

# ISTANBUL'S CLEANEST AIR IS AT IŞIK UNIVERSITY *Şile Campus!*



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Sustainable Economic Systems

# Data Brief 2025

## Where's the cleanest air in Istanbul?

### The data speaks for itself: Şile!

**Şile** ranks **1.** in air quality among **37** monitoring stations across Istanbul



**Air quality** is more than just an environmental metric - it is a comprehensive indicator of well-being that directly affects human health and the biophysical foundations of economic systems. In megacities like Istanbul, air pollution stands out as a major environmental threat.

As **SES Lab**, we analyzed 2024 data collected from 37 air quality monitoring stations operated by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality. When key pollutants - **PM<sub>10</sub>**, **PM<sub>2.5</sub>**, **O<sub>3</sub>**, **NO<sub>2</sub>**, **CO**, and **SO<sub>2</sub>** - are assessed collectively, **Şile** emerges as the district with the **cleanest daily air quality in Istanbul**.

AIR QUALITY INDEX	SO <sub>2</sub> (MG/M3)		NO <sub>2</sub> (MG/M3)		CO (MG/M3)		PM <sub>10</sub> (MG/M3)	PM <sub>2.5</sub> (MG/M3)	Air Quality
	1 Hour Average	24 Hour Average	1 Hour Average	24 Hour Average	1 Hour Average	24 Hour Average	24 Hour Average	24 Hour Average	
0-50	0-93		0-102	0,5-2	0-108		0-54	0.0-12	GOOD
51-100	94-200		103-192	5,3-11	109-248		55-154	12,1-35,4	MODERATE
101-150	201-493		193-689	11,1-14,5		249-328	155-254	35,5-55,4	UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS
151-200	494-810		690-1242	14,6-18		329-408	255-354	55,5-150,4	UNHEALTHY
201-300		811-1609	1242-2380	18,1-35,5		409-808	355-424	150,5-250,4	VERY UNHEALTHY
301-400		1610-2141	2381-3145	35,6-47,1		809-1008	425-504	250,5-350,4	HAZARDOUS
401-500		2142-2674	3146-3910	47,2-58		1009-1208	505-604	350,5-500,4	

In Şile, approximately **350 days of the year** fall into the first-tier **“good”** air quality category. In other words, residents breathe clean air about 97% of the time. During the remaining 10 days - just 3% of the year - the air quality drops only slightly to the second-tier “moderate” category.

Located in the northeastern part of Istanbul, Şile's low population density, expansive forest cover, and coastal ecosystem contribute to its status as a critical natural area in maintaining regional air quality.

