

# Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

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## PRESS RELEASE

### 2025 - Air Quality Perspective in Delhi

The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM), since its inception in 2021, through a series of Directions/ Advisories and Orders, has initiated various policy measures and field actions towards abatement of air pollution in Delhi-NCR.

Continued, concerted and persistent efforts of all the stakeholders round the year in 2025 have further helped to improve the general air quality in Delhi as is evident from a record 79 days during 2025 with the AQI of 100 or below i.e. in ‘Good’ and ‘Satisfactory’ categories, which is lower than only the COVID year 2020. The year 2025 recorded the second lowest number of “Severe to Severe+” AQI days, i.e. 8 such days, since 2018.

#### Month-wise Avg. AQI for Delhi

Avg AQI	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	328	328	286	324	279	311	355	306
February	243	242	241	288	225	237	218	214
March	203	184	128	223	217	170	176	170
April	222	211	110	202	255	180	182	210
May	217	221	144	144	212	171	223	170
June	202	189	123	147	190	130	179	141
July	104	134	84	110	87	84	96	78
August	111	86	64	107	93	116	72	89
September	112	98	118	78	104	108	105	105
October	269	234	265	173	210	219	234	223
November	335	312	328	377	321	373	374	354
December	360	337	332	336	319	348	294	351

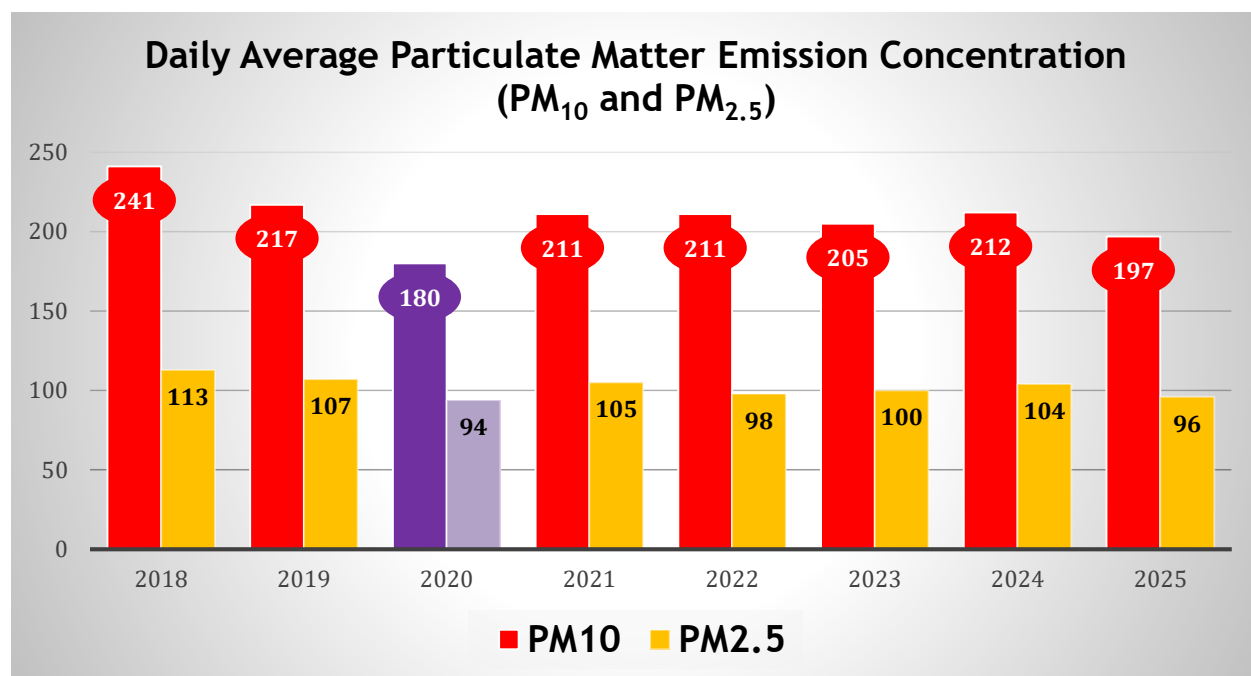
The months of February and July 2025 recorded the lowest ever average AQI for these months since 2018, even lower than the COVID year 2020. Further, barring Covid year 2020, the months of January, May and June witnessed the second lowest average AQI during 2025, as compared to the corresponding months of last 7 years since 2018.

### Comparative PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> Concentrations

Further, comparative daily average Particulate Matter emission concentration (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) values (till 29<sup>th</sup> December) in Delhi read as under:

Year	Daily avg. PM <sub>10</sub> (µgm/m <sup>3</sup> )	Daily avg. PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µgm/m <sup>3</sup> )
2018	241	113
2019	217	107
2020*	180	94
2021	211	105
2022	211	98
2023	205	100
2024	212	104
2025	197	96

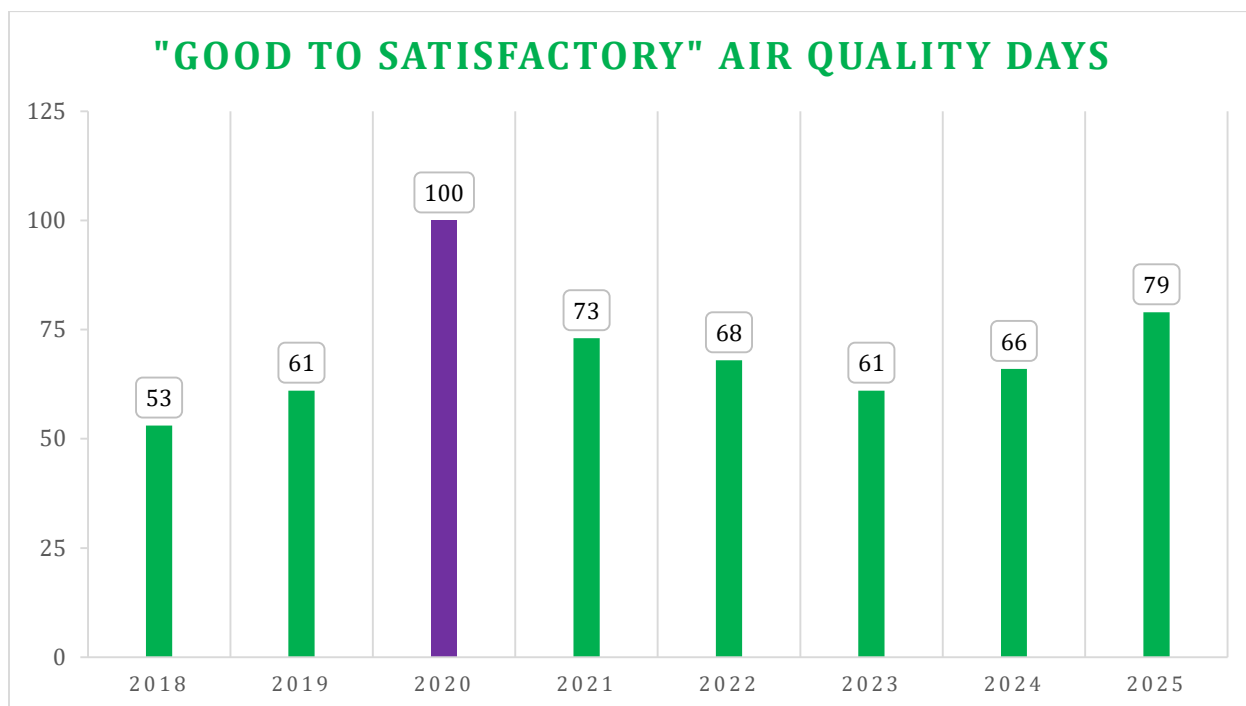
\* Covid Year



*The year 2025 has thus witnessed the lowest ever average values for PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations, barring the Covid affected year 2020.*

The year 2025 witnessed the highest number of days with 'Good' to 'Satisfactory' AQI (0-100), barring COVID year 2020.

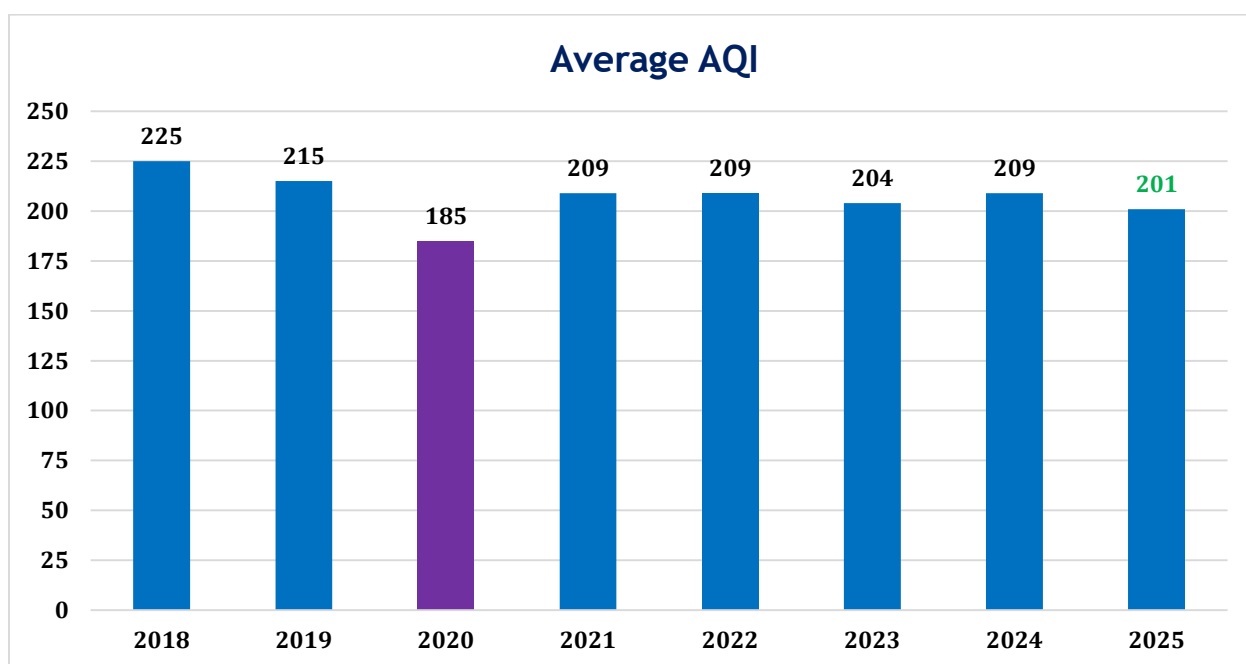
Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
'Good' to 'Satisfactory' AQI Days	53	61	100	73	68	61	66	79



Absolutely still / very low speed wind conditions and unfavourable meteorological conditions during December, 2025 led to an abnormally high monthly average AQI of 351. Despite this, **the average AQI for 2025 has been the lowest** in last 7 years since 2018 (barring the COVID year 2020) as tabulated under:

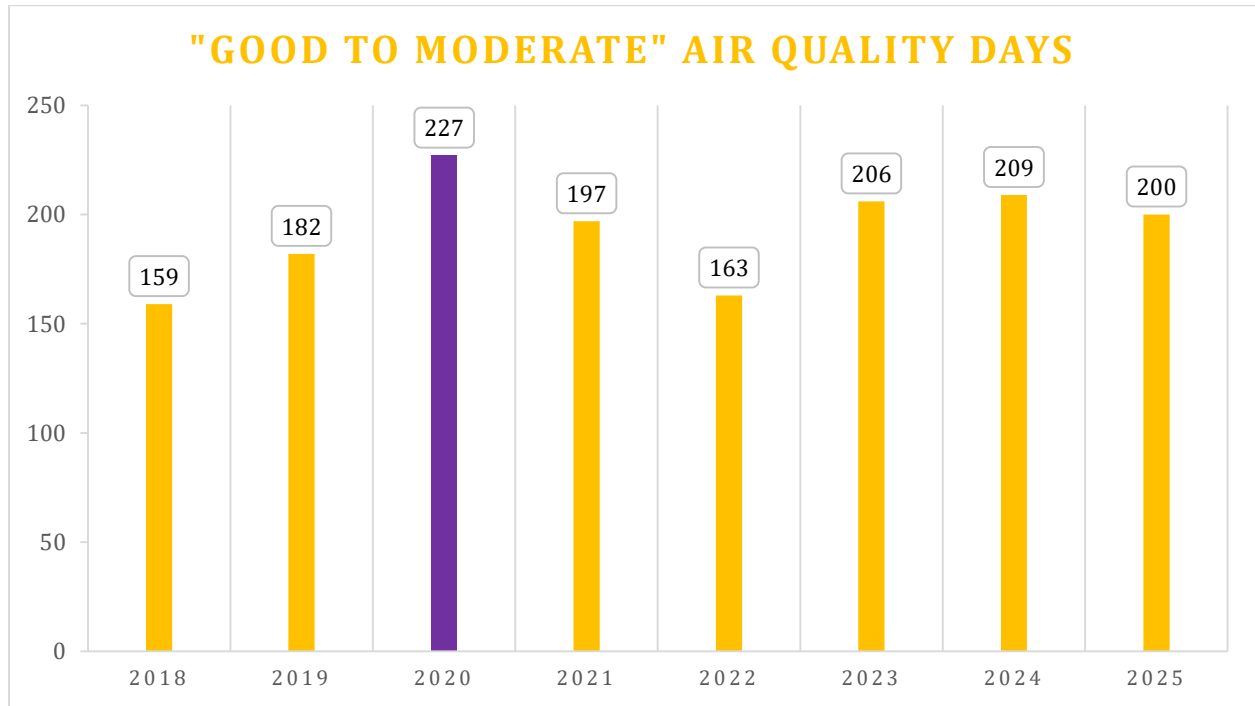
#### Annual Average AQI for Delhi

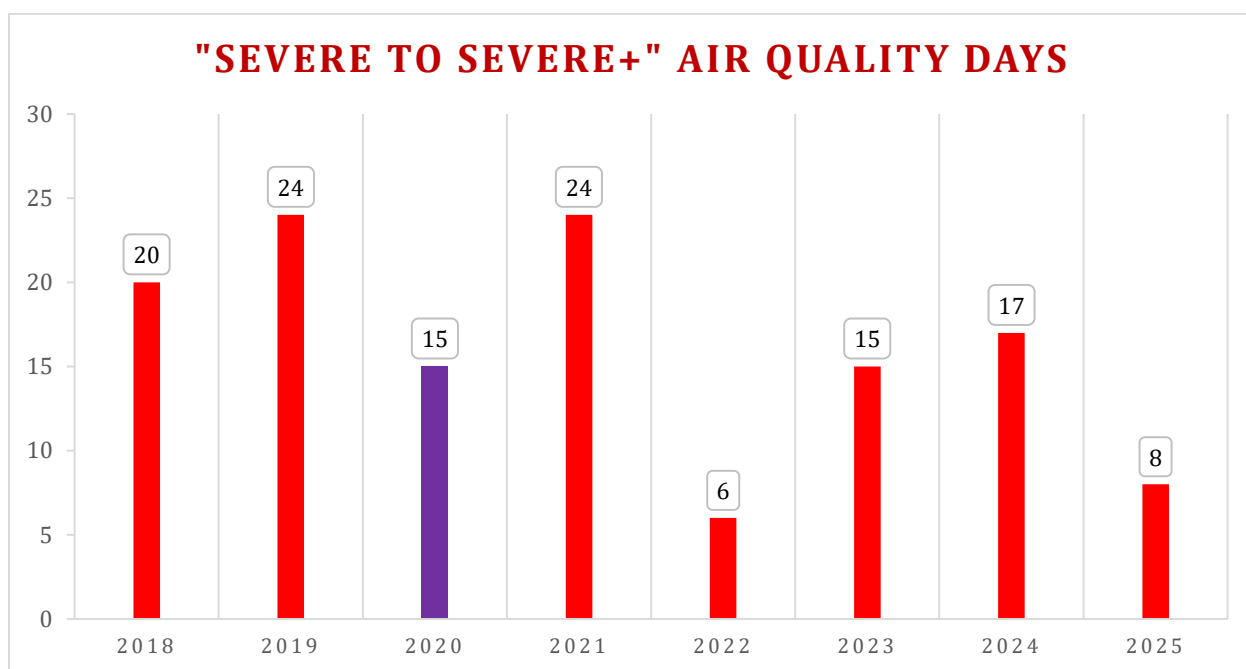
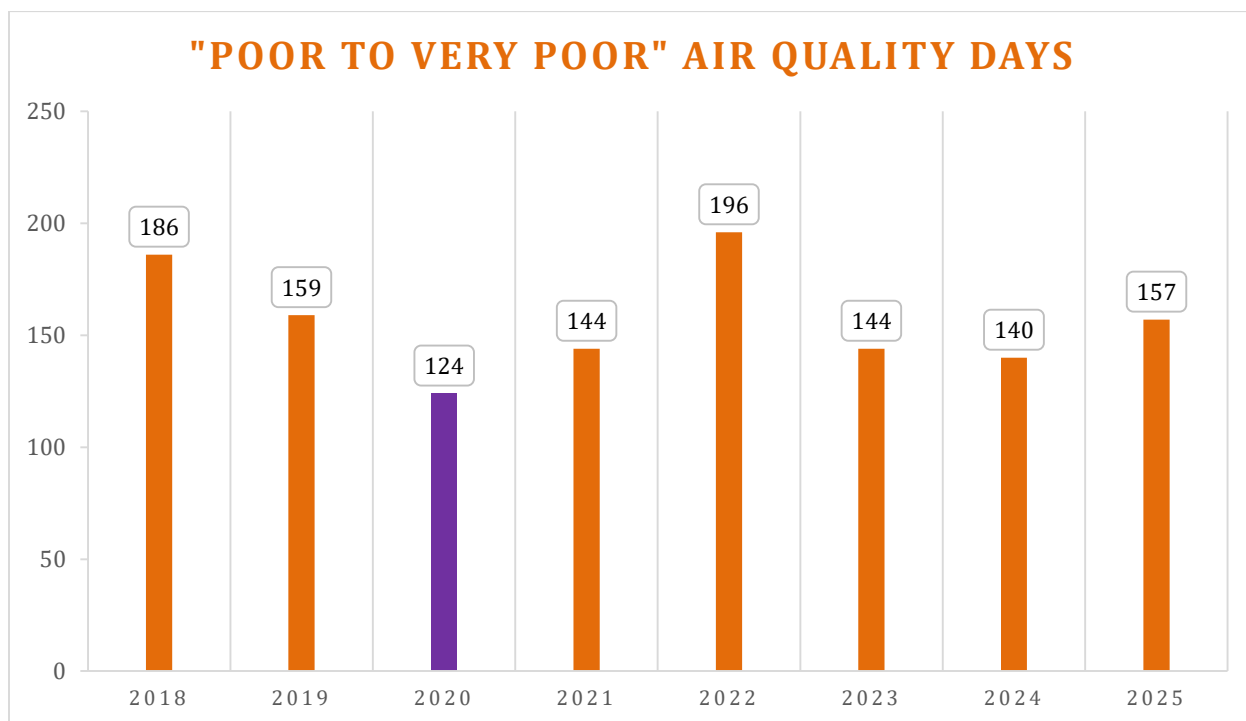
Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Avg. AQI	225	215	185	209	209	204	209	201



## Comparative AQI Category Status for Delhi

AQI Category	No. of days							
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
‘Good to Moderate’ (<200)	159	182	227	197	163	206	209	200
‘Poor to Very Poor’ (201 - 400)	186	159	124	144	196	144	140	157
‘Severe to Severe+’ (>401)	20	24	15	24	6	15	17	8





With persistent field level efforts and targeted policy initiatives for quantified results in the short/ medium/ long term, it is expected that air quality scenario over Delhi will see further gradual but marked improvement, year on year.

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