

THE ISSUE WITH INDIA'S AIR QUALITY

Most Indian cities greatly exceed acceptable levels of suspended particulate matter. This may be because of refuse and biomass burning, vehicles, power plant emissions, industrial sources. Air quality in India is so poor that that 1.2 million deaths in the country last year can be attributed to air pollution. Of the 1.2 million who died from air pollution-related causes, 51.4% were younger than 70 years old. This is due to the fact that children and middle aged workers are in the workforce and school system. They have greater exposure to the particulate matter in the polluted air everyday. In India, where industrial emissions, cars, and the burning of crop residue, wood, and charcoal are standard features of daily existence, it will require significant political willpower for air pollution levels to fall.

The AQI of Delhi was heavily monitored and placed under the "severe-plus category" (Hazardous) when it touched 574

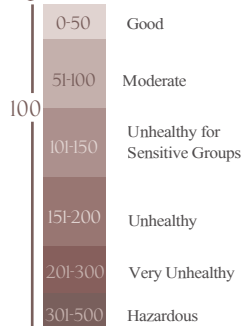
More than 4/10 Indians are exposed to 5x the safe limit of particulate matter

A major reason for high pollution in the Northern Belt in India is its geography. Located next to the Himalayas, this is a wind convergence zone which transports pollution from other places into these region

National Clean Air Program unveiled a five-year plan to combat air pollution. Proposals included switching to clean energy sources, public transport, as well as measures to reduce road traffic. The NCAP will expand the national air quality monitoring network, build capacity for air pollution management, and strengthen public awareness about the dangers of air pollution.

Air Quality Index (AQI) is a number used to communicate the level of pollution in the air.

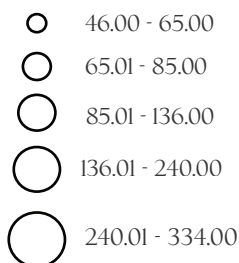
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The AQI measures five criteria air pollutants (particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, and ozone), and converts the measured pollutant concentrations in a community's air to a number on a scale of 0 to 500. The intervals on the AQI scale relate to the potential health effects of the daily concentrations of each of these five pollutants. The most important number on this scale is 100, the divider between satisfactory and unhealthy.

HOW AIR QUALITY AFFECTS THE DEATH RATE

AIR QUALITY INDEX REGARDING STATE CAPITALS



DEATH RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION ATTRIBUTABLE TO AIR POLLUTION

