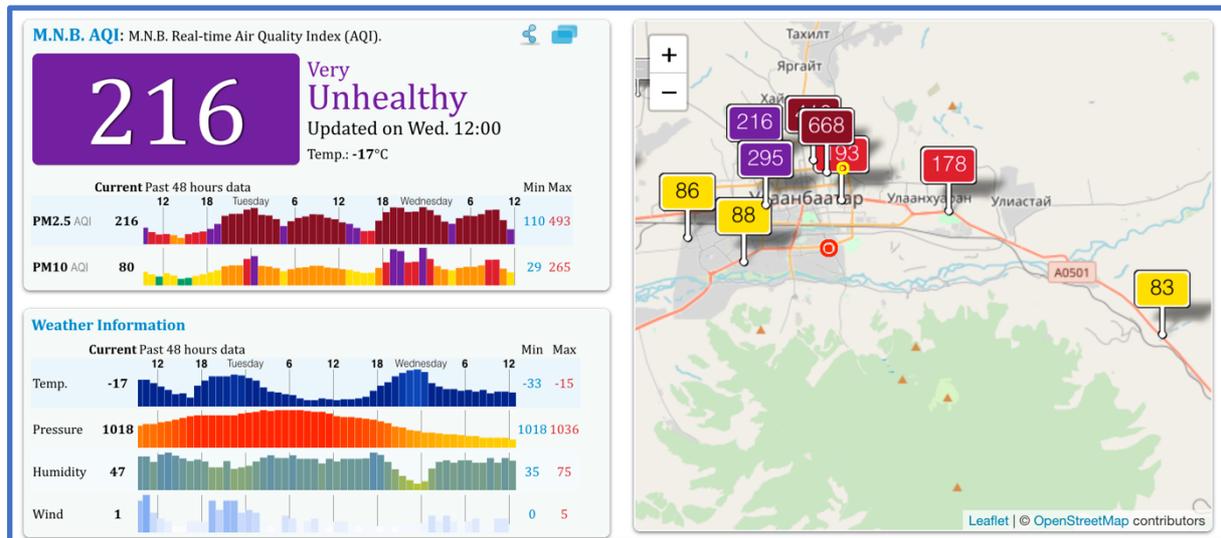


AQI in Ulaanbaatar

The apocalypse: “Ulaanbaatar is one of the most polluted capital cities in the world”
 The space: UB is 4,704 km², and the *ger* district in the north (a considerably smaller part of the city) is where AQI is terrible – among the city’s poor and itinerant



<http://aqicn.org/city/ulaanbaatar/mnb/> - Screenshot taken on January 16, 2019 at 13:00

Life in south UB: ISU is in the south end of the city near the river. AQI issues in UB only occur for about 4 months—in winter (December to March)—and they hit the northern city inhabitants hard. In the south, air quality is much better. There is a distinct winter AQI gradient, with air quality improving as the air moves south. And outside of the winter months the air is very clean – *everywhere* in the city.

ISU AQI Facts: In the southern part of the city, where the school resides (the red dot above) and nearby where most of our teachers live:
 Winter AQI readings **inside** the school: from 2 to 30 throughout
 Winter AQI **outside** the building *in the worst AQI months of winter*:
 An average of **145** in the morning and **below 100** after noon. In that same time the average AQI at the US Embassy in Mongolia (yellow dot, near the *ger* district) has been approximately **415**.

Comparative Facts: Many of the cities noted for their poor air quality have such readings year-round, while UB has them for 4 months. Many such cities have AQI problems spread over vast sections of urban occupation, whereas UB has theirs in a fairly concentrated area.

On the day that the readings above were taken, several world cities had neighbourhoods with AQIs between 100 and 150, including Stockholm, Oslo, Lima, Beijing, Manila, Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh City and Phnom Penh. And many others were above 80: Calgary; Toronto; Seattle; Tokyo; Seoul; and Madrid to name a few.