

Air quality in Kuching among the world's worst

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The haze in Kuching has resulted in Malaysia being ranked among the top 10 countries with the world's worst air pollution index, according to the non-profit World Air Quality Index (Waqi).

Based on Waqi's list of cities with the worst air pollution index, Malaysia currently ranks number four as at 11am today due to API reading in Kuching of 272.

It was reported that Malaysia was **listed** as having the city with the top highest API reading earlier this morning, before dropping to fourth.

An API reading of 0-50 is deemed good, 51-100 (moderate), 101-150 (unhealthy for sensitive groups), 150-200 (unhealthy), 201 - 300 (very unhealthy) and anything above 300 is deemed hazardous.

This is believed to be due to the unabating haze situation, largely from dense smoke blown in by forest fires in Sumatra and Kalimantan in Indonesia.

According to Waqi report, Indonesia ranks number two as of 11am with API reading of 442 in Simpang. Australia currently ranks first with Whyalla recording a high 592.

Singapore, which has also been affected by the transboundary haze, is only listed at 43rd place with API of 82.