

China struggles with air pollution crisis

Chinese authorities are shutting factories and limiting the number of vehicles on roads in an effort to curb persistent dense smog hovering over Beijing and other northern cities

AIR POLLUTION IN MAJOR CHINESE CITIES

Data as of February 25

20:00 local time

(GMT +8)



Health hazard

Of particular concern are elevated levels of PM2.5 – particulate matter measuring 2.5 micrometres or less in diameter – which poses serious health risk because fine particles can be embedded deep into lungs

Air Quality Index value	Air quality
0-50	Good
51-100	Moderate
101-150	Unhealthy for sensitive groups
151-200	Unhealthy
201-300	Very unhealthy
300-500	Hazardous

World Health Organization recommends 24-hour exposure of no higher than 25

Picture: Getty Images

