

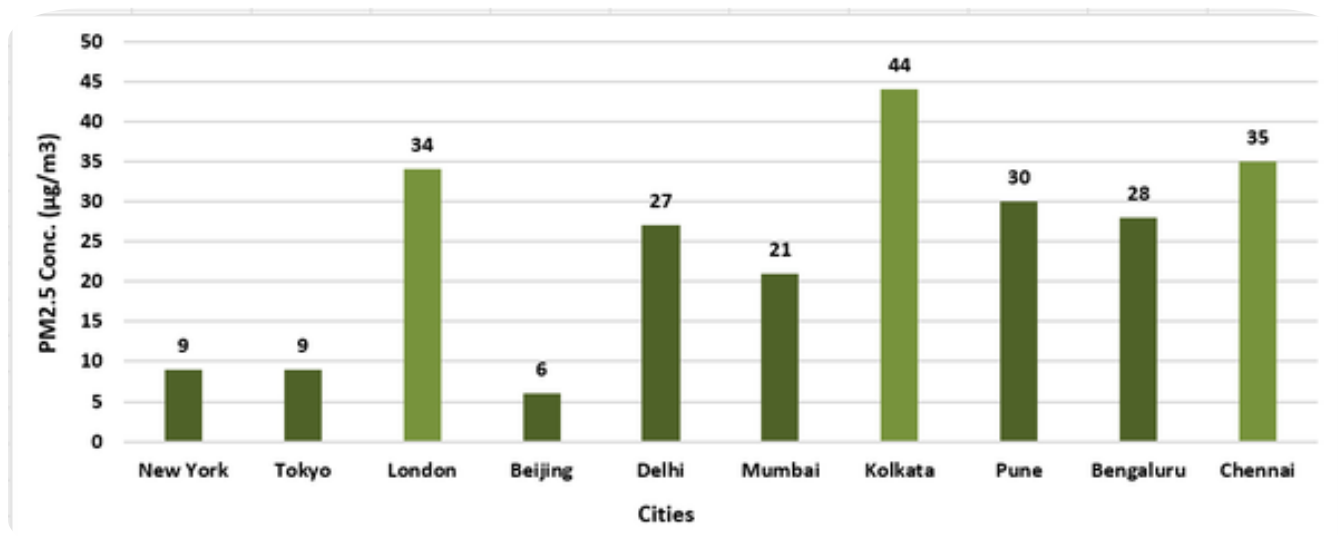
27 March 2020

CERCA Weekly Newsletter



Centre of Excellence for Research on Clean Air (CERCA)
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

Air Quality in Different Cities

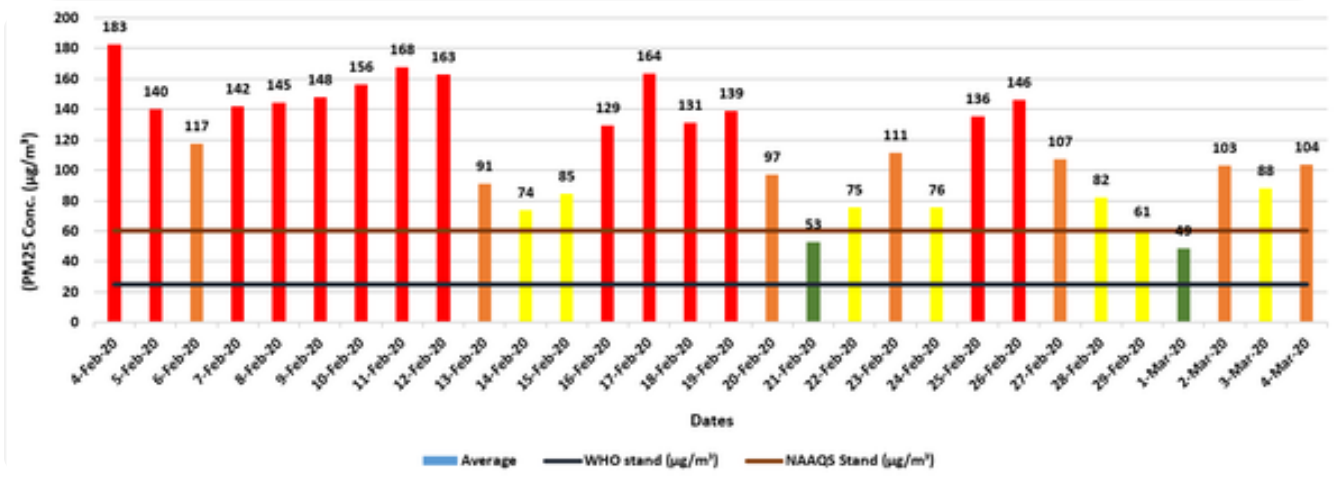


March 27, 2020, 11:00-12:00 IST (Hourly Average)

Delhi Air Quality was in 'Moderately Polluted' category in comparison to other cities in India and Globally.

Data Source: Berkeley Earth

"Delhi Air Quality" for last 30 days



Average PM 2.5 values for 10 Stations (Dilshad Garden, Shadipur, NSIT Dwarka, ITO, DTU, Siri Fort, Anand Vihar, Mandir Marg, R.K Puram and Punjabi Bagh)

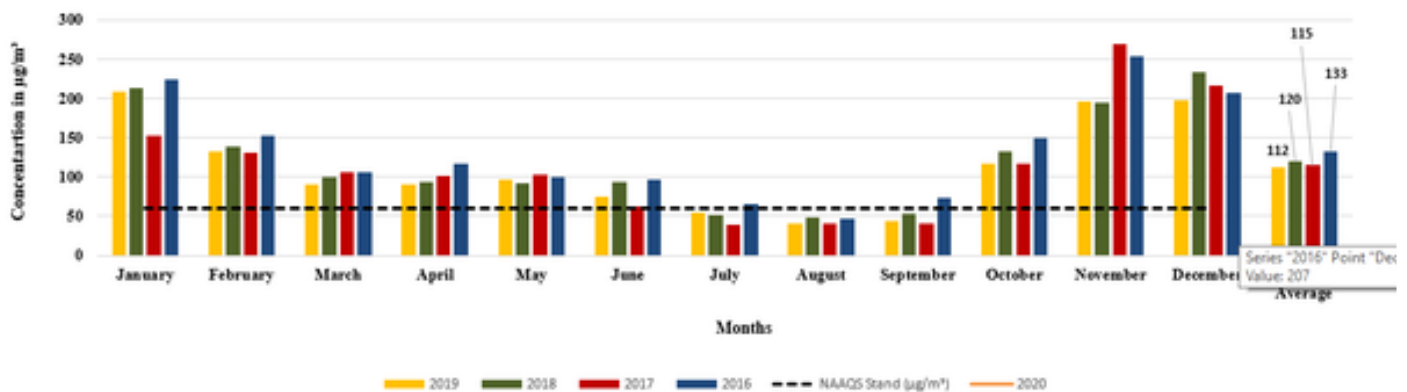
* WHO - World Health Organization

* NAAQS - National Ambient Air Quality Standards

During the last 30 days, Delhi Air Quality was in "Very Poor" category.

Data Source: CPCB

Delhi Long Term Air Quality Trend



PM 2.5 values from 10 monitoring stations in Delhi (Dilshad Garden, Shadipur, NSIT Dwarka, ITO, DTU, Siri Fort, Anand Vihar, Mandir Marg, R.K Puram and Punjabi Bagh)

Note: Data for 2019 has been considered till the month of November 2019 only

* NAAQS - National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Average Air Quality has marginally improved in 2019 vis-a-vis 2018,2017 & 2016

Source: Data from 10 monitoring stations (CPCB)

Delhi Air Quality trend in terms of days from good to severe category



The graph represents the no. of days in each category i.e. Good to Severe for last three years (2016-2018). The no. of days in severe category reduced from 29 (2016) to 09 (2017) and then increased to 20 in 2018.

Source: CPCB

Air quality health impacts

AQI	Associated Health Impacts
Good (0–50)	Minimal Impact
Satisfactory (51–100)	May cause minor breathing discomfort to sensitive people
Moderate (101–200)	May cause breathing discomfort to the people with lung disease such as asthma and discomfort to people with heart disease, children and older adults
Poor (201–300)	May cause breathing discomfort to people on prolonged exposure and discomfort to people with heart disease with short exposure
Very Poor (301–400)	May cause respiratory illness to the people on prolonged exposure. Effect may be more pronounced in people with lung and heart diseases
Severe (401–500)	May cause respiratory effects even on healthy people and serious health impacts on people with lung/heart diseases. The health impacts may be experienced even during light physical activity

Thought Leadership



Source: The Guardian

How livable zones can tackle air pollution

Cities placing amenities within 20-minute walk, cycle or public transport trip to combat climate crisis

New Measures and Initiatives



Mumbai to get biggest chunk of grant from Centre to fight air pollution

As the government works on a mechanism to assist big cities in battling air pollution, Mumbai is set to get the highest grant of Rs 488 crore from the Centre's Rs 4,400-crore fund which is earmarked exclusively for cities with more than one million population in states to improve air quality during 2020-21.

Source: Economic Times

Two sponge iron plants shut for causing air



Source: *The Hindu*

Health Impact



Source: *Hindustan Times*



Source: *CNN Health*

International Developments



Source: *Knau*

pollution

The Sandur taluk administration has shut two sponge iron plants -Padmavathi at Chikka Anthapur and ISTPL at Yerabanahalli - for causing severe air pollution.

Breathing dirty air leads to weight gain, diabetes.

Breathing dirty air takes a heavy toll on gut bacteria, boosting risk of obesity, diabetes, gastrointestinal disorders and other chronic illnesses.

Even short-term exposure to low levels of air pollution can increase risk of cardiac arrest

Short-term exposure to air pollution is linked to a higher risk of sudden heart problems, especially among older people, according to a study.

Copper Company Fined Over Arizona Smelter Air Pollution

Federal authorities say a copper-producing company has been fined \$33,000 for failing to comply with a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency settlement over dust pollution at an Arizona smelter.

UK councils granted Â£2.2 million boost to



Source: Energy Live

New Research (study) or Policy



Source: Down To Earth



Source: World Economic Forum

New Technology



Source: The Economic Times

tackle air pollution

Air Quality Grant will finance innovative projects that encourage cleaner transport and reduce harmful emissions

COVID-19 outbreak: Cities with higher air pollution at more risk, say experts

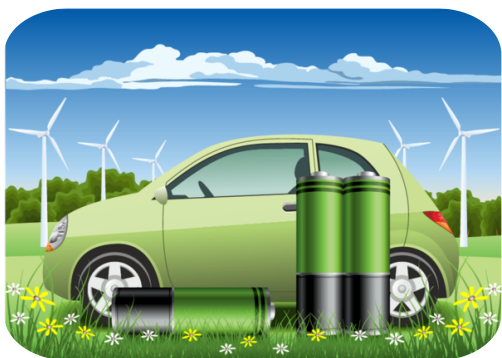
The immunity of those living in cities with high air pollution is compromised by toxic air, making residents prone to respiratory diseases.

Life under curfew: Air quality improves in Punjab

Lockdown in Punjab that has been in force since Sunday has improved the ambient air quality index (AQI) of the entire state with six out of eight continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations (CAAQMSs), for the first time, showing a reading as low as 27 microgram per cubic metre ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).

A week before BS-IV deadline, lockdown jeopardises Rs 6,400 crore worth of vehicle stock

The lockdown across the country to combat the Covid-19 pandemic has jeopardised Rs 6,400 crore worth of unsold BS-IV vehicle stock with dealers as it cannot be sold after 31 March when BS-VI norms become effective.



Source: Fleet News

Budget 2020: Plug-in grant for electric vehicles cut

The plug-in grant for certain electric vehicles (EVs) has been cut with immediate effect, after funding was secured for another three years.

For more details visit <http://cerca.iitd.ac.in/>

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