

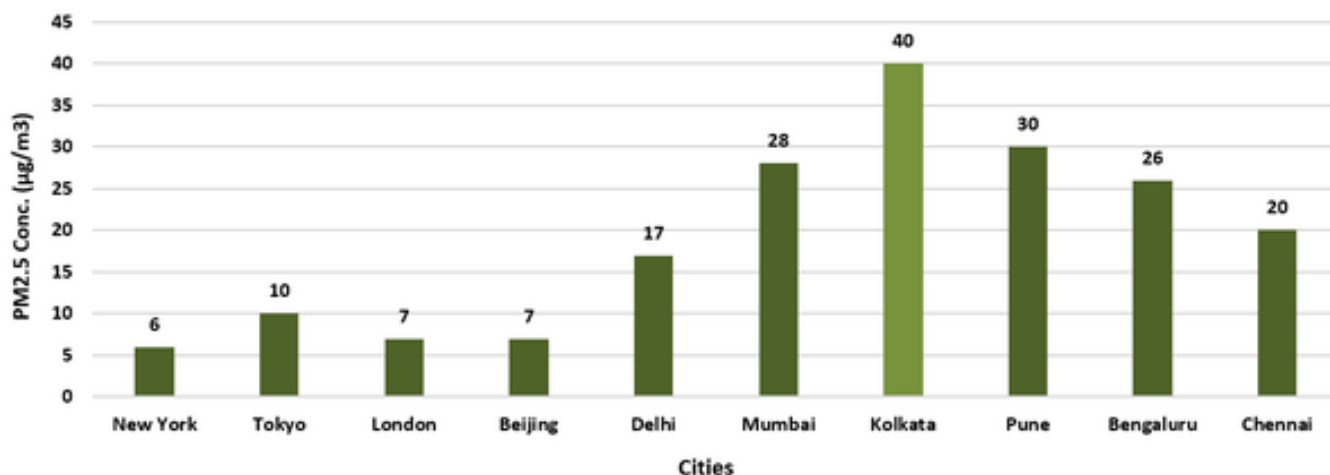
24 April 2020

CERCA Weekly Newsletter



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

Air Quality in Different Cities

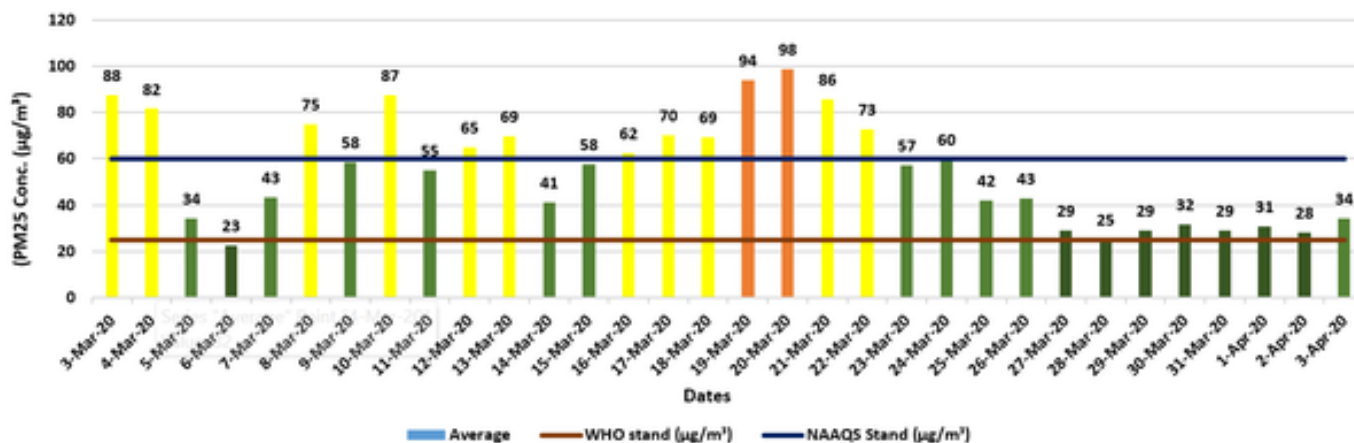


April 17, 2020, 11:00-12:00 IST (Hourly Average)

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)

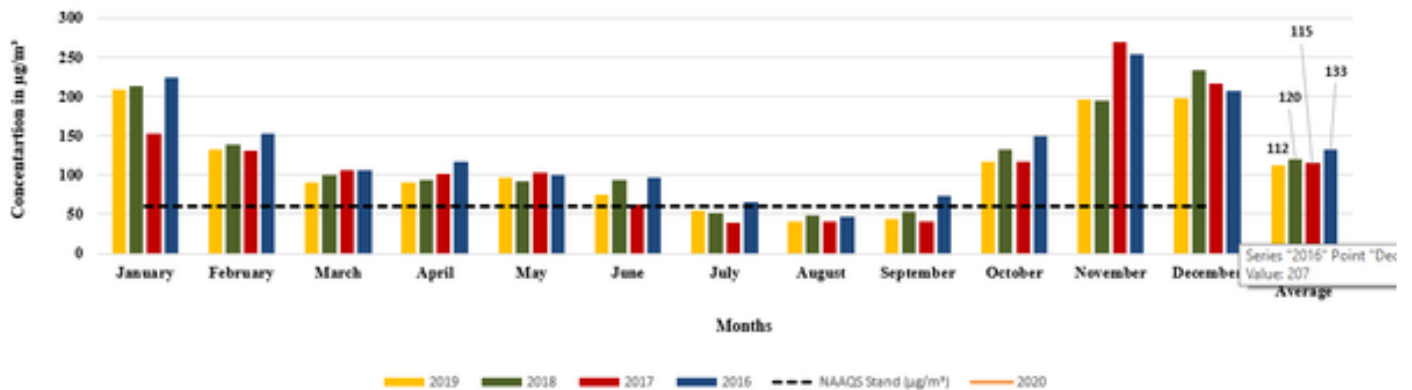
* WHO - World Health Organization

* 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: CNN

The world's largest coronavirus lockdown is having a dramatic impact on pollution in India

When India imposed a nationwide lockdown a week ago, country of 1.3 billion people to a near halt has also provided a temporary remedy to another pressing health issue: suffocating pollution levels.

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



Source: *The Hindu*

Two sponge iron plants shut for causing air pollution

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

Health Impact



Source: *Kalinga*

Prenatal Exposure To Air Pollutants Linked To Growth Delays

Researchers have found an association between exposure to air pollution during pregnancy and delays in physical growth in the early years after birth.



Source: *CNN Health*

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.

International Developments



Source: *The Guardian*

Toxic air over London falls by 50% at busiest traffic spots

London has had dramatic improvements in its air quality since the coronavirus lockdown, with dangerous emissions at some of the capital's busiest roads and junctions falling by almost 50%.

Air pollution returns to China



Source: EUobserver

New Research (study) or Policy



Source: CNN



Source: The Economic Times

New Technology



The European Environmental Bureau revealed on Tuesday that air pollution is returning to China after it eased lockdown restrictions, and warned the EU about a similar outcome.

Air pollution in northern India has hit a 20-year low, NASA report says

During a nationwide coronavirus lockdown, air pollution in the region has dropped to a 20-year low, according to data published by NASA.

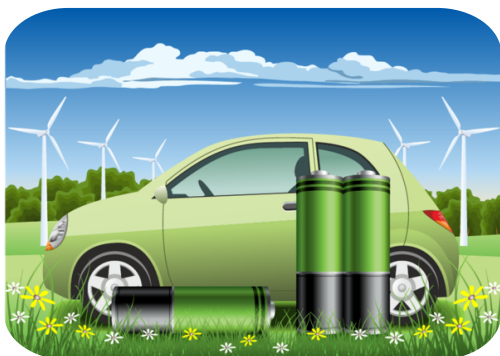
Lockdown: Major air pollutants PM2.5, PM10 and NOx down by at least 50% in Delhi

With vehicles off the road and industries shut due to the ongoing lockdown imposed to combat the coronavirus outbreak, the presence of major pollutants in the air - PM2.5, PM10 and NOx has reduced by at least 50 per cent in Delhi.

Post-coronavirus, India must shift EV goalposts, adopt available alternative fuels like auto LPG: Auto LPG Coalition

Indian Auto LPG Coalition, which has been highlighting the environmental benefits of transport fuel Auto LPG, stated that pushing the automobile sector singularly on shifting to the Electric Vehicle space - particularly in the current situation will spell further doom for the sector.

Source: *The Economic Times*



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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