

# Delhi Air Quality — Daily Report

09 July 2026 · Analysis window: 10 AM 8th July to 10 AM 9th July · Compared with last year: avg of 2nd Jul - 16th Jul 2025 (same +/-7 days), matched stations

Delhi's air **looks** -24 points vs last year on the meter — but that is the weather's work. Remove it, and the city is **+12 points worse than last year**. The improvement belongs to the weather, not to policy. Today's reading itself is weather-flattered by about 35 points.

“मौसम ने ज़हर छुपाया है, हटाया नहीं — यह नीति की नाकामी है।”

## 93

Weather-corrected AQI — the honest number (what the city's own pollution justifies)

## 58

What the meter shows (weather-flattered) — **Satisfactory**

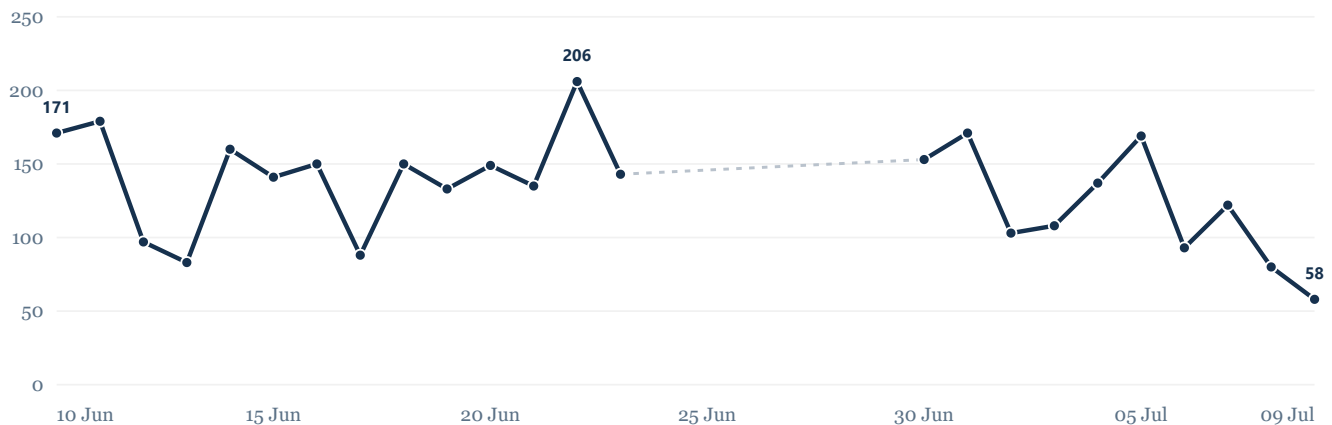
## +12

AQI points vs last year **after weather correction** — the real change

## 63

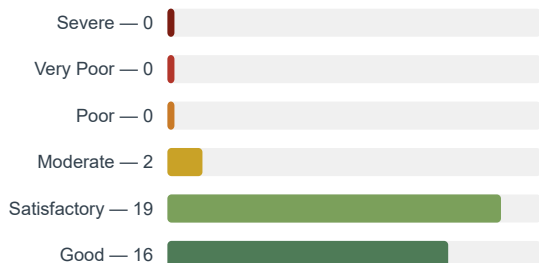
AQI where most people live (population-weighted) — worse than the plain average

## 1 · The last 30 days



Dashed grey = days without a full CPCB bulletin (6 of 30 days).

## Stations by air-quality category (count of stations, today)



## How to read this report

The **weather-corrected** number removes rain, wind and mixing effects using a model trained on five years of hourly data — it shows what the city's own emissions justify. A gap between the two numbers is the weather's contribution, in either direction.

## 2 • Station detail

The observed worst station today is **Mandir Marg** (AQI 112, Moderate, driven by CO). Observed peaks on a single day can be weather-driven; the weather-corrected hotspot below is the sturdier fact.

**Against the world standard:** even after removing the weather's help, Delhi's fine-particle level (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) is **36 micrograms per cubic metre (µg/m<sup>3</sup>) — 2.4× the WHO safe limit of 15**. The worst weather-corrected hotspot is **Wazirpur** at 43 µg/m<sup>3</sup> — **2.9× the WHO limit**.

**How widespread:** after weather correction, **23 of 23** comparable stations are worse than last year — the typical station is 15 AQI points higher. This is a city-wide rise, not a few bad spots.

### Worst stations today (observed CPCB AQI) — top 8 of 37 reporting

| Station           | AQI | Category     | Main pollutant |
|-------------------|-----|--------------|----------------|
| Mandir Marg       | 112 | Moderate     | CO             |
| Jahangirpuri      | 102 | Moderate     | PM10           |
| North Campus      | 93  | Satisfactory | CO             |
| Bawana            | 87  | Satisfactory | PM10           |
| CRRI Mathura Road | 78  | Satisfactory | CO             |
| Pusa              | 77  | Satisfactory | CO             |
| NSIT Dwarka       | 76  | Satisfactory | CO             |
| Mundka            | 76  | Satisfactory | NO2            |

Station AQI = CPCB bulletin method (the worst pollutant sub-index at each station). Full station list in the day's data file.

### 3 · Weather or policy? The attribution

On the meter the air looks -24 points vs last year — but that is the weather's doing: correct for it and the real change is **+12 points worse**. (the weather model's own station set puts the observed change at -30)

#### Real (weather-corrected) change vs last year, by pollutant



Bars right of the line = genuinely worse than last year after weather correction; left = genuinely better. Same-station comparison, ±7-day 2025 baseline.

#### The weather evidence

| Weather driver | Last year (same weeks) | Today     |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Rain           | 6.7 mm                 | 44.3 mm   |
| Wind speed     | 5.7 km/h               | 10.1 km/h |
| Mixing height  | 461.2 m                | 421.9 m   |
| Inversion      | 1.4 °C                 | no data   |
| Temperature    | 29.3 °C                | 27 °C     |

Last year's values are shown so the reader can judge the comparison directly.

**Honesty box:** The weather-correction model explains about 78% of hour-to-hour variation on its training data; out-of-sample skill is lower, so we treat outputs as estimates. The weather-corrected year-on-year change for fine particles is measured to within roughly ±1 percentage points of sampling error, before model uncertainty. Gas data carries documented unit-inconsistency (peer-reviewed international research, 2025); we lead on the reliable PM2.5/PM10. Percentages compare the same stations in both years; single-day observed spikes are never used as the headline.