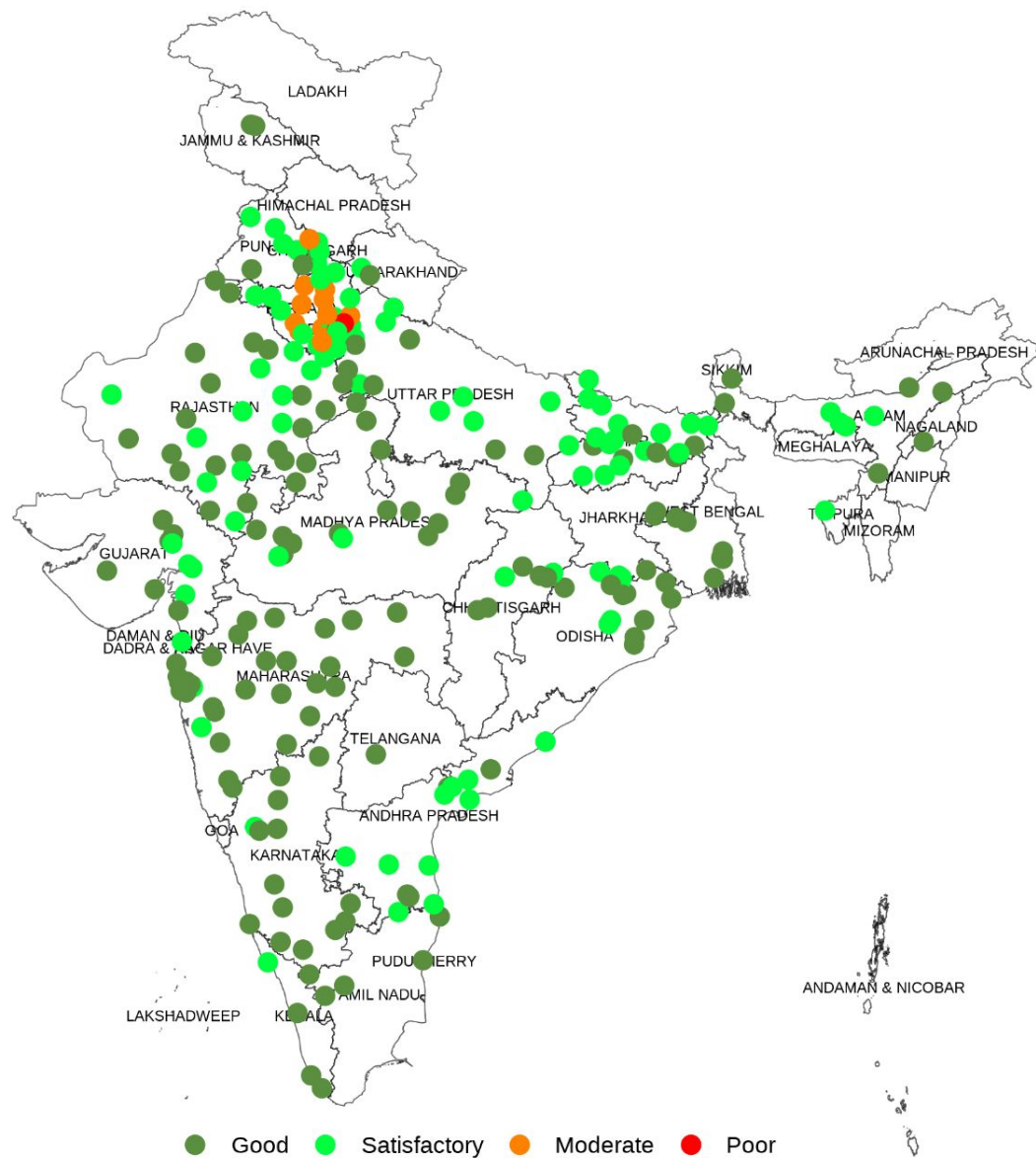




CREA

Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air

Monthly ambient air quality snapshot for India

June 2026

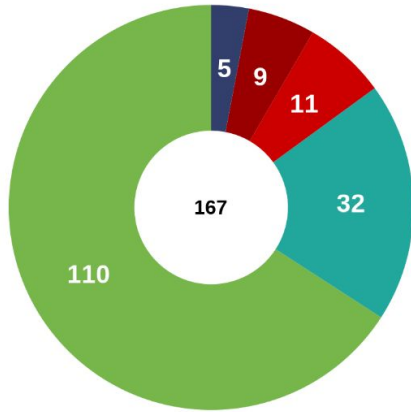
Key highlights

- Compliance: In June 2026, 245 out of 263 cities with 80% and above days with continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations (CAAQMS) available data recorded PM_{2.5} concentrations below India's National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) of 60 µg/m³. Ten cities complied with the World Health Organization's (WHO) daily safe guideline concentration of 15 µg/m³.
 - NCAP cities: The monthly average PM_{2.5} levels in two National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) cities (out of 96 cities with more than 80% of days with data) surpassed India's daily NAAQS for PM_{2.5}, while 88 of 96 NCAP cities exceeded the WHO's daily guideline.
 - Non-NCAP cities: Among the 167 non-NCAP cities with over 80% of days with CAAQMS data, 150 cities reported monthly average PM_{2.5} levels above the WHO daily guideline. Sixteen cities exceeded the daily NAAQS.
- Most polluted city: **Khora in Uttar Pradesh ranked as the most polluted city in India in June 2026**, recording a monthly average PM_{2.5} concentration of 109 µg/m³, surpassing the daily NAAQS limit of 60 µg/m³ for 25 days in the month.
 - Khora recorded 15 days in the 'Very Poor' category, two days in the 'Poor' category, eight days in 'Moderate' category, and five days in 'Satisfactory' category.
 - **Modinagar in Uttar Pradesh was the second most polluted city in India during June 2026, with monthly average PM_{2.5} of 108 µg/m³.**
 - Throughout June 2026, Khora recorded two days in 'Severe' category, five days in the 'Very Poor' category, 12 days in the 'Poor' category, seven days in the 'Moderate' category, and four days in the 'Satisfactory' category.

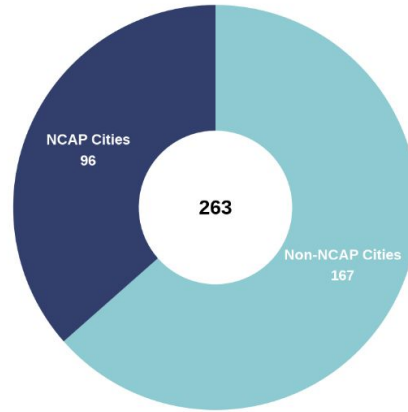
- Sonipat, Byrnihat, Gurgaon, Panipat, Bhiwani, Bahadurgarh, Jind and Faridabad were in the top 10 cities, with Sonipat and Faridabad in third and tenth places, respectively.
- **Haryana state accounted for seven of the ten most polluted cities in June 2026, followed by Uttar Pradesh with two cities and Meghalaya with one city.**
- State with most polluted cities: Among all Indian states, Haryana had the highest number of cities exceeding NAAQS, with 13 out of 25 recording $PM_{2.5}$ higher than the standards. Of these cities, 12 were in the ‘Satisfactory’ category and 13 cities were in the ‘Moderate’ category.
- Cleanest city: **Dombivli in Maharashtra was recorded as the cleanest city in India during June 2026**, with a monthly average $PM_{2.5}$ of $6 \mu g/m^3$, followed by Ambernath with a monthly average $PM_{2.5}$ of $6.8 \mu g/m^3$. The top 10 cleanest cities were comprised of Maharashtra with four cities, followed by Karnataka with three cities and one each from Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Chhattisgarh.
- Frequency in top 10 polluted cities: **A total of 55 cities were featured in the daily top 10 most polluted cities list in June 2026**, topped by Modinagar (23 days), followed by Gurgaon (20 days), Khora (17 days) , Bhiwani (15 days), Byrnihat, Bahadurgarh, Panchgoan, and Jind each (14 days).
- Megacities: Delhi ($43 \mu g/m^3$), Kolkata ($26 \mu g/m^3$), Chennai ($22 \mu g/m^3$), Bangalore ($19 \mu g/m^3$), and Mumbai ($17 \mu g/m^3$) all recorded monthly average $PM_{2.5}$ levels below the daily standard.

Number of cities vs. frequency of days with PM_{2.5} concentration above NAAQS and WHO guidelines – June 2026

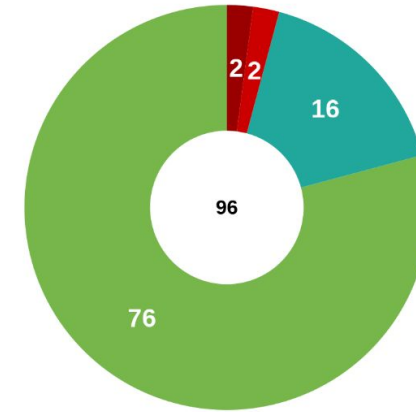
Categorisation of non-NCAP cities
against compliance to NAAQS guidelines



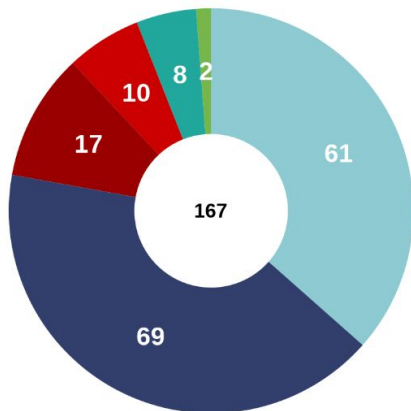
Total # of cities with >80% of the days
with CAAQMS data



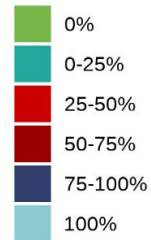
Categorisation of NCAP cities
against compliance to NAAQS guidelines



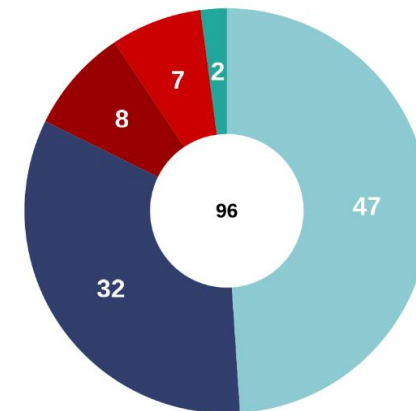
Categorisation of non-NCAP cities
against compliance to WHO guidelines



% of days above standard



Categorisation of NCAP cities
against compliance to WHO guidelines



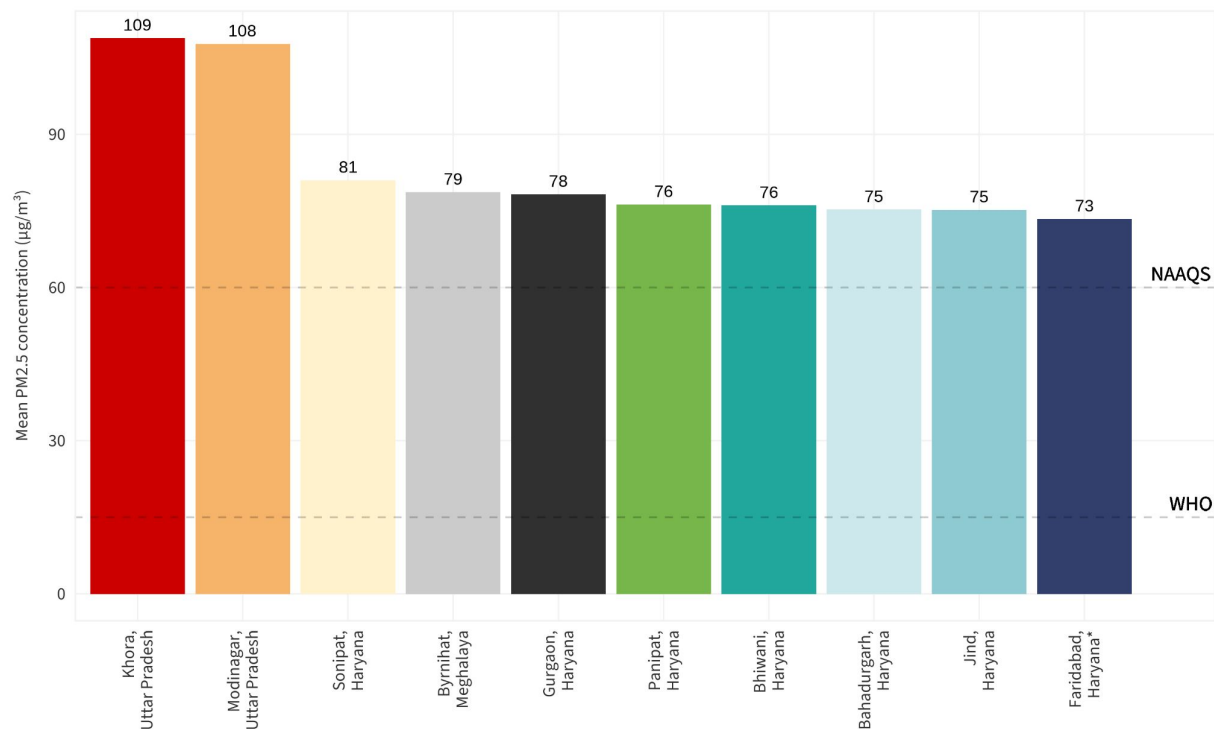
Top 10 most polluted cities in India by PM_{2.5} concentration – June 2026

Days in respective AQI categories based on PM_{2.5} (µg/m³) – June 2026

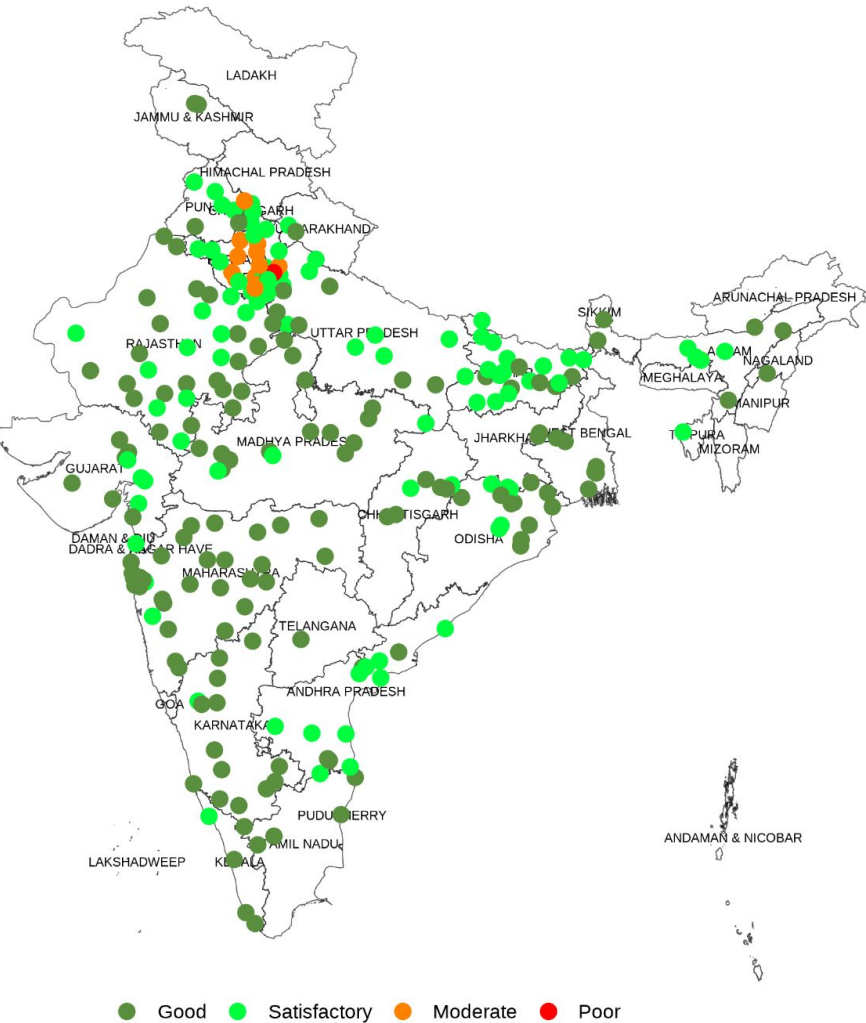
City	Good (0-30)	Satisfactory (31-60)	Moderate (61-90)	Poor (91-120)	Very poor (121-250)	Severe (>250)
Khora	0	5	8	2	15	0
Modinagar	0	4	7	12	5	2
Sonipat	4	10	7	2	6	1
Byrnihat	1	9	8	8	2	0
Gurgaon	0	9	10	10	1	0
Panipat	1	8	14	4	3	0
Bhiwani	0	5	22	3	0	0
Bahadurgarh	0	6	18	4	2	0
Jind	1	6	15	5	3	0
Faridabad	0	8	17	5	0	0

Top 10 most polluted cities in India by PM2.5 concentration - June 2026

* indicates NCAP cities



Distribution of cities by PM_{2.5} air quality index (AQI) based on monthly average PM_{2.5} concentrations – June 2026



State/UT	Number of cities in AQI category (PM _{2.5} µg/m ³)				
	Good (0-30)	Satisfactory (31-60)	Moderate (61-90)	Poor (91-120)	Very Poor (121-250)
Andhra Pradesh	4	9	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0	0
Assam	2	4	0	0	0
Bihar	6	16	0	0	0
Chandigarh	1	0	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	6	2	0	0	0
Gujarat	6	5	0	0	0
Haryana	0	12	13	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0	0	0
Jammu and Kashmir	2	0	0	0	0
Jharkhand	2	0	0	0	0
Karnataka	14	1	0	0	0
Kerala	3	1	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	12	3	0	0	0
Maharashtra	34	2	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	1	0	0
NCT of Delhi	0	1	0	0	0
Nagaland	1	0	0	0	0
Odisha	10	6	0	0	0
Puducherry	1	0	0	0	0
Punjab	2	4	1	0	0
Rajasthan	23	11	0	0	0
Sikkim	1	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	3	1	0	0	0
Telangana	1	0	0	0	0
Tripura	0	1	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	7	13	1	2	0
Uttarakhand	1	2	0	0	0
West Bengal	7	0	0	0	0

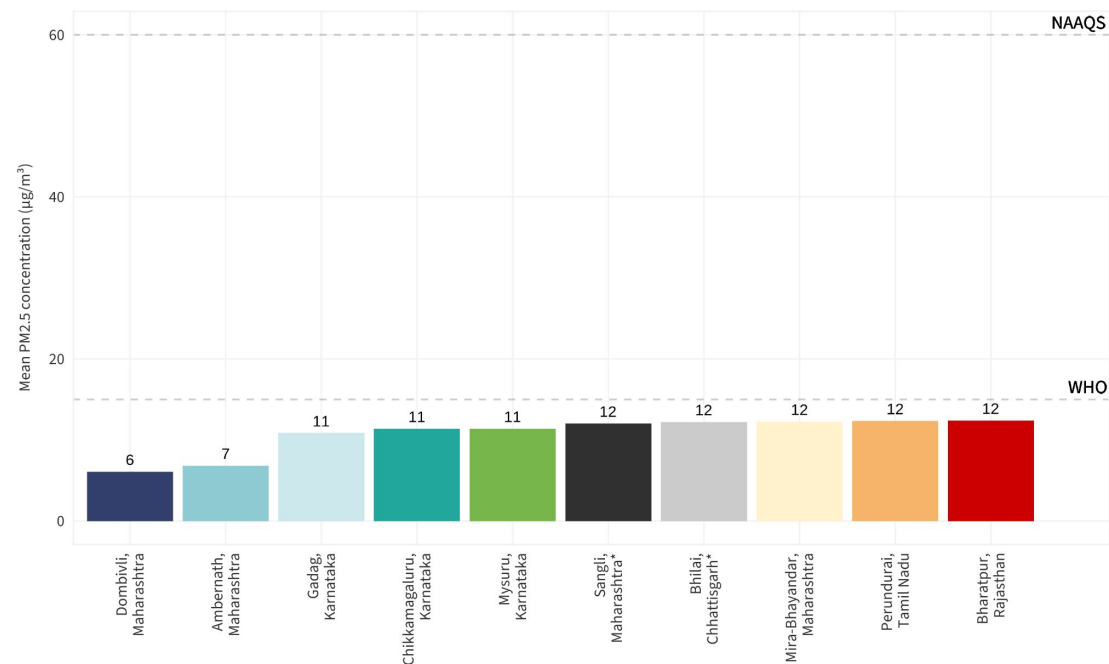
Top 10 cleanest cities in India by PM_{2.5} concentration – June 2026

Days in respective AQI categories based on PM_{2.5} (µg/m³) – June 2026

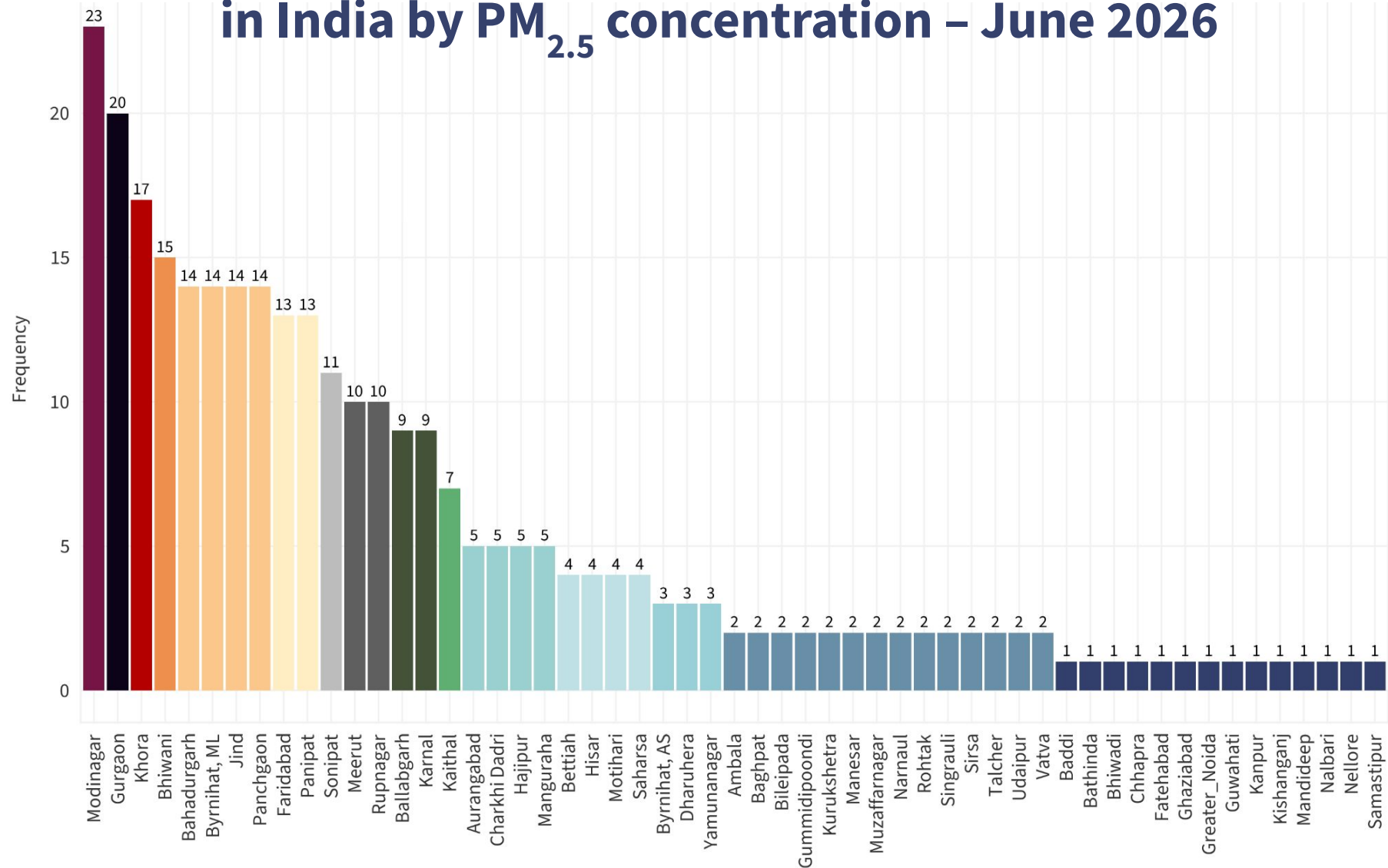
City	Good (0-30)	Satisfactory (31-60)	Moderate (61-90)	Poor (91-120)	Very poor (121-250)	Severe (>250)
Dombivli	30	0	0	0	0	0
Ambernath	29	0	0	0	0	0
Gadag	26	0	0	0	0	0
Chikkamagaluru	28	0	0	0	0	0
Mysuru	30	0	0	0	0	0
Sangli	30	0	0	0	0	0
Bhilai	30	0	0	0	0	0
Mira-Bhayandar	30	0	0	0	0	0
Perundurai	27	0	0	0	0	0
Bharatpur	30	0	0	0	0	0

Top 10 cleanest cities in India by PM_{2.5} concentration - June 2026

* indicates NCAP cities

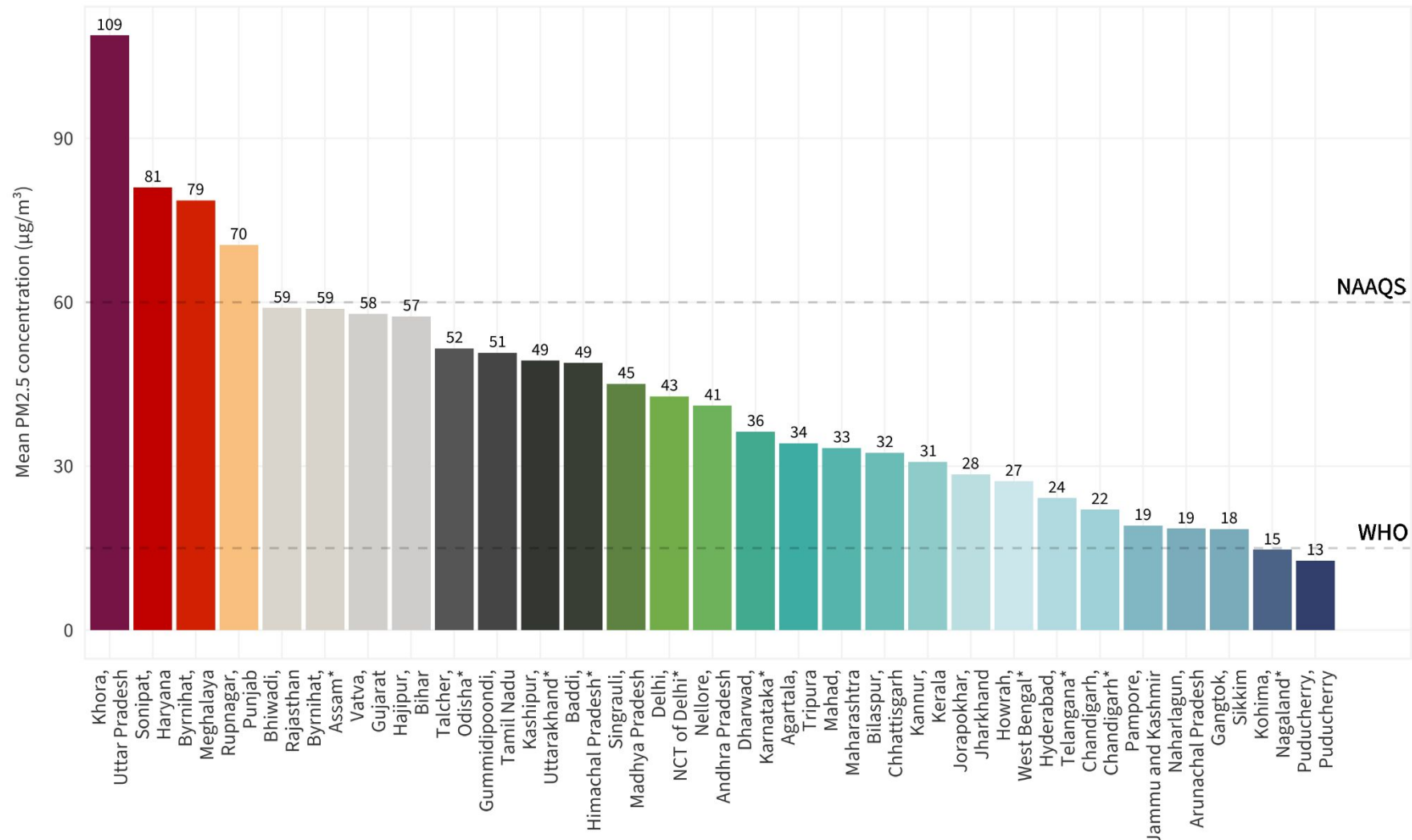


Frequency of appearance of respective cities in top 10 most polluted cities in India by PM_{2.5} concentration – June 2026



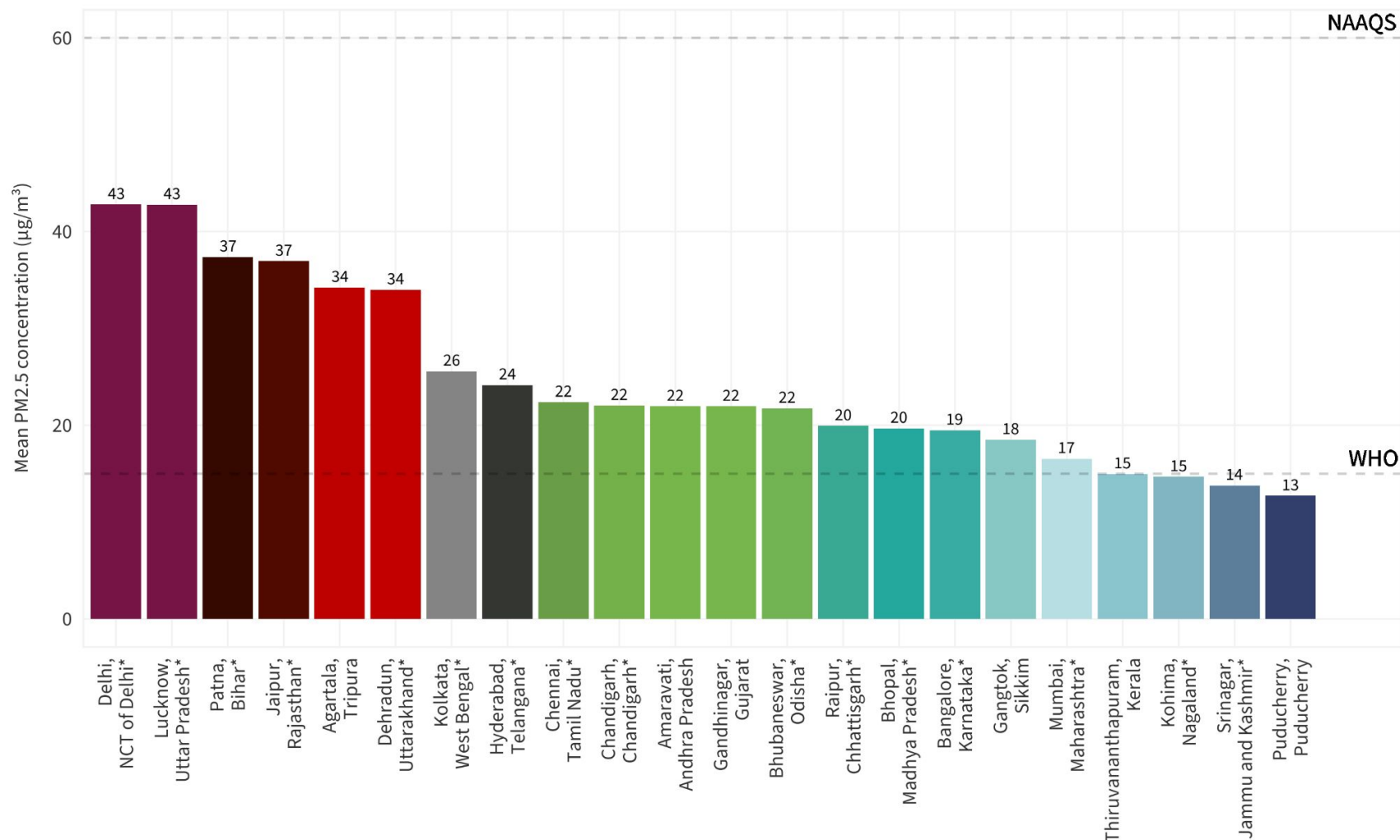
State-wise most polluted cities (PM_{2.5}, µg/m³) in India - June 2026

* indicates NCAP cities



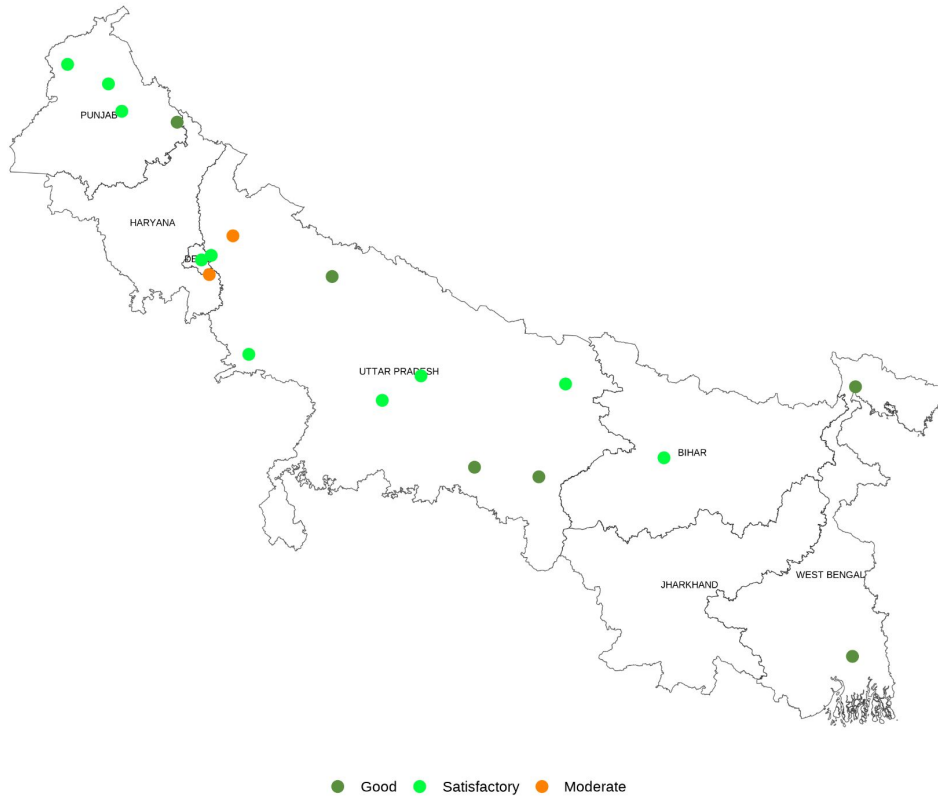
PM_{2.5} concentrations across state capital cities in India - June 2026

* indicates NCAP cities

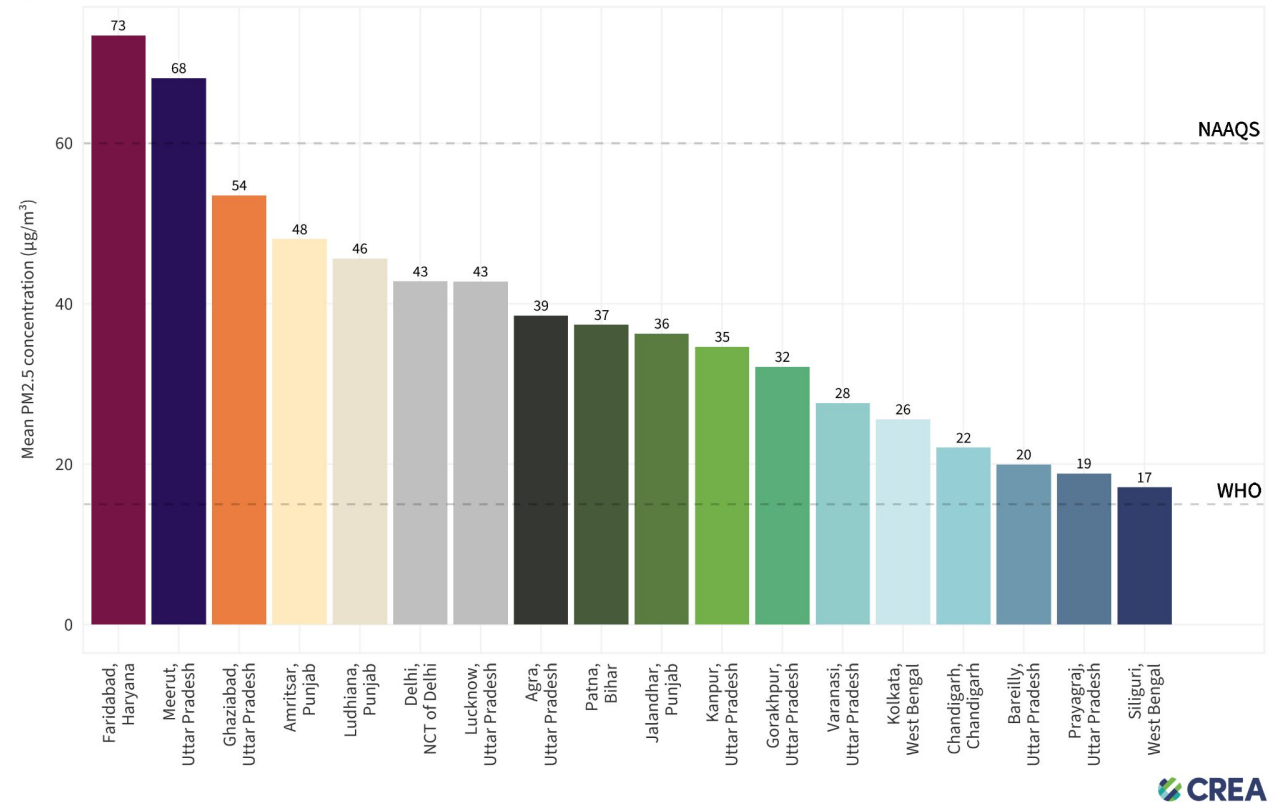


Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh); Dispur (Assam); Panaji (Goa); Shimla (Himachal Pradesh); Ranchi (Jharkhand); Port Blair (Andaman and Nicobar Islands); Daman (Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu); Leh (Ladakh); and Kavaratti (Lakshadweep) don't have an operational CAAQMS.

PM_{2.5} concentrations across million plus cities with CAAQMS in Indo-Gangetic Plain in India – June 2026

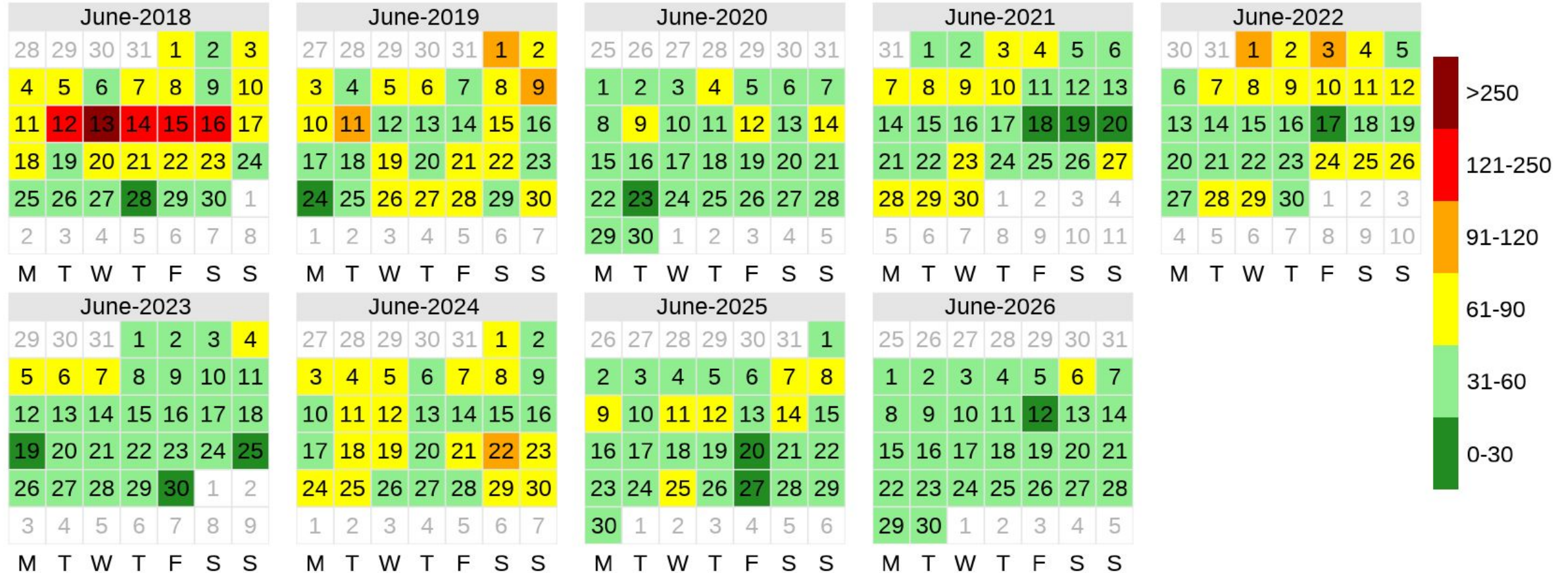


PM_{2.5} concentrations across million plus cities in Indo-Gangetic Plain in India (with CAAQMS) - June 2026



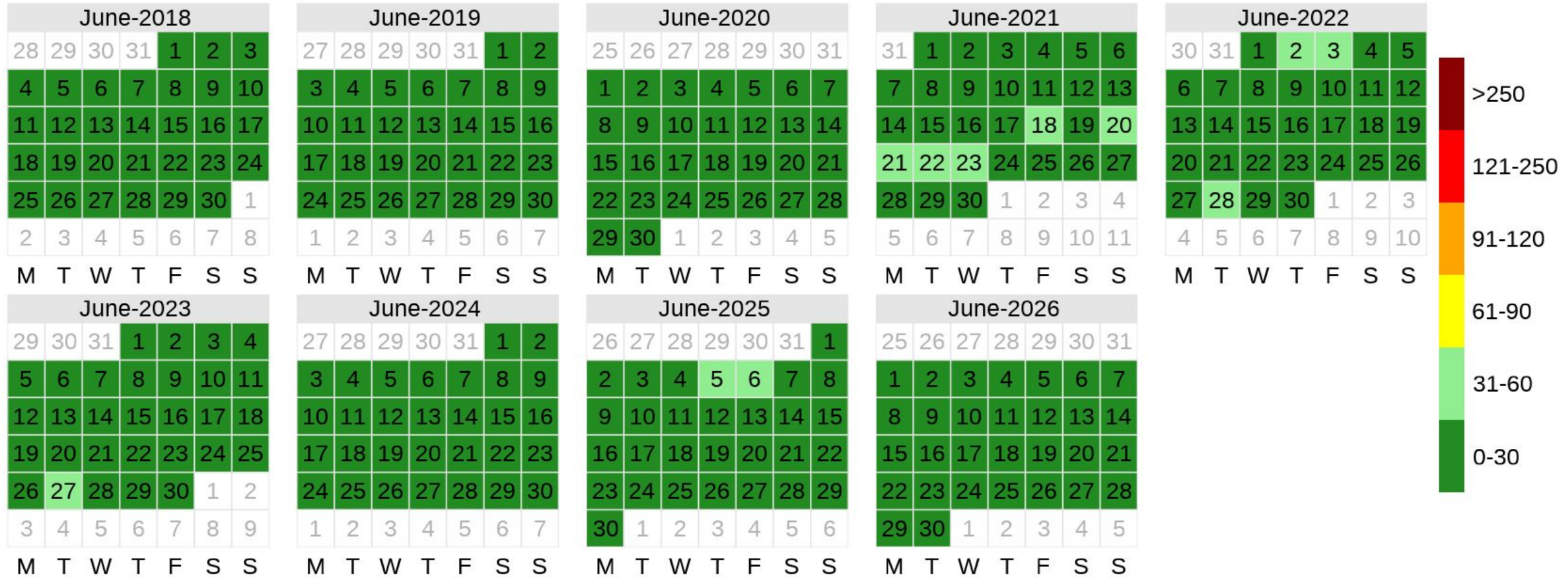
Ambient air quality status in Delhi – June 2026

(PM_{2.5} concentration, µg/m³)



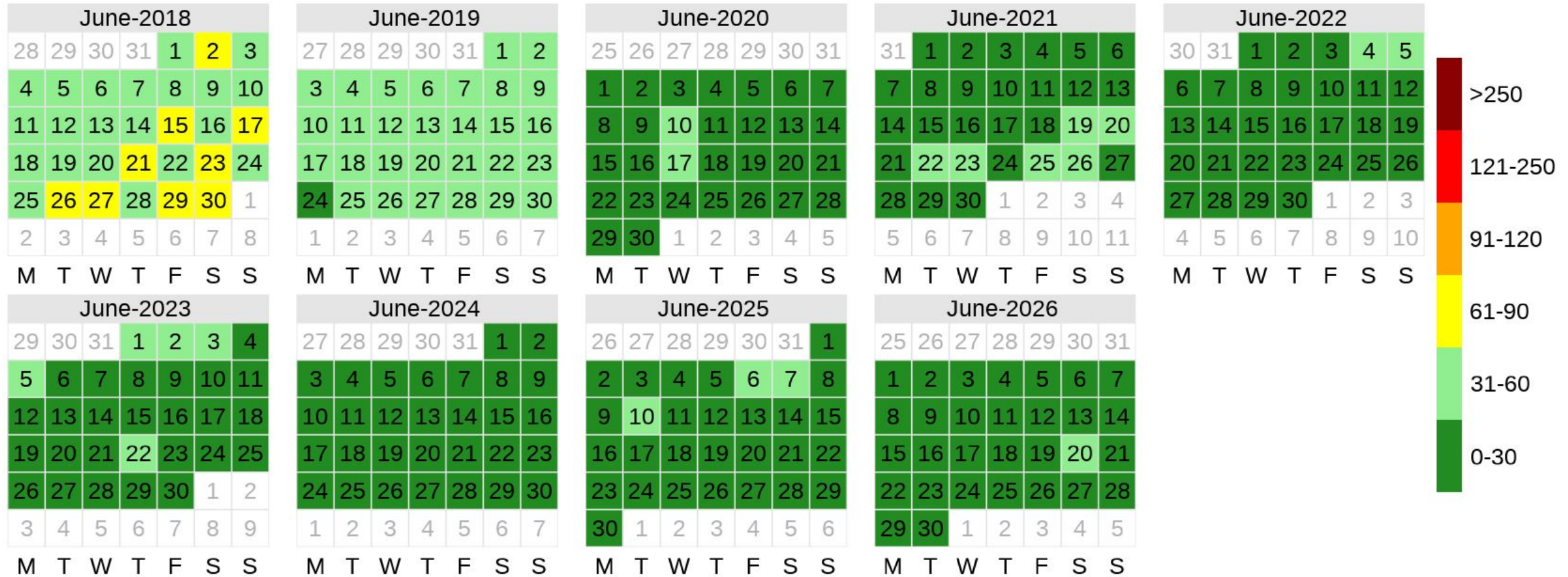
Ambient air quality status in Mumbai – June 2026

(PM_{2.5} concentration, µg/m³)

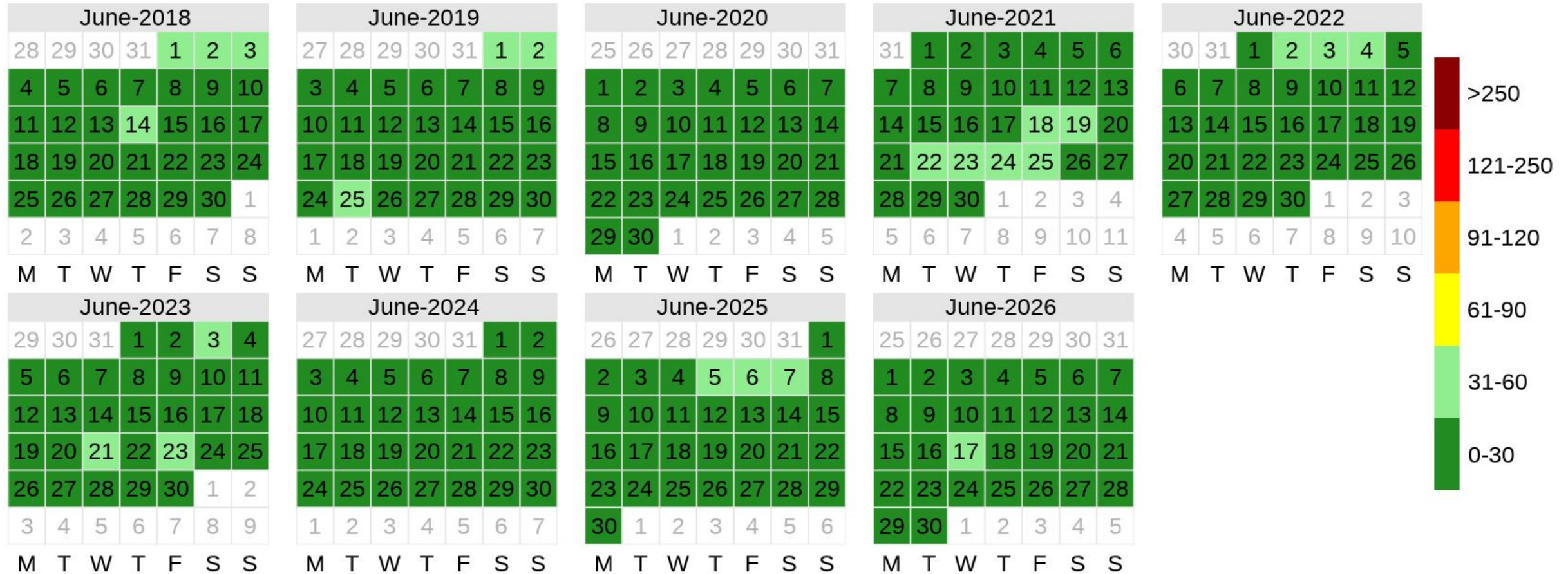


Ambient air quality status in Chennai – June 2026

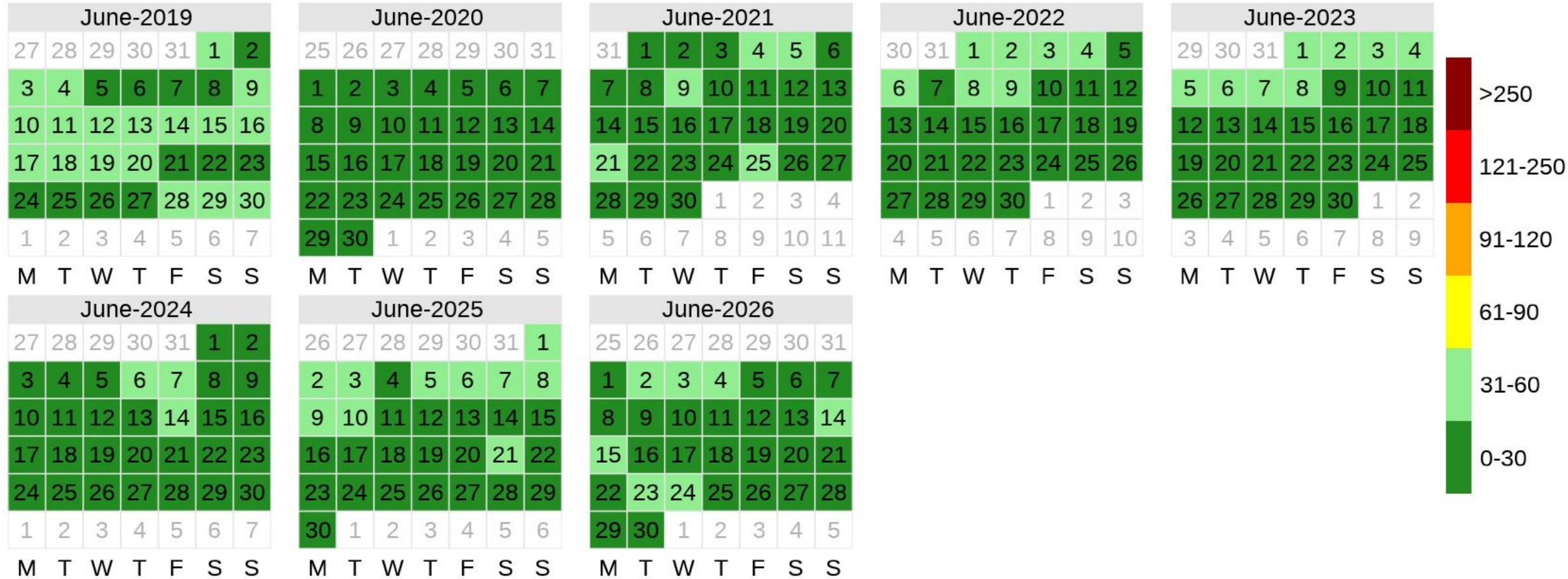
(PM_{2.5} concentration, µg/m³)



Ambient air quality status in Bangalore – June 2026 (PM_{2.5} concentration, µg/m³)



Ambient air quality status in Kolkata – June 2026 (PM_{2.5} concentration, µg/m³)



Data sources

Ambient air quality data recorded by Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) is downloaded from the '[Central Control Room for Air Quality Management - All India](#)' dashboard operated by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Resources

To subscribe to these monthly air quality snapshots and to access the graphs and web version of this snapshot on our website here- [India monthly ambient air quality snapshot](#)