

# India: Home to nine of the world's 10 most polluted cities\*

## Delhi

- Capital city of India.
- **PM2.5 level:** 143 mcg per cu m.

## Lucknow

- Capital of Uttar Pradesh.
- **PM2.5 level:** 138 mcg per cu m.

## Varanasi

- City in Uttar Pradesh is known as India's spiritual capital. It is the constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **PM 2.5 level:** 151 mcg per cu m.

## Faridabad

- Largest city in the state of Haryana, part of the Delhi national capital region.
- **PM2.5 level:** 172 mcg per cu m.

## Agra

- City on the banks of Yamuna River in Uttar Pradesh, where the Taj Mahal is sited.
- **PM2.5 level:** 131 mcg per cu m.

## Kanpur

- The city has over 200 working tanneries.
- **PM2.5 level:** 173 mcg per cu m, nearly six times over WHO's safe limit of 30.

## Patna

- Capital city of Bihar state.
- **PM 2.5 level:** 144 mcg per cu m.

## Gaya

- In Bihar state.
- **PM 2.5 level:** 149 mcg per cu m.

## Muzaffarpur

- City in Bihar state.
- **PM2.5 level:** 120 mcg per cu m.



NOTE: \*The ranking, released in May 2018, is based on measurements and calculations as of 2016 from air monitoring stations in 4,300 cities. The African city of Bamenda in Cameroon is the only city outside of India in the World Health Organisation's (WHO's) ranking of the world's top 10 most polluted cities.

## WHAT IS PM2.5?

- Toxic particles less than 2.5 microns in size – or a thirtieth of the diameter of human hair.
- Over-exposure increases the risk of lung and heart illnesses.
- The minute particles can penetrate deep into the lungs and once they enter the bloodstream, they can go anywhere in the body.

## Main causes of pollution

- Vehicle emissions
- Dust from construction
- Crop burning
- Solid waste burning
- Industrial emissions
- Burning of wood and coal for cooking and heating