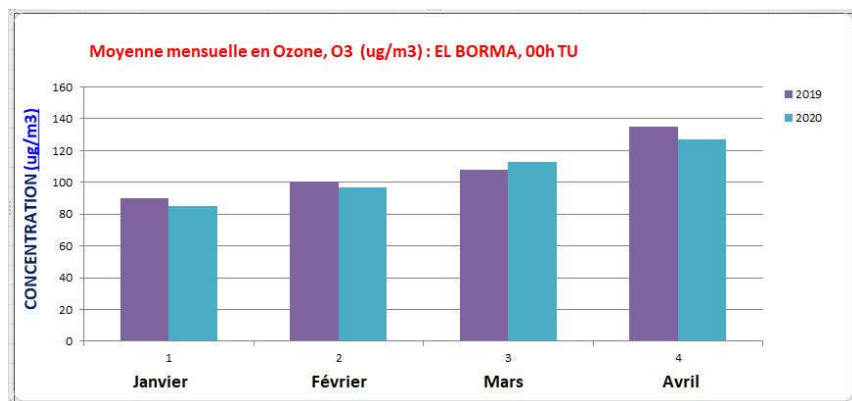
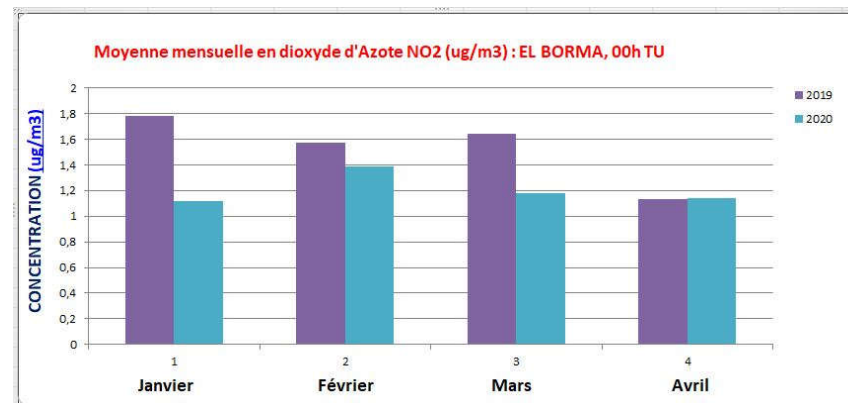
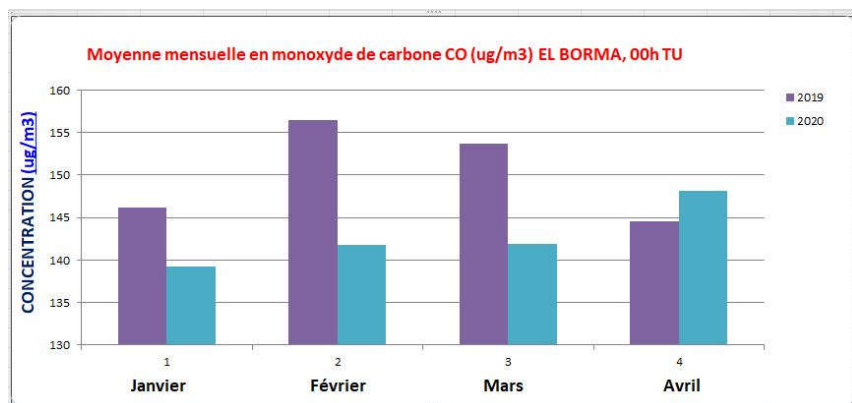
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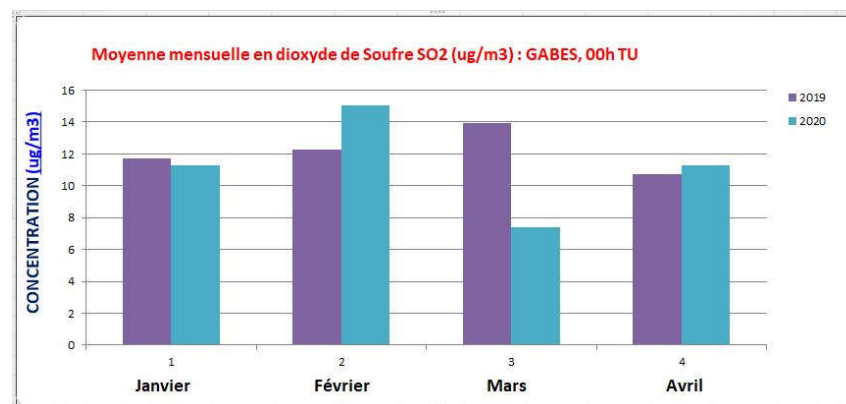
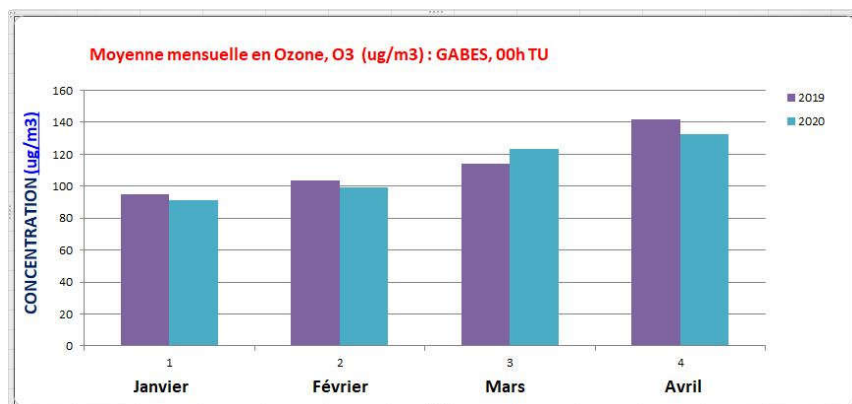
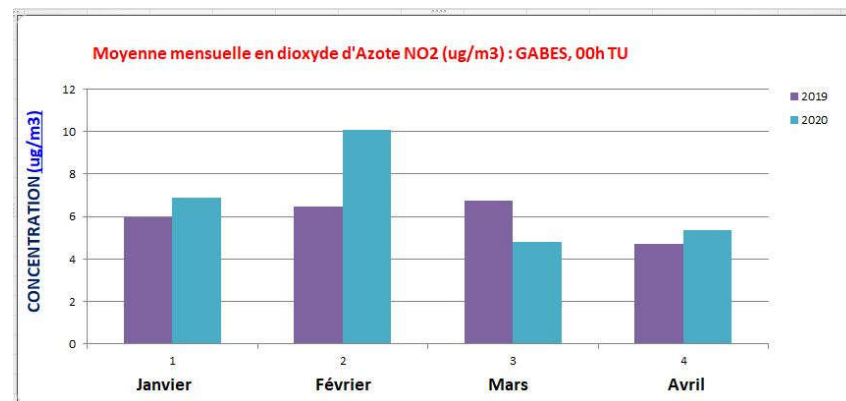
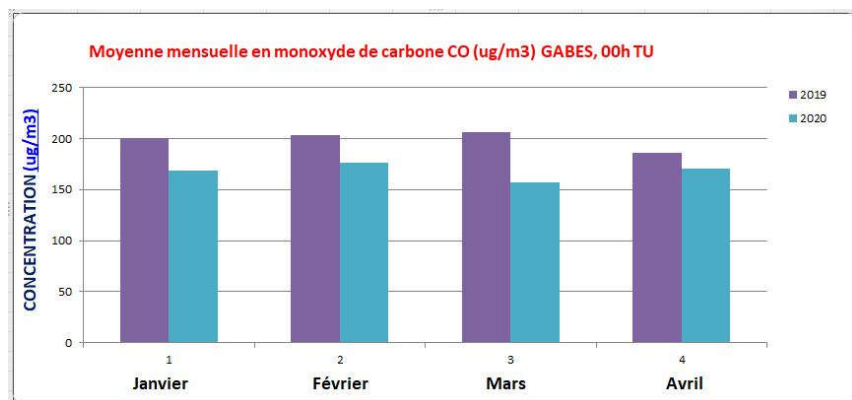


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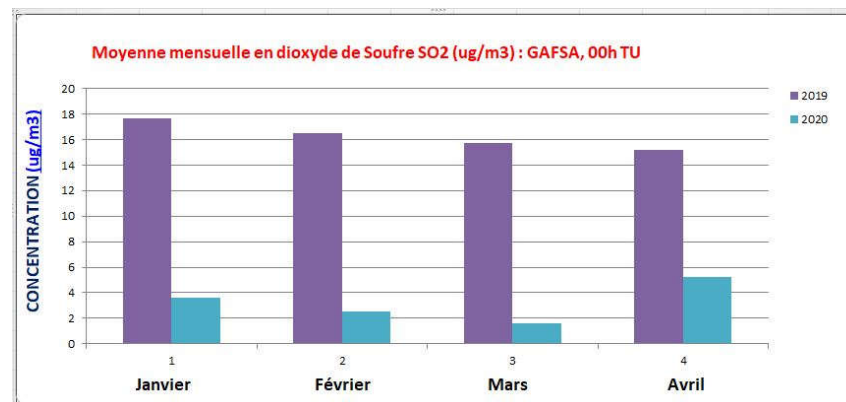
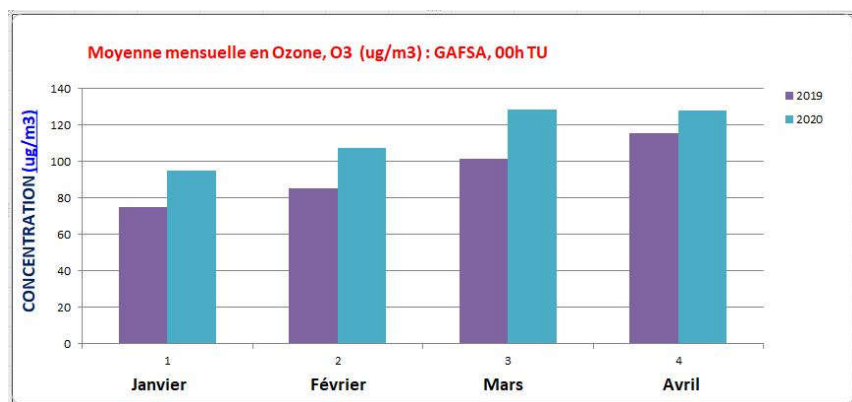
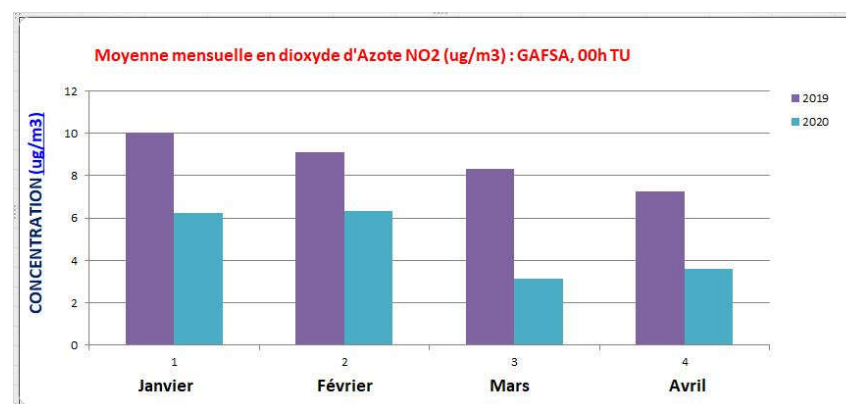
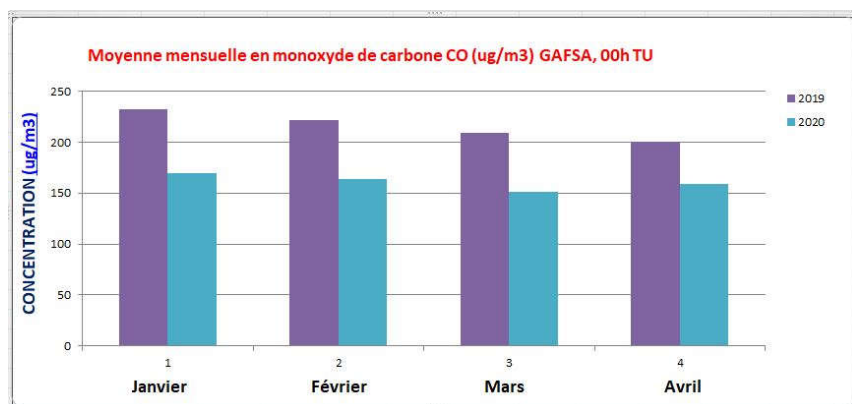


## GABES



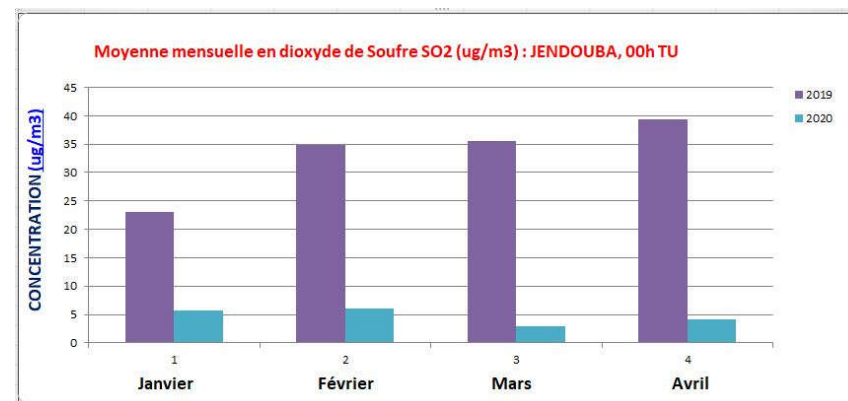
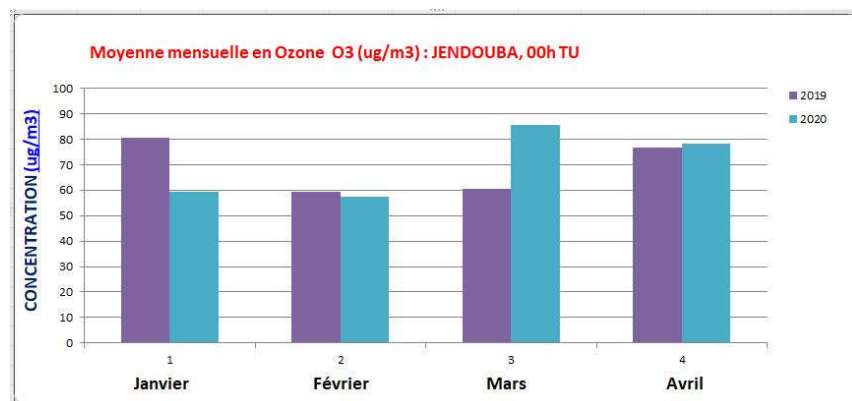
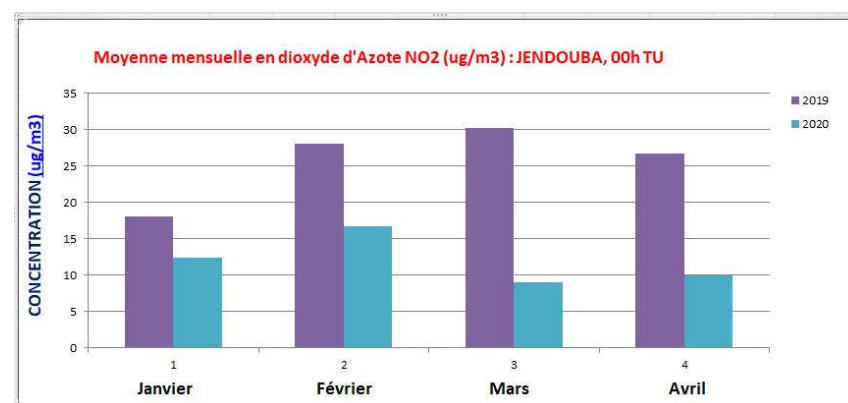
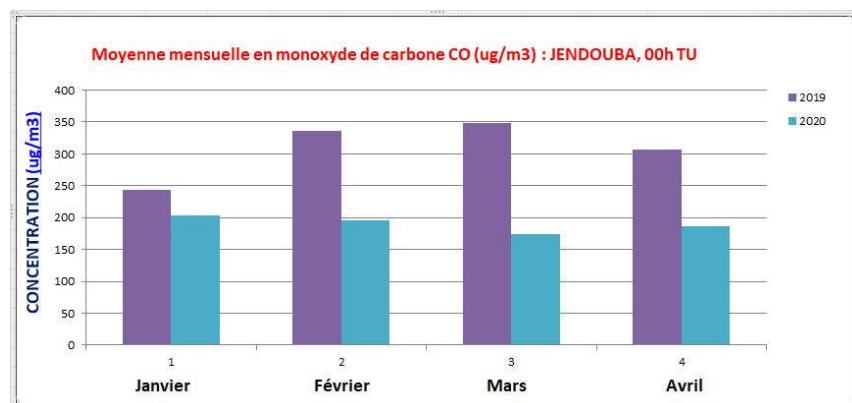


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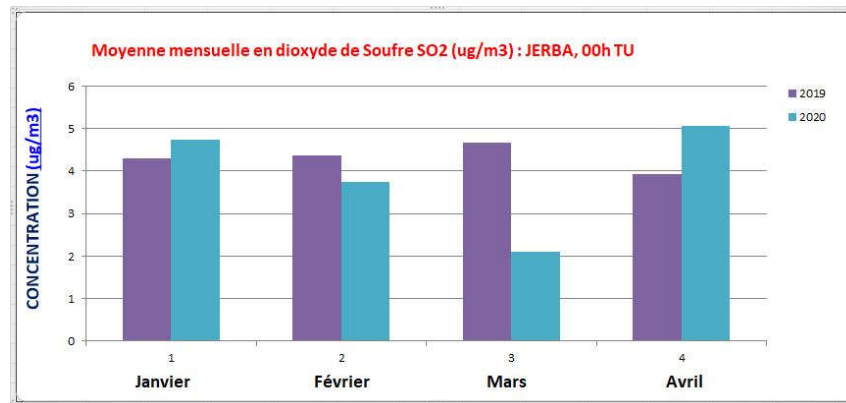
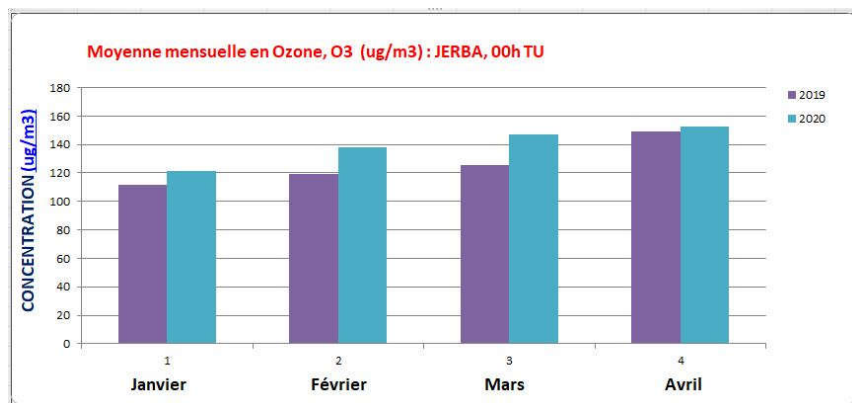
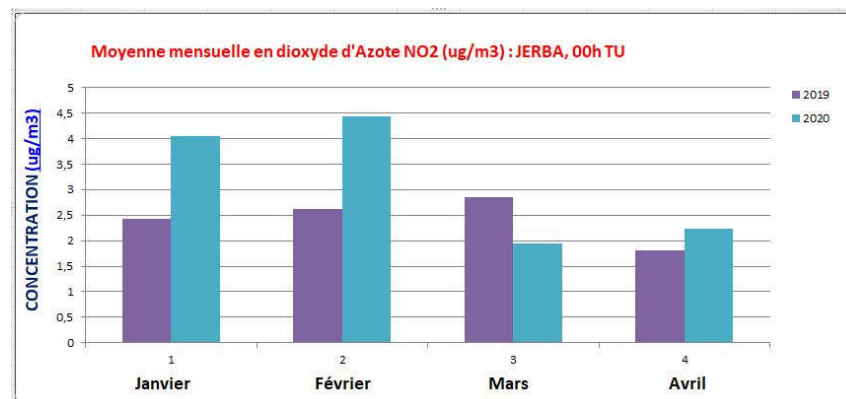
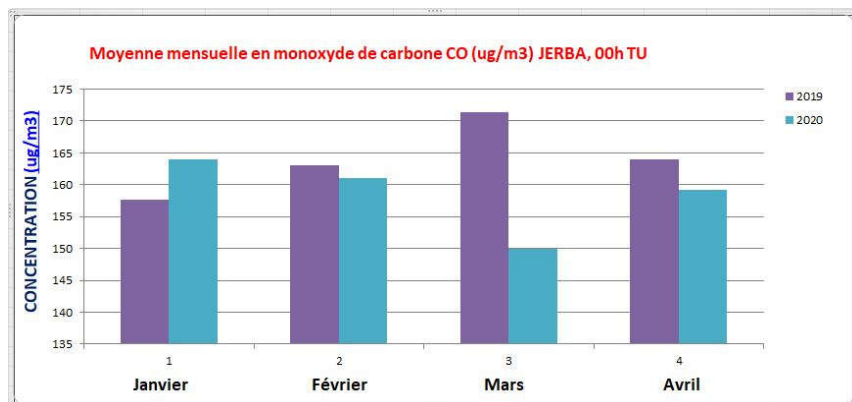


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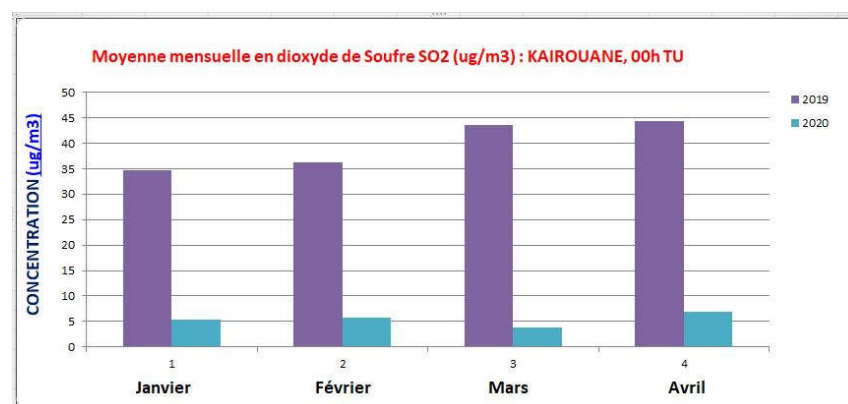
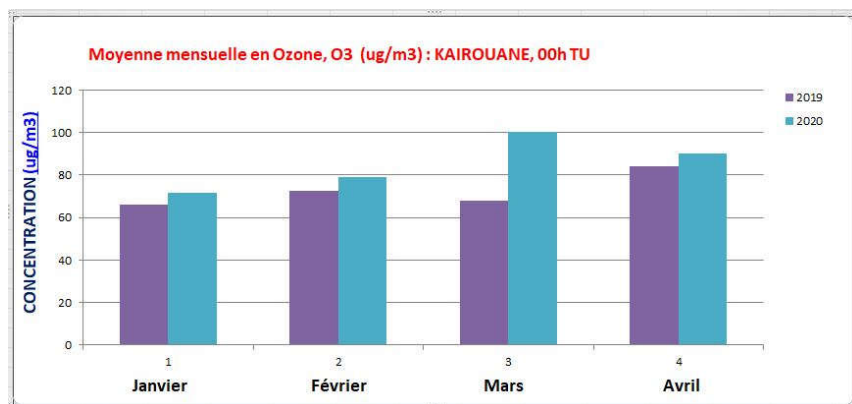
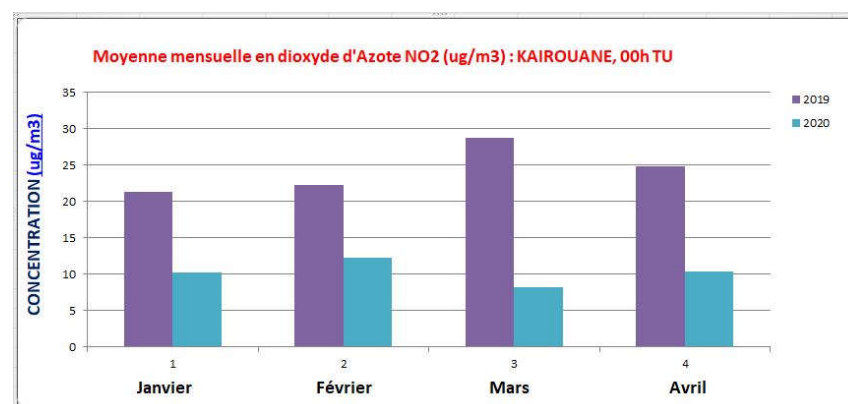
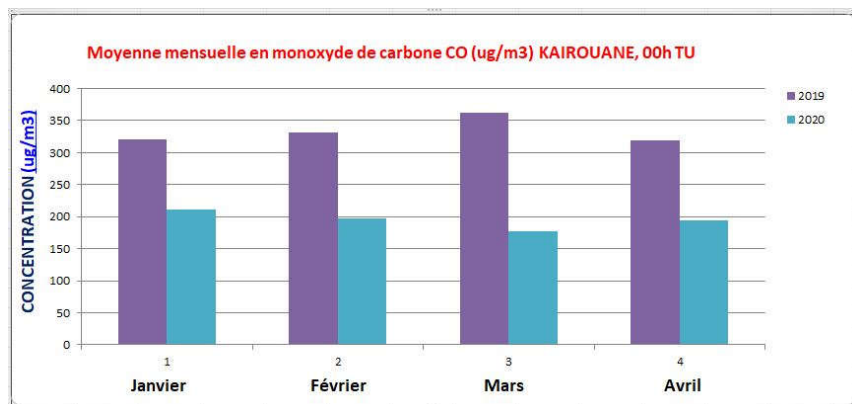


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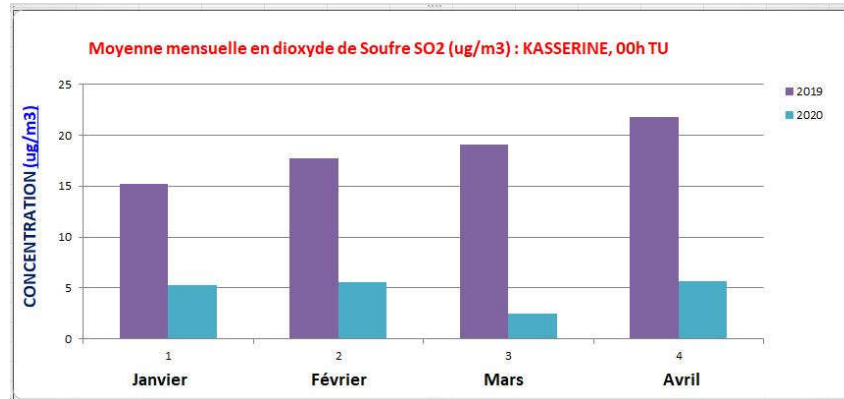
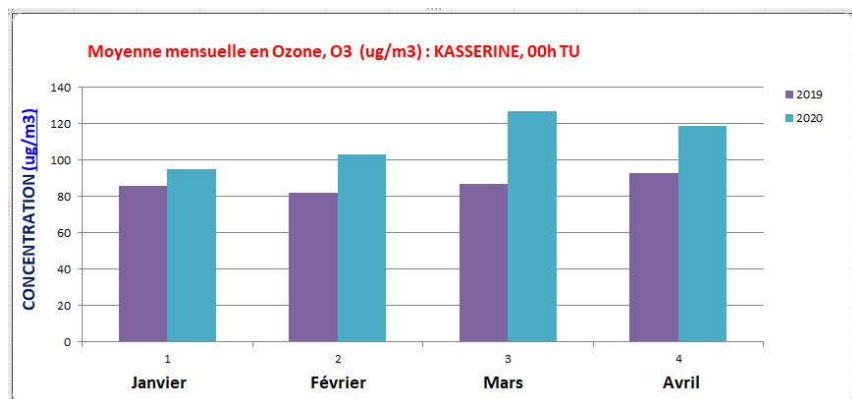
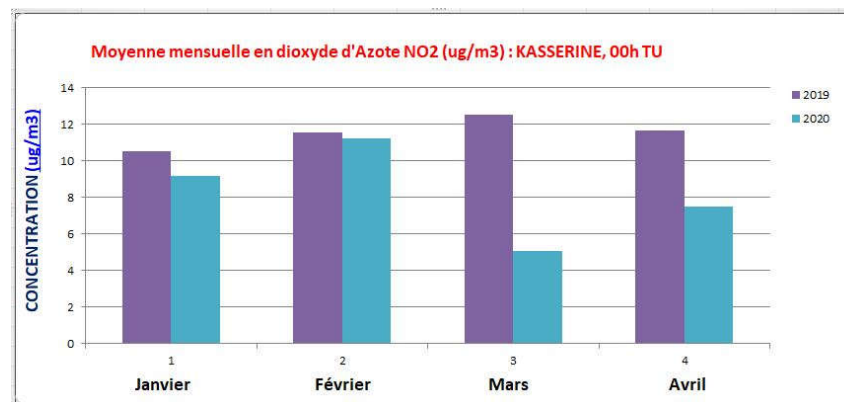
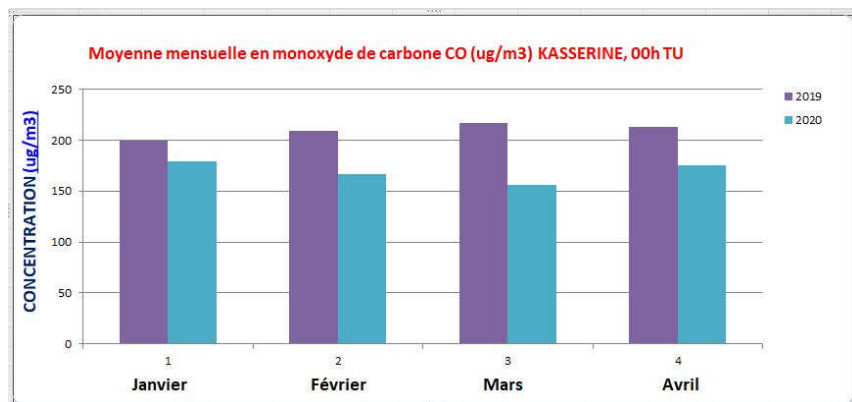


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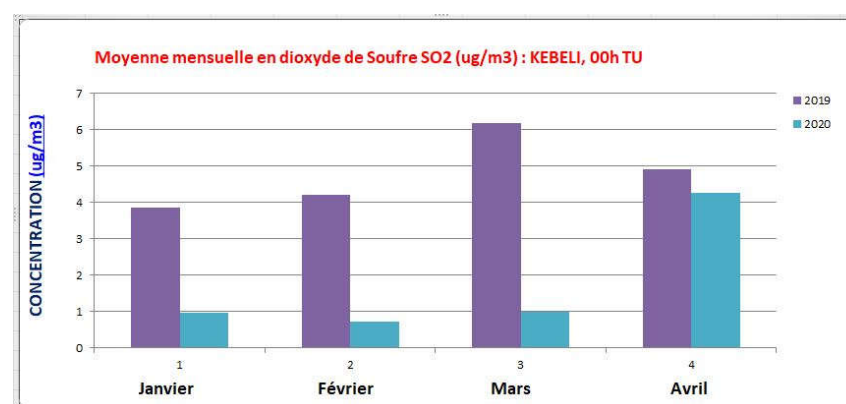
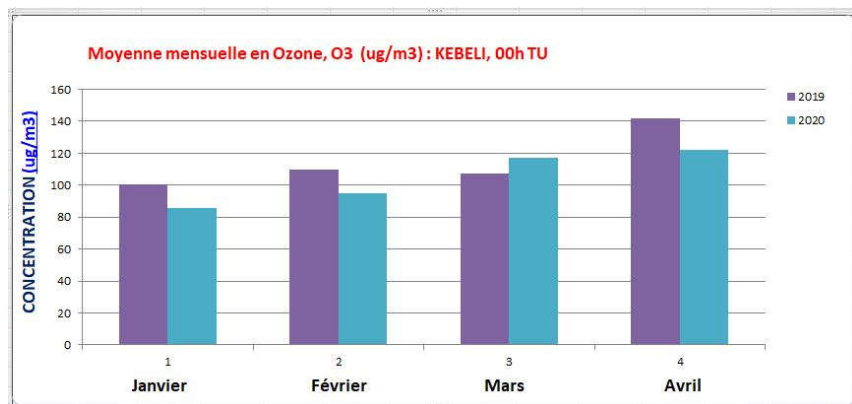
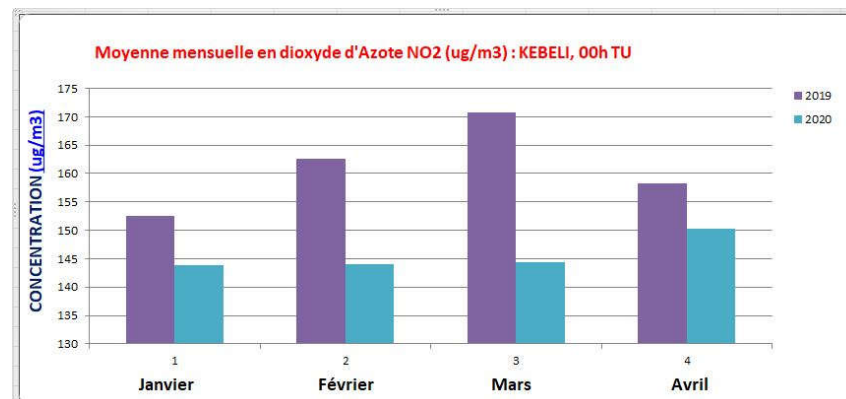
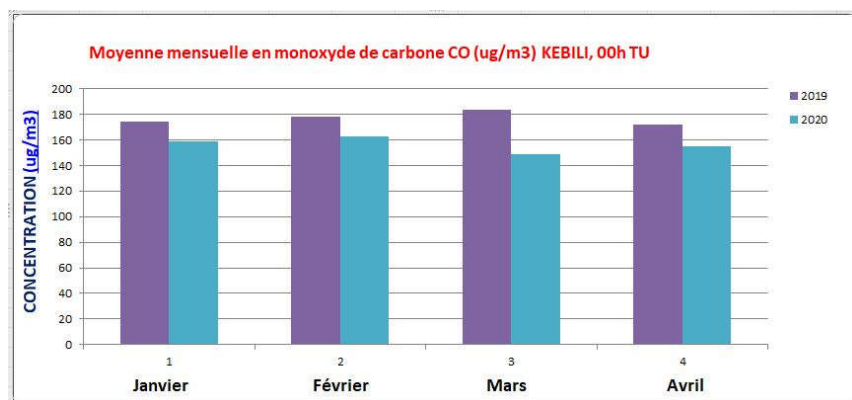


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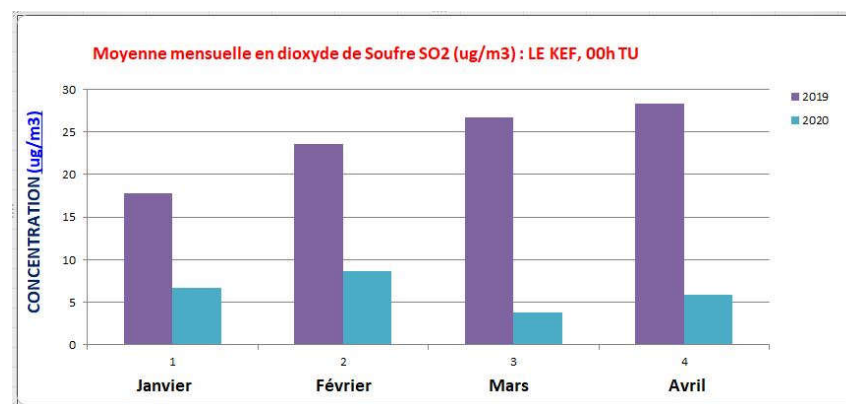
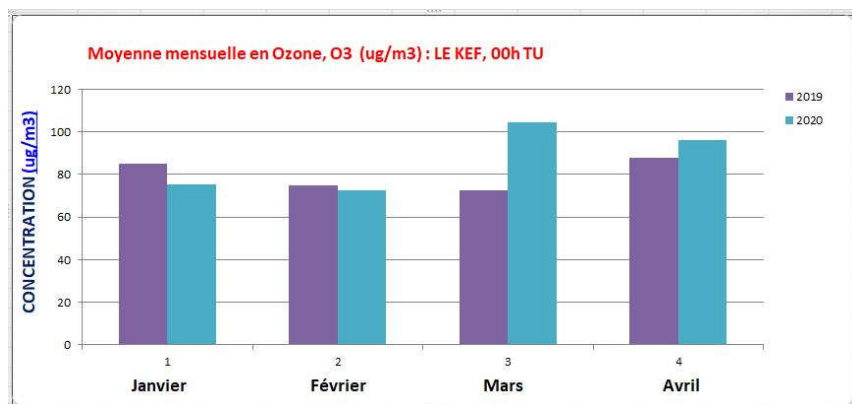
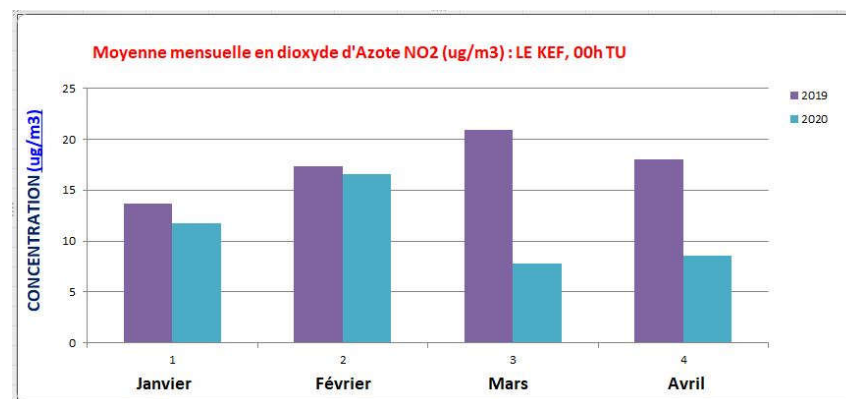
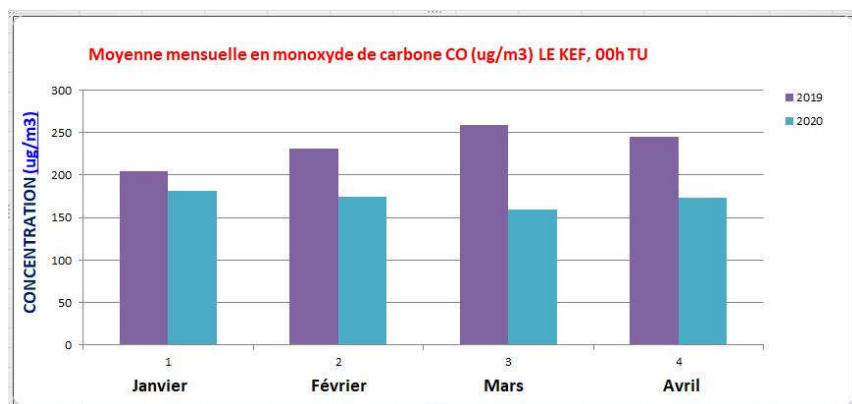


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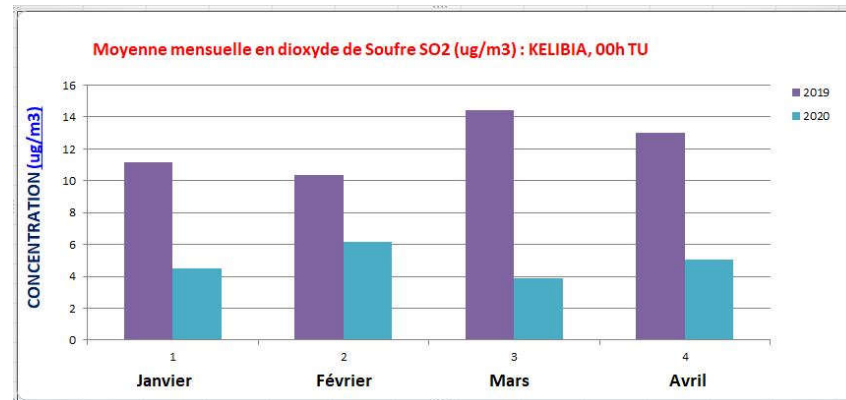
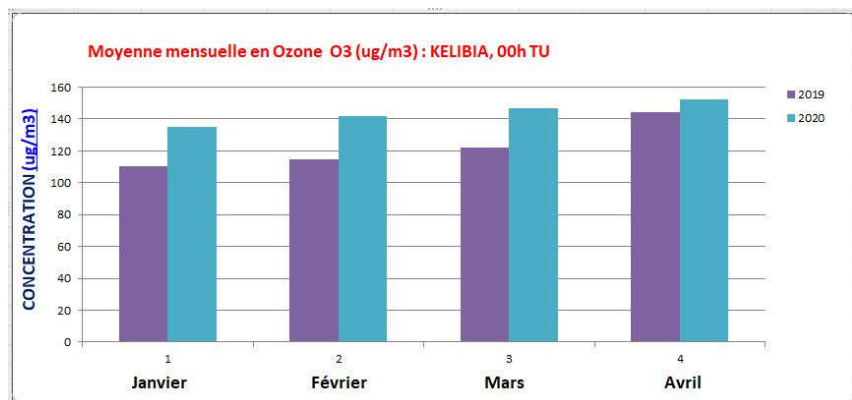
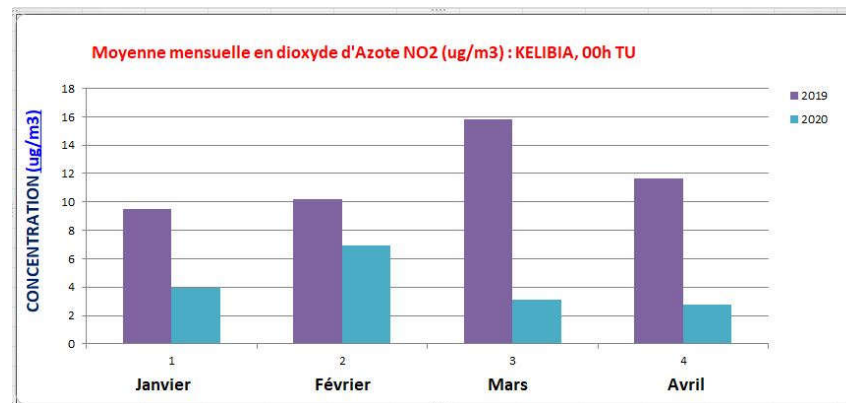
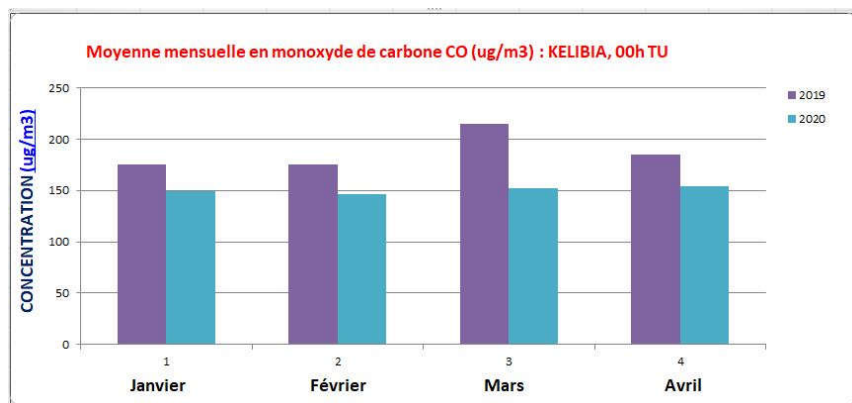


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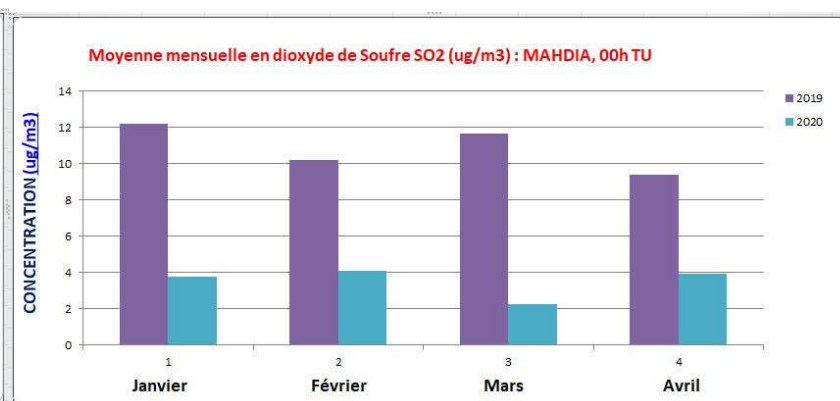
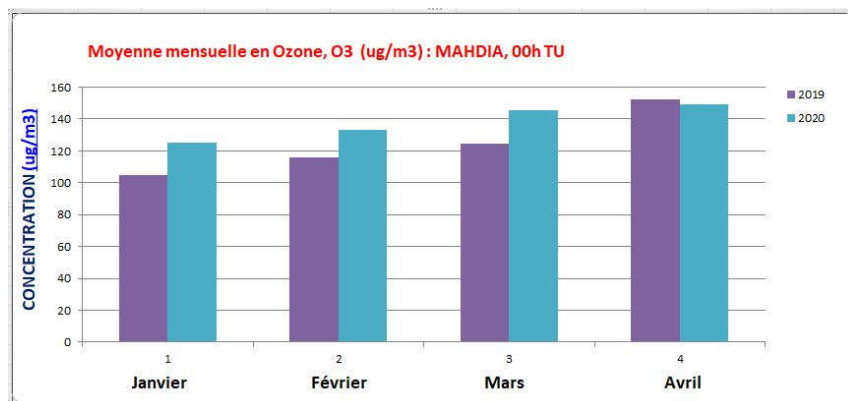
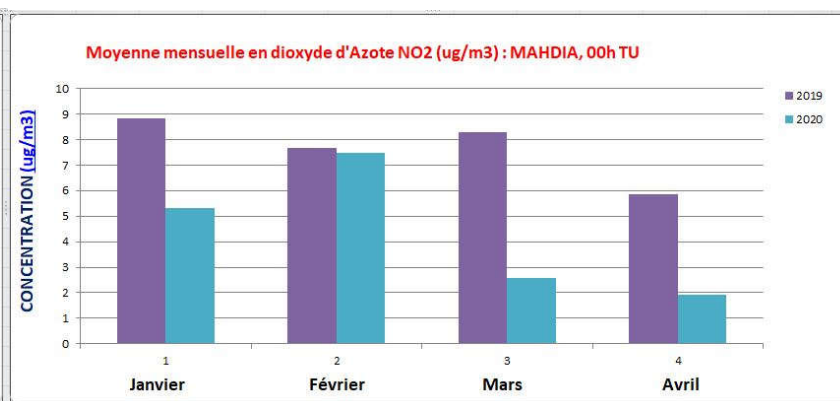
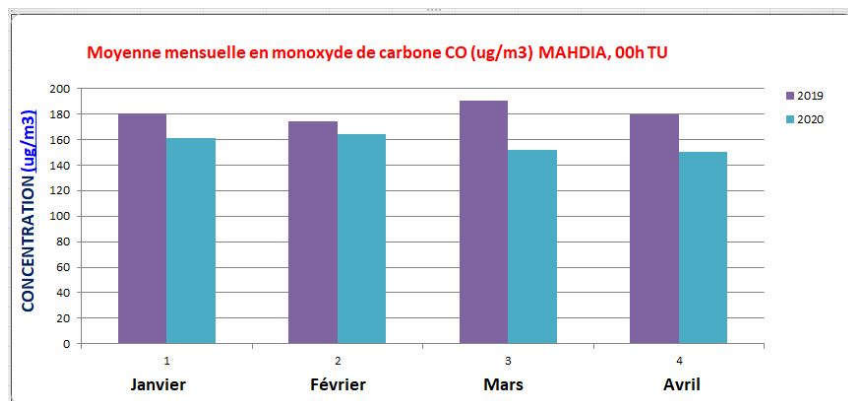


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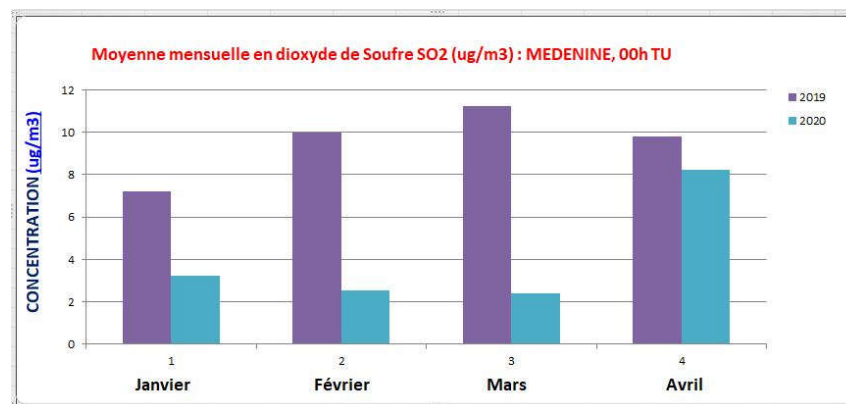
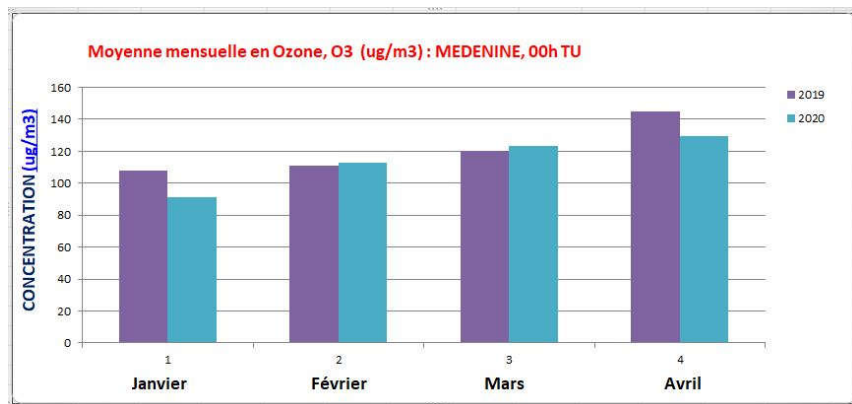
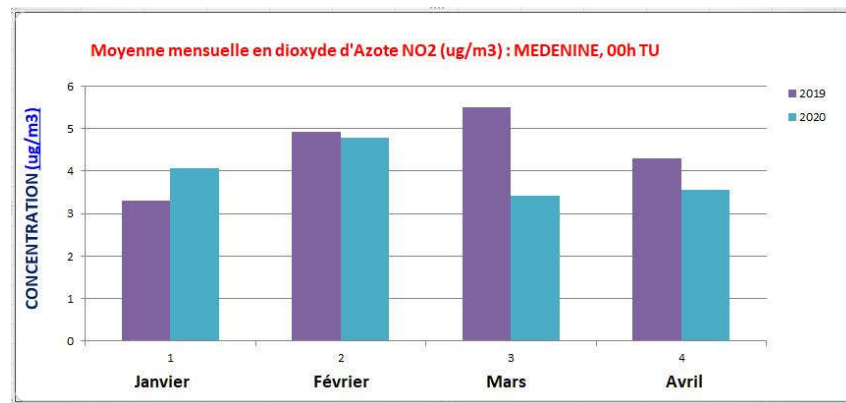
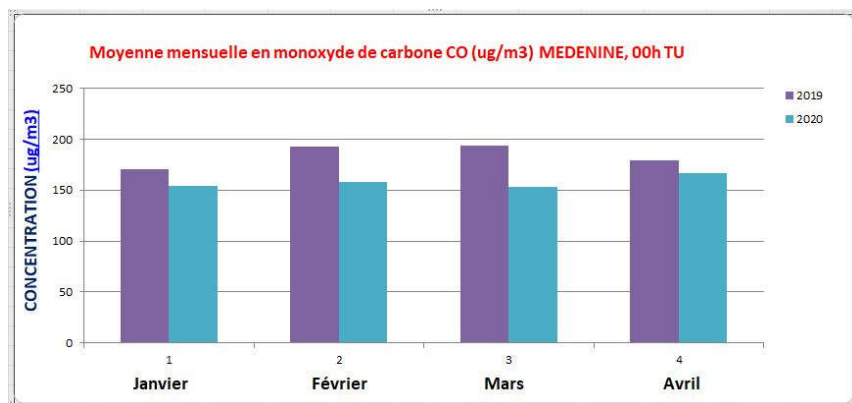


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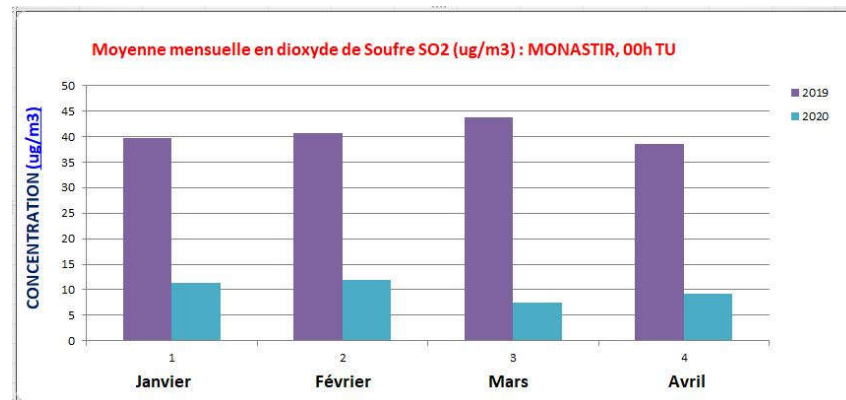
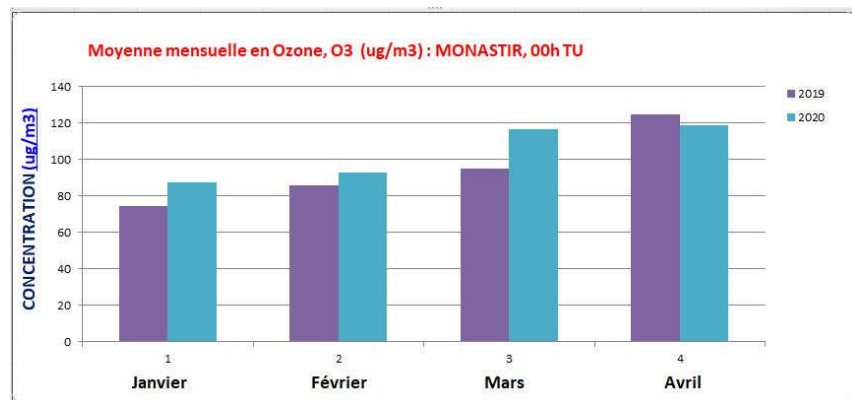
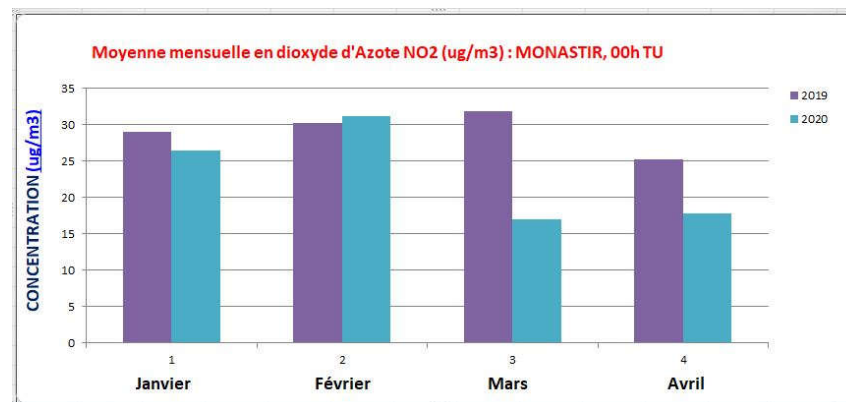
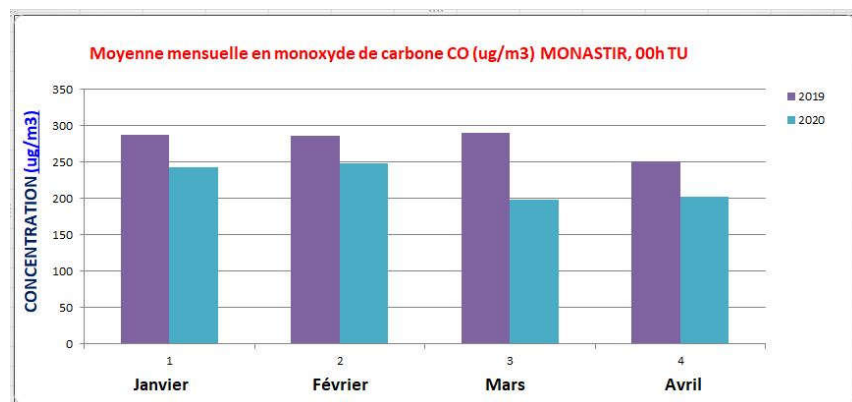


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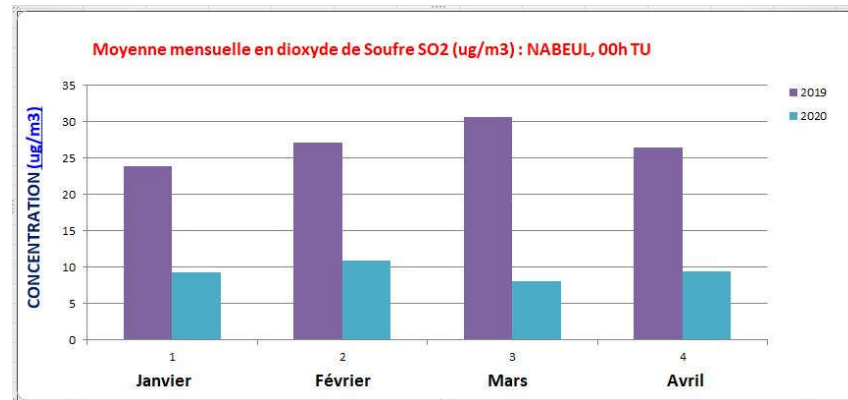
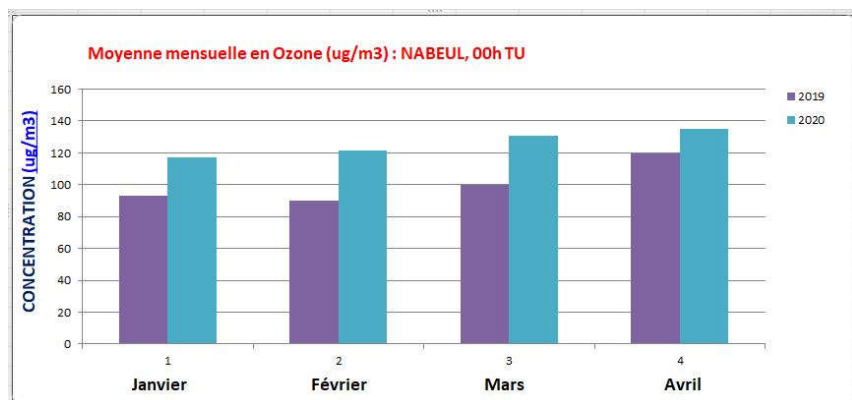
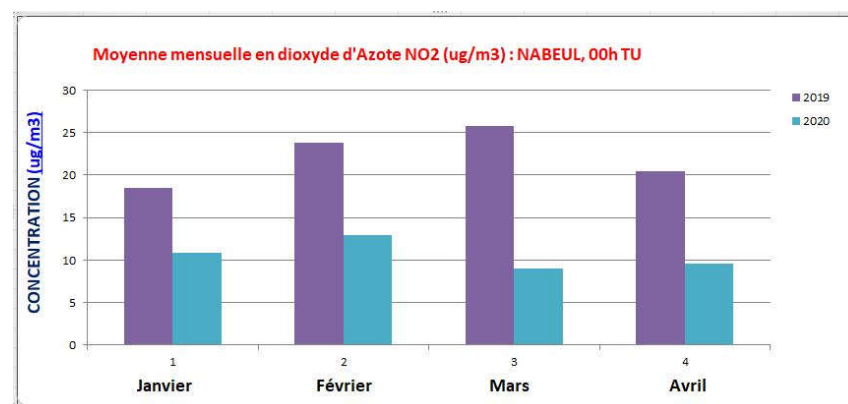
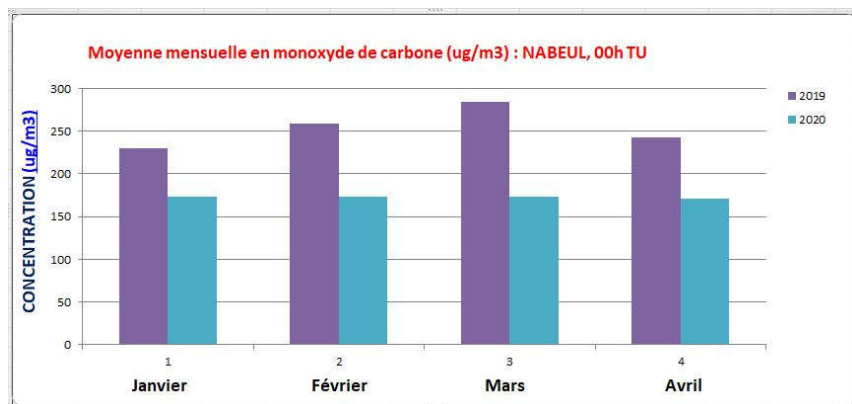


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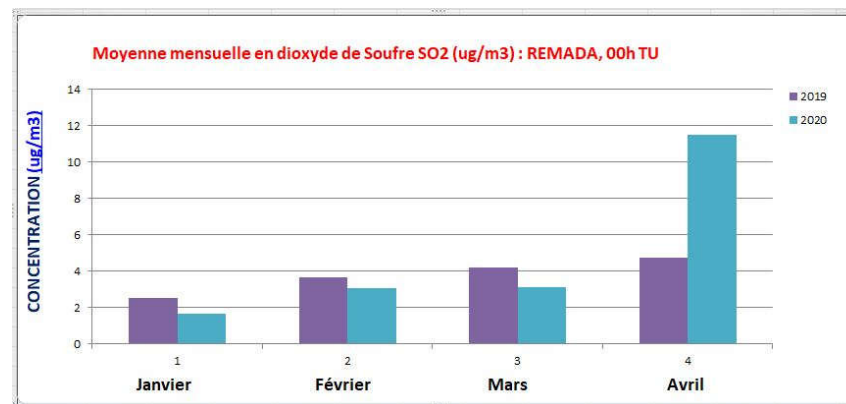
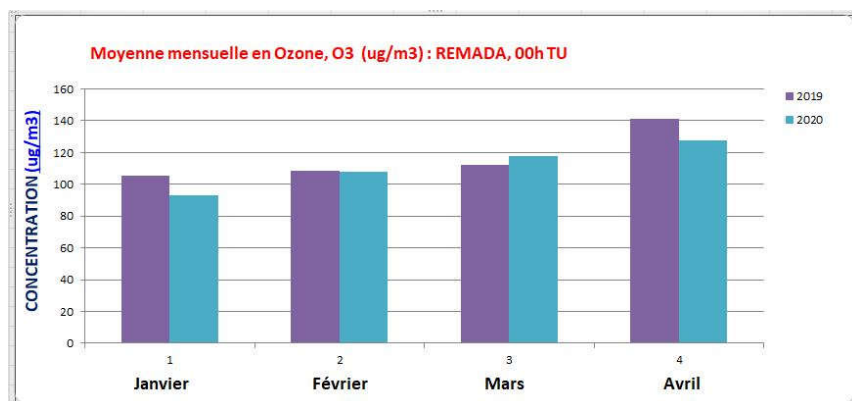
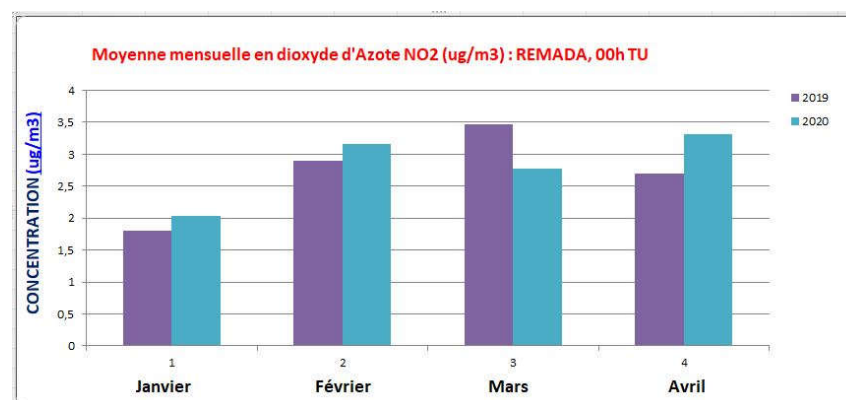
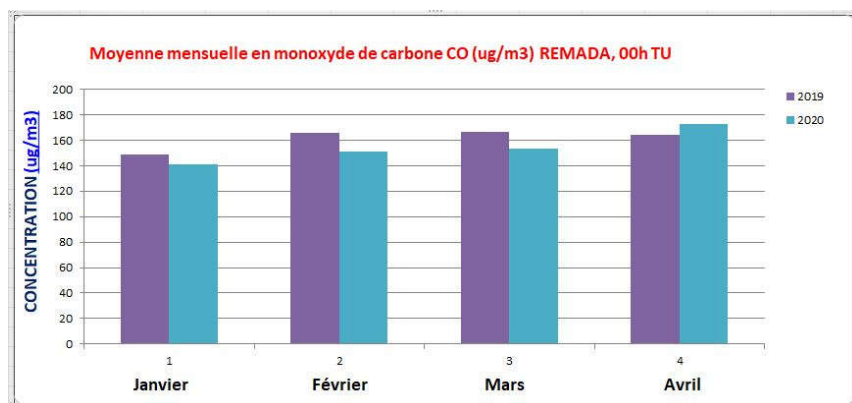


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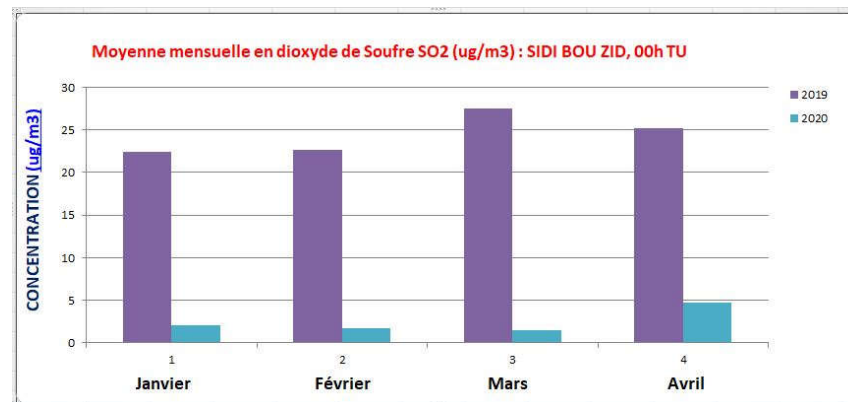
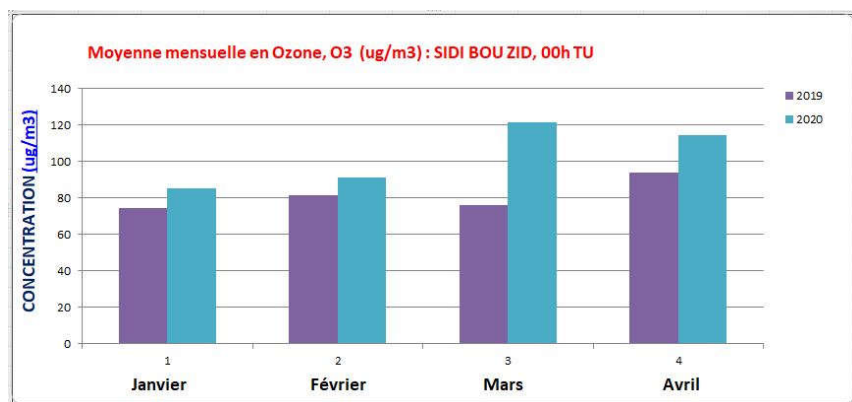
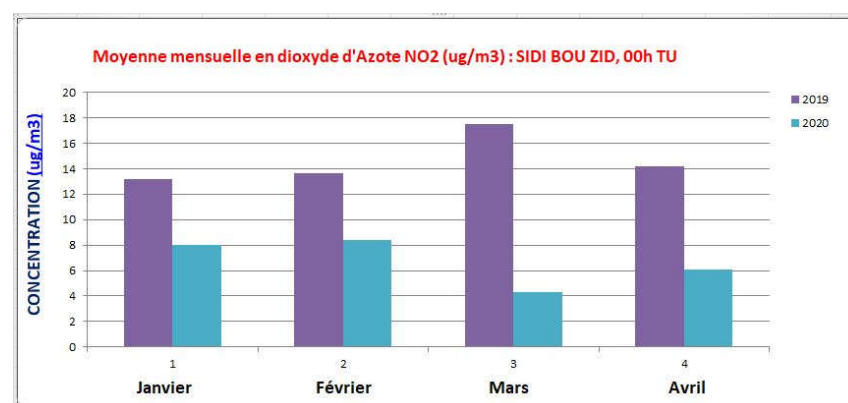
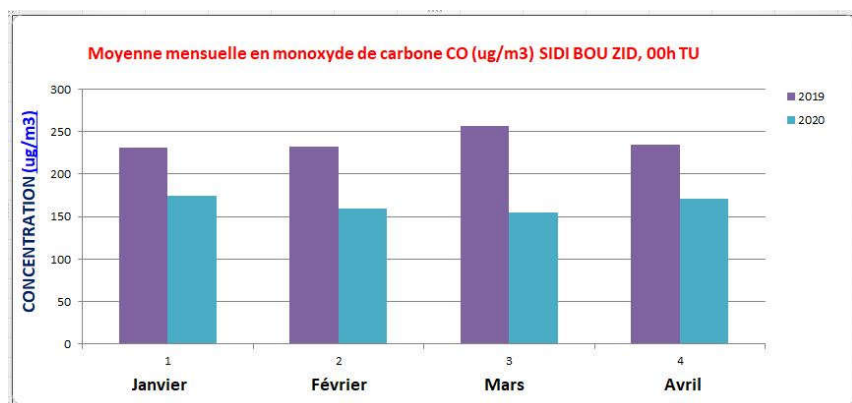


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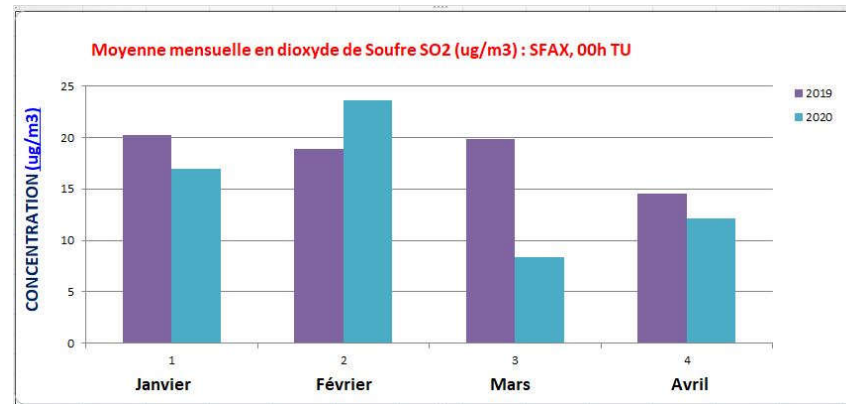
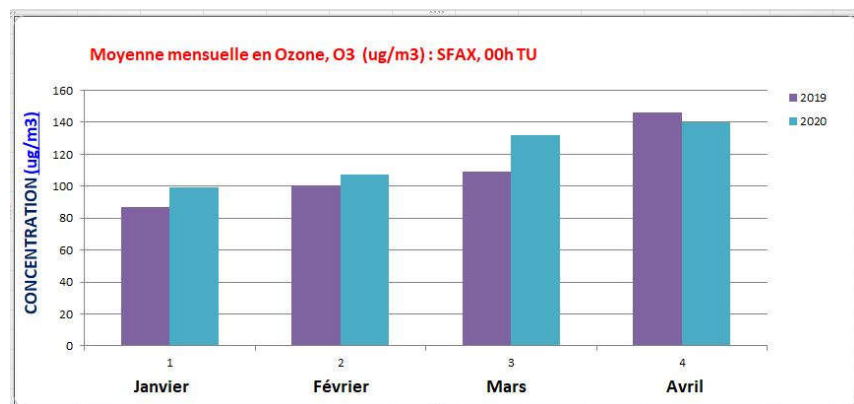
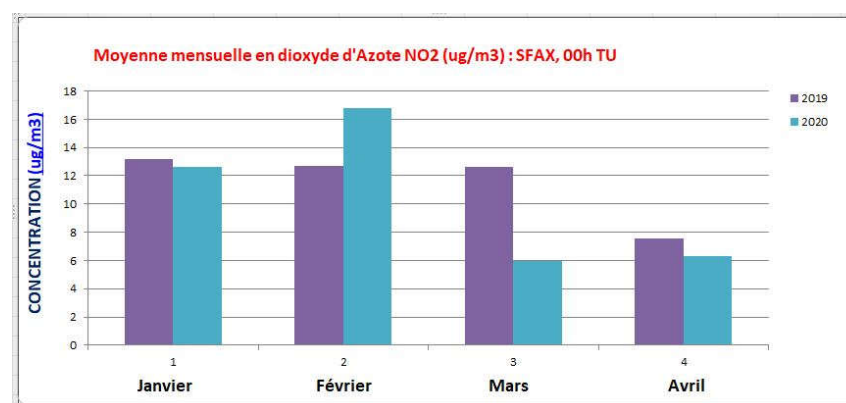
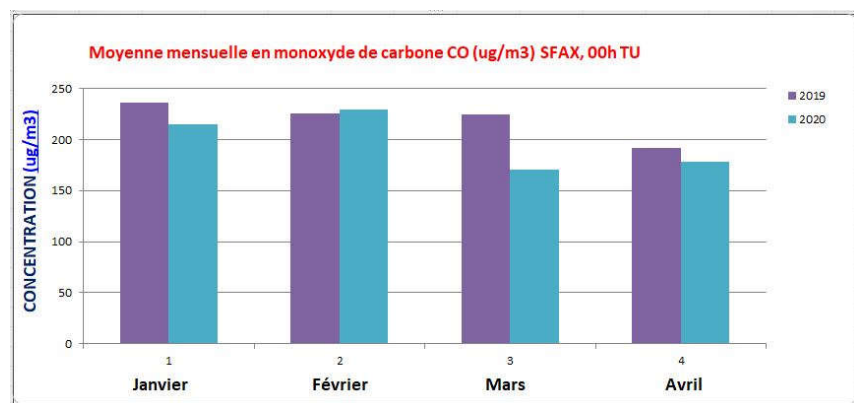


## SIDI BOU ZID



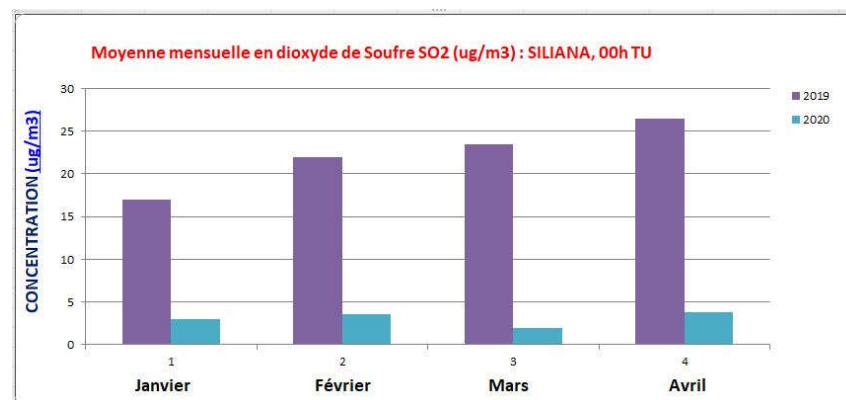
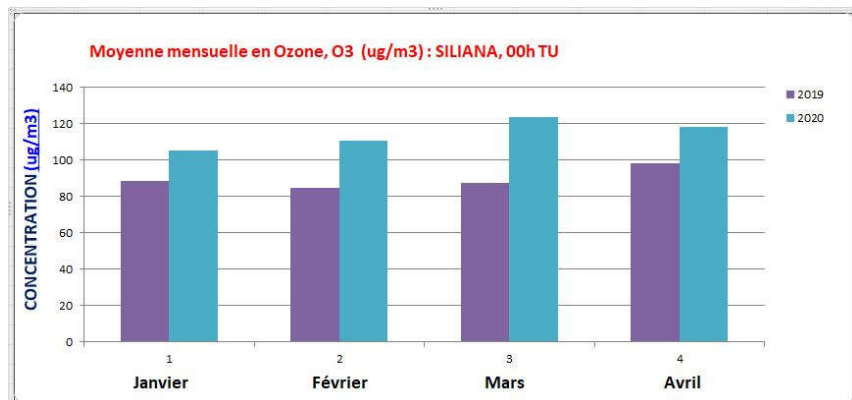
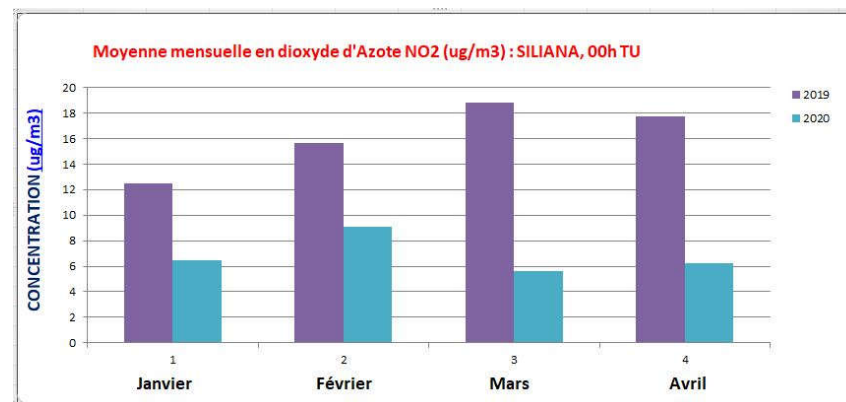
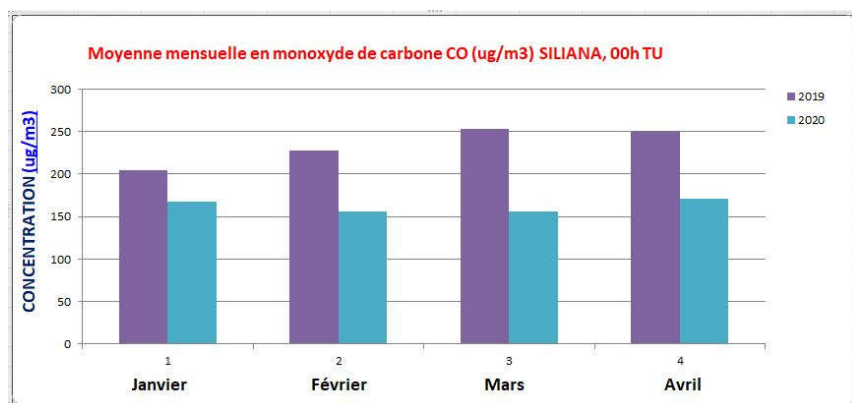


## SFAX



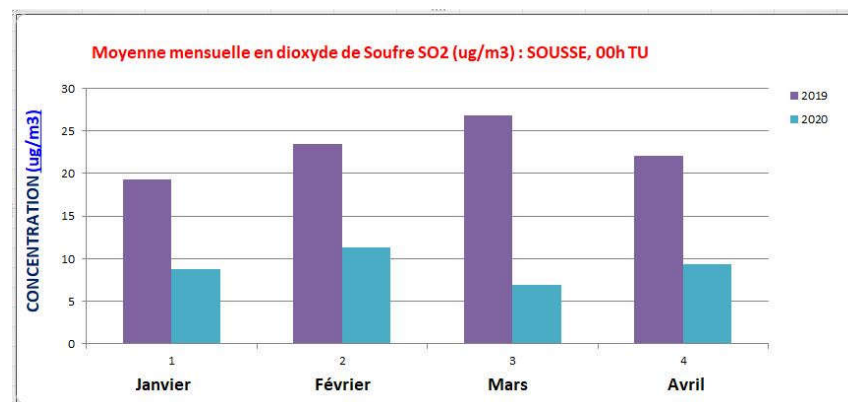
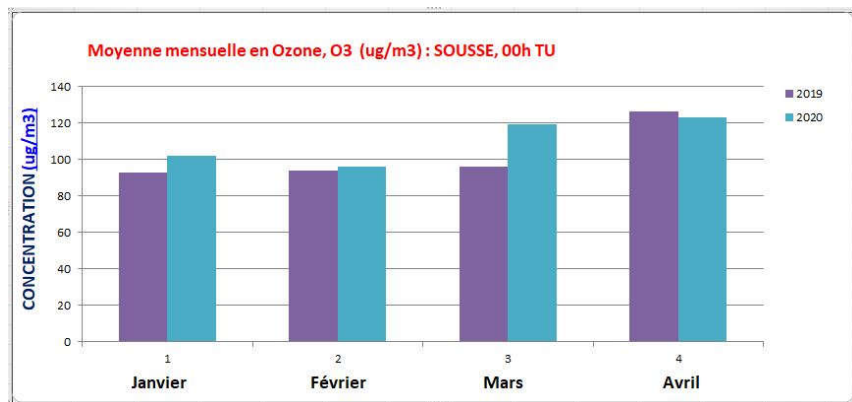
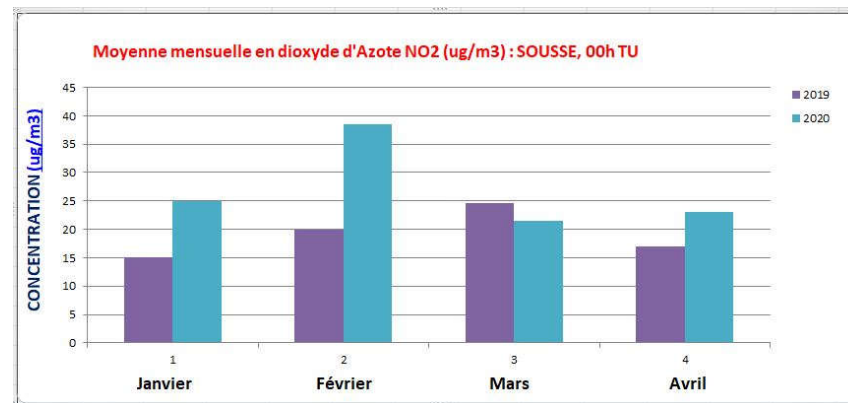
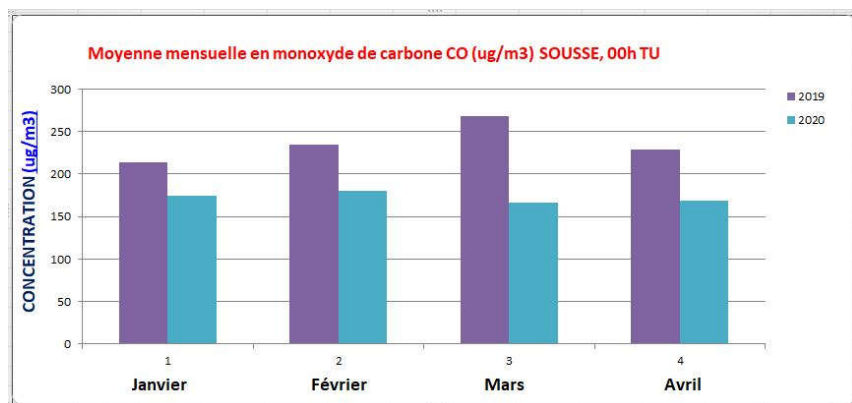


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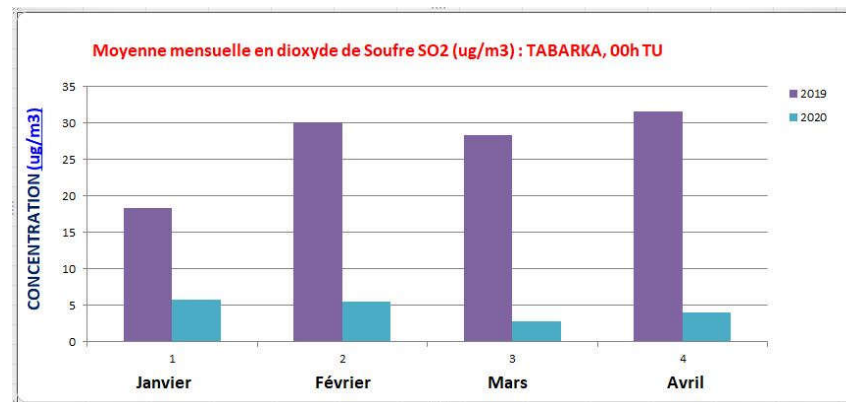
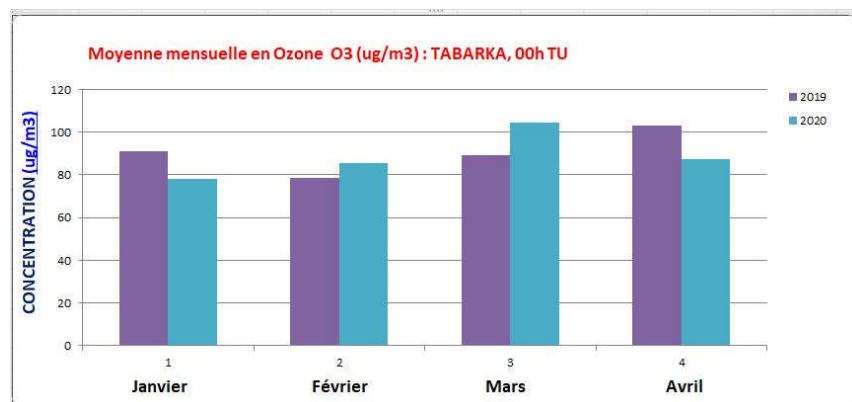
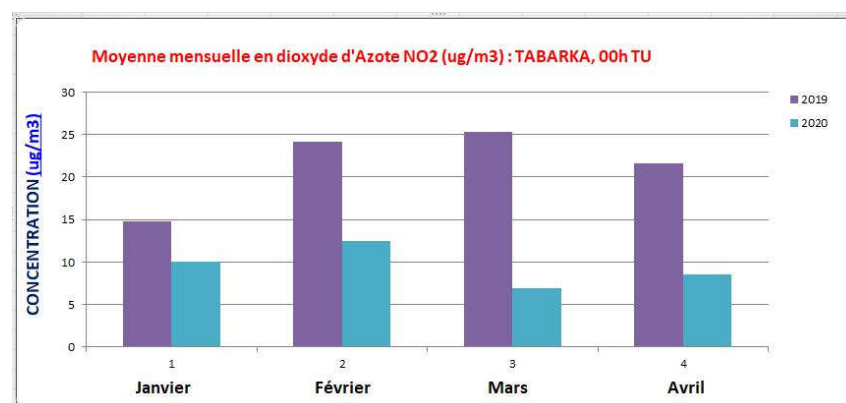
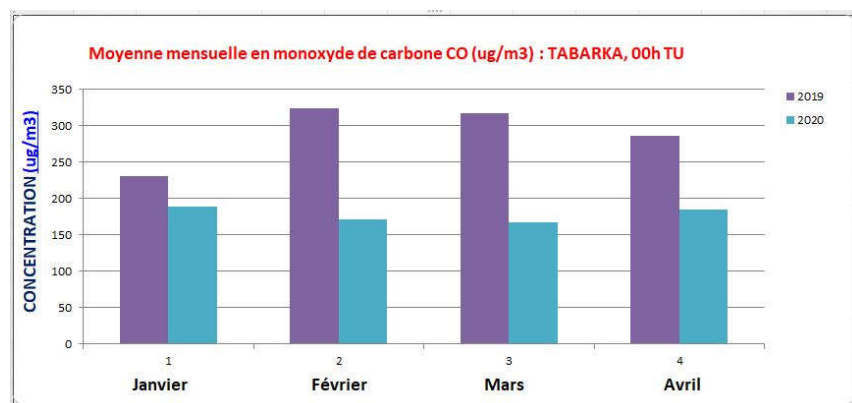


## SOUSSE



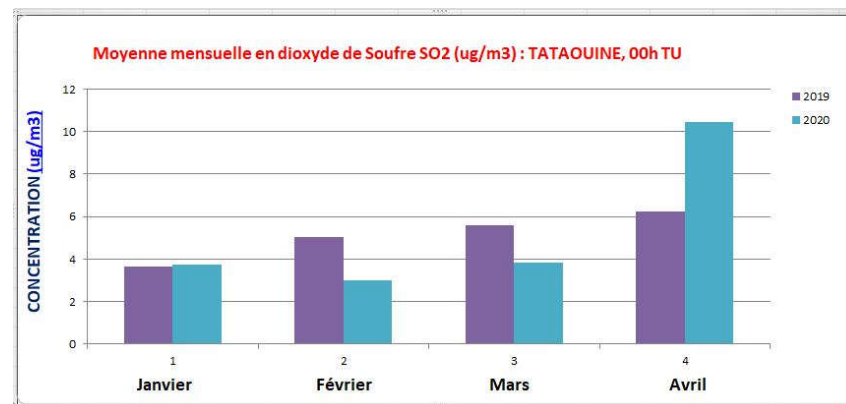
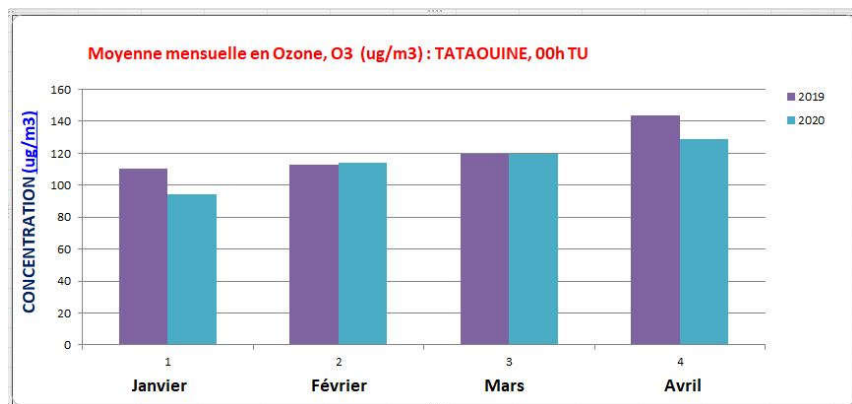
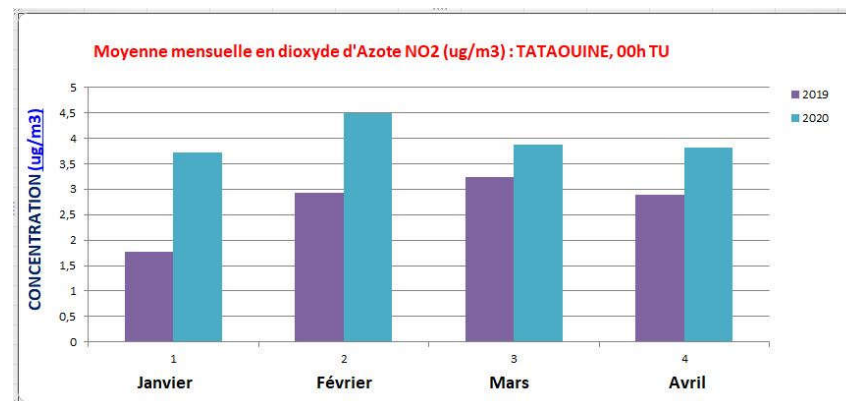
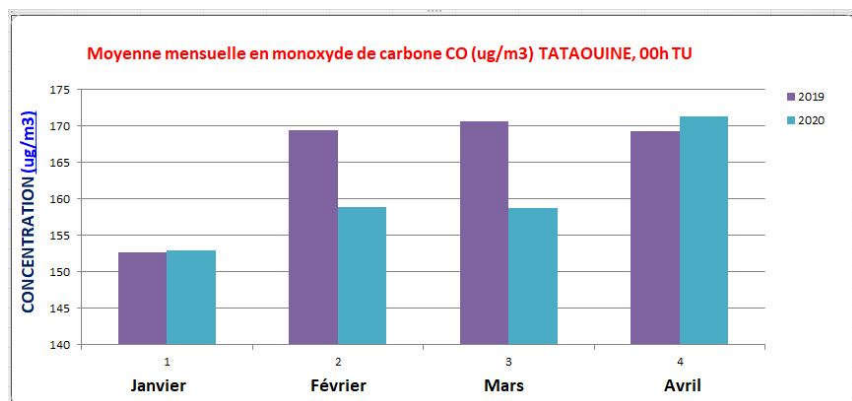


## TABARKA



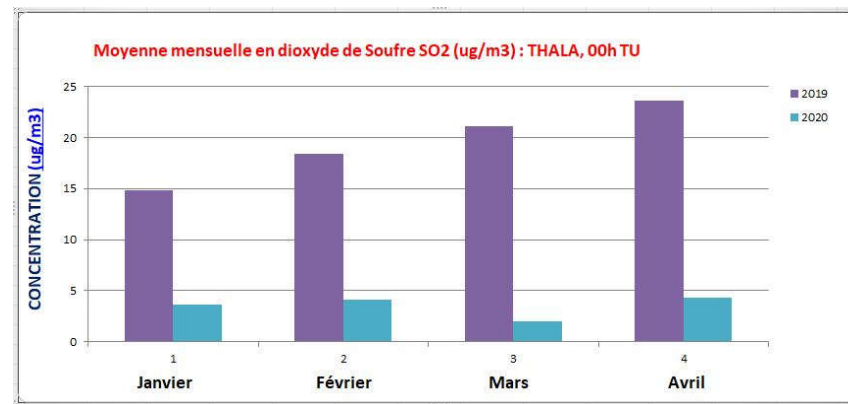
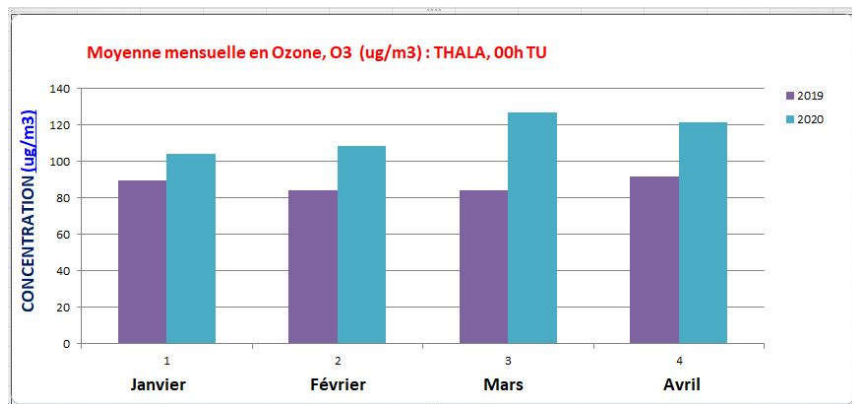
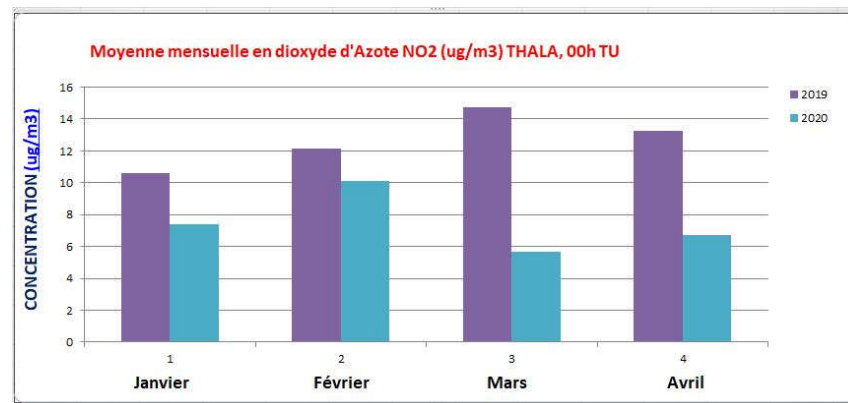
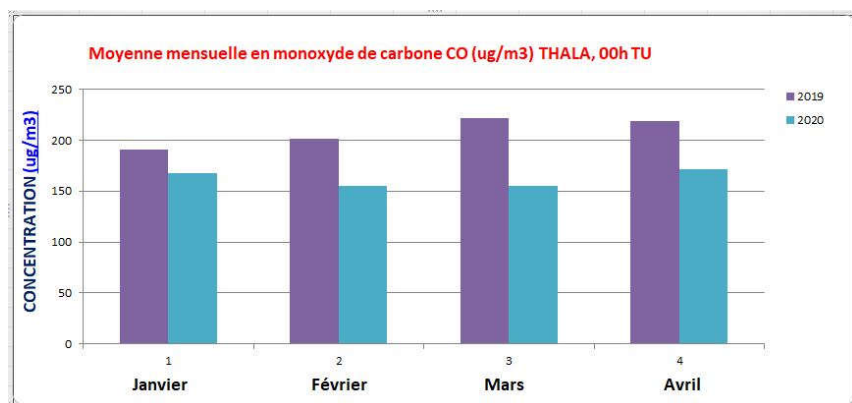


## TATAOUINE



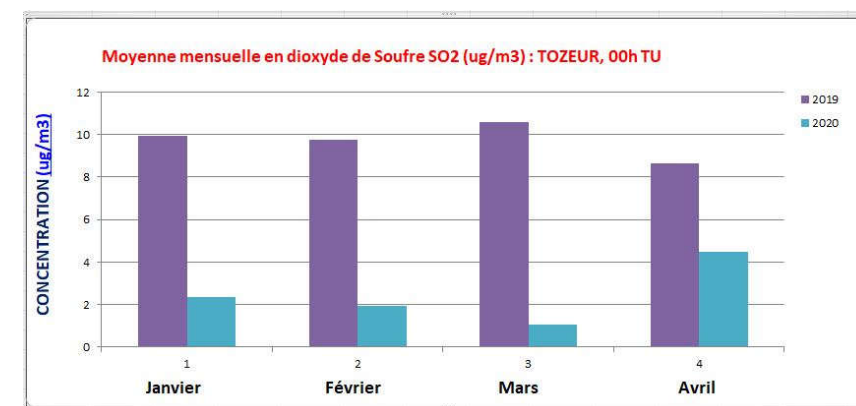
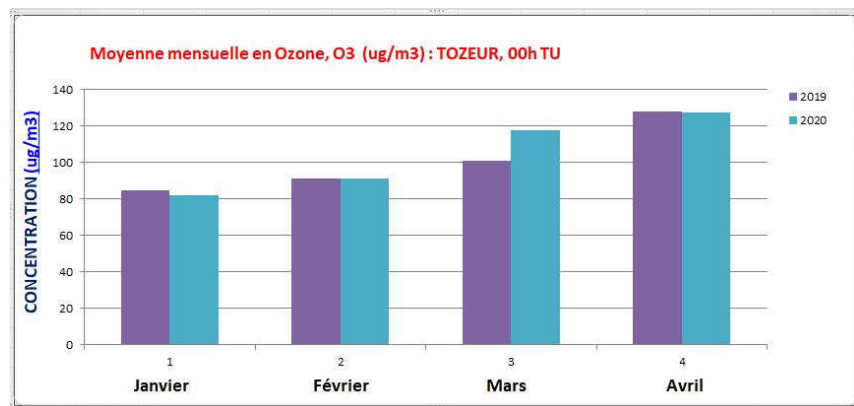
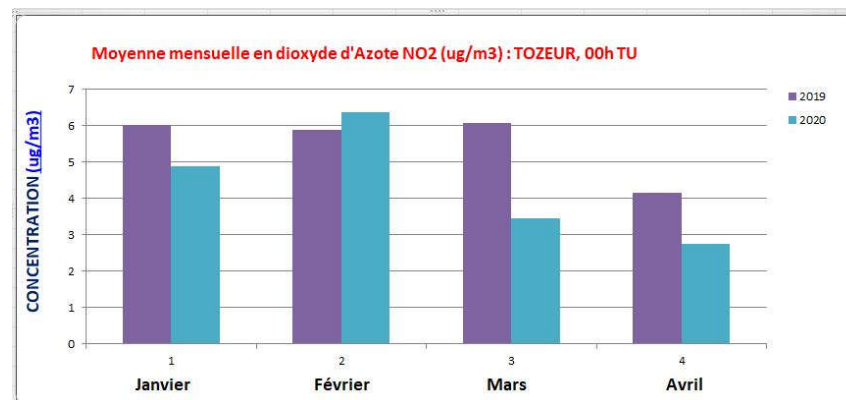
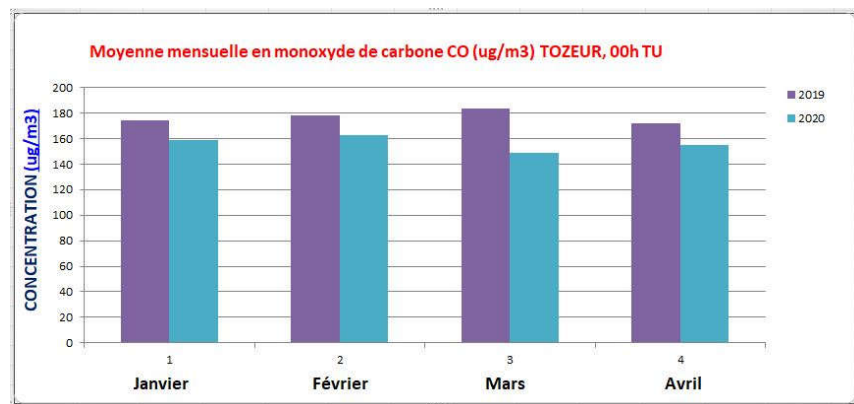


## THALA



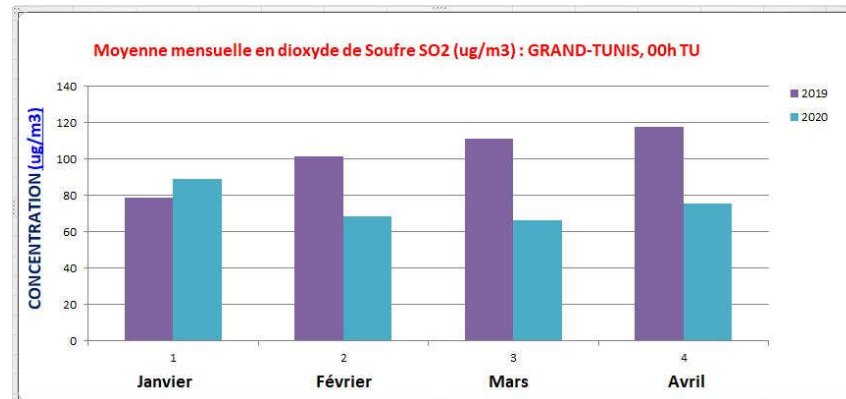
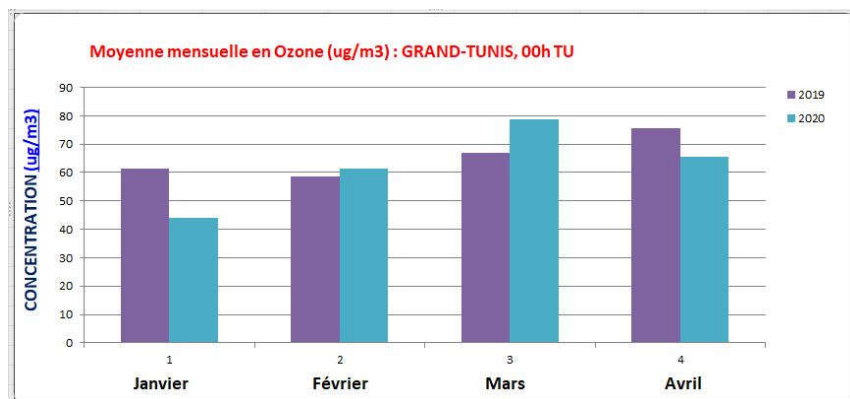
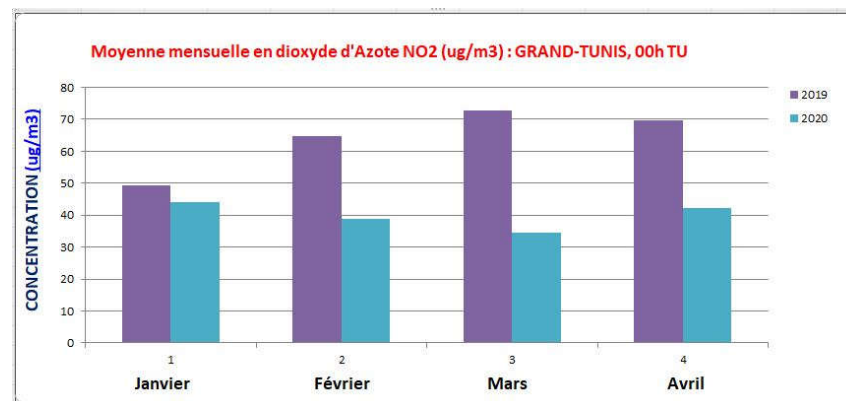
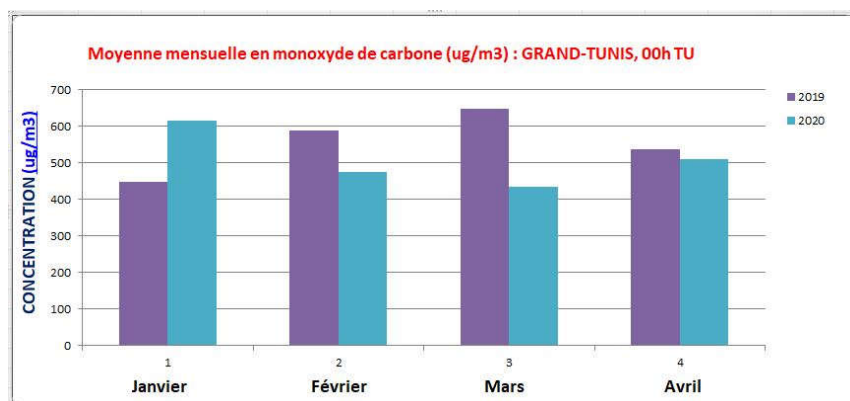


## TOZEUR





## GRAND-TUNIS





## ZAGHOUANE

