



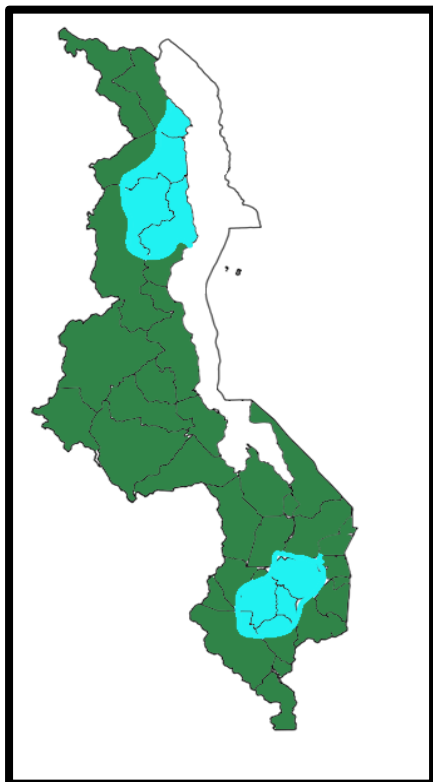
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CLIMATE CHANGE
DEPARTMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

AIR QUALITY FORECAST BULLETIN

Date of Issue: 07th October 2025

Valid: 08th to 14th October 2025

1. Expected Air Quality Distribution Map



Please refer to the [AQI Levels table 4](#) below for the interpretation of the colors.

2. Forecast Summary

The air quality index is expected to improve over many areas except for areas around Mzuzu and Blantyre where moderate conditions where unhealthy conditions for sensitive groups are likely. This means that the sensitive groups should take precautionary measures like wearing the masks and also avoid being outdoors for long hours. Although the rise in levels is mainly attributed to increased vehicular emissions during peak hours, dusty conditions, and open burning, the expected rains over some areas may help reduce the accumulation.

The observed highest peak of air quality value of index (AQI) during the past week dropped over most areas as compared to the week of 24th-30th September 2025. The highest AQI registered at Namiwawa (Blantyre) and Msalura (Salima) registered was **500**, Mchesi Chirunga (Zomba) – **222.6**, (Lilongwe) – **220.4**, Luwingu (Mzuzu) – **196.6**, Blantyre CBD **181.8**. Chichiri (Blantyre)- **176.7** and Mubas (Blantyre) – **175.2**.

Contributor of the observed data is MUBAS Air Quality with funding from University of Chicago EPIC Air Quality Fund

3. Expected Sources of Pollution

- Open burning of waste.
- Vehicle emissions.
- Dust from bare ground and construction.

4. Air Quality Index (AQI) Levels Explained

AQI Color	Level of Concern	Value of Index	Description of Air Quality
Green	GOOD	0 to 50	Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Aqua Blue	MODERATE	51 to 100	Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those sensitive to pollution.
Yellow	UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS	101 to 150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.
Orange	UNHEALTHY	151 to 200	Some of the general public may experience health effects; sensitive groups may experience more serious effects.
Red	DANGEROUS	At least 201	Health Alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.

5. Public Advice and Recommendations

- Wear masks in dusty and strongly hazy areas.
- Follow air quality updates from DCCMS platforms.
- Avoid burning; instead, use composting or mulching with organic matter.
- Ensure regular vehicle maintenance to minimize emissions.

Next Bulletin: 14th October 2025

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