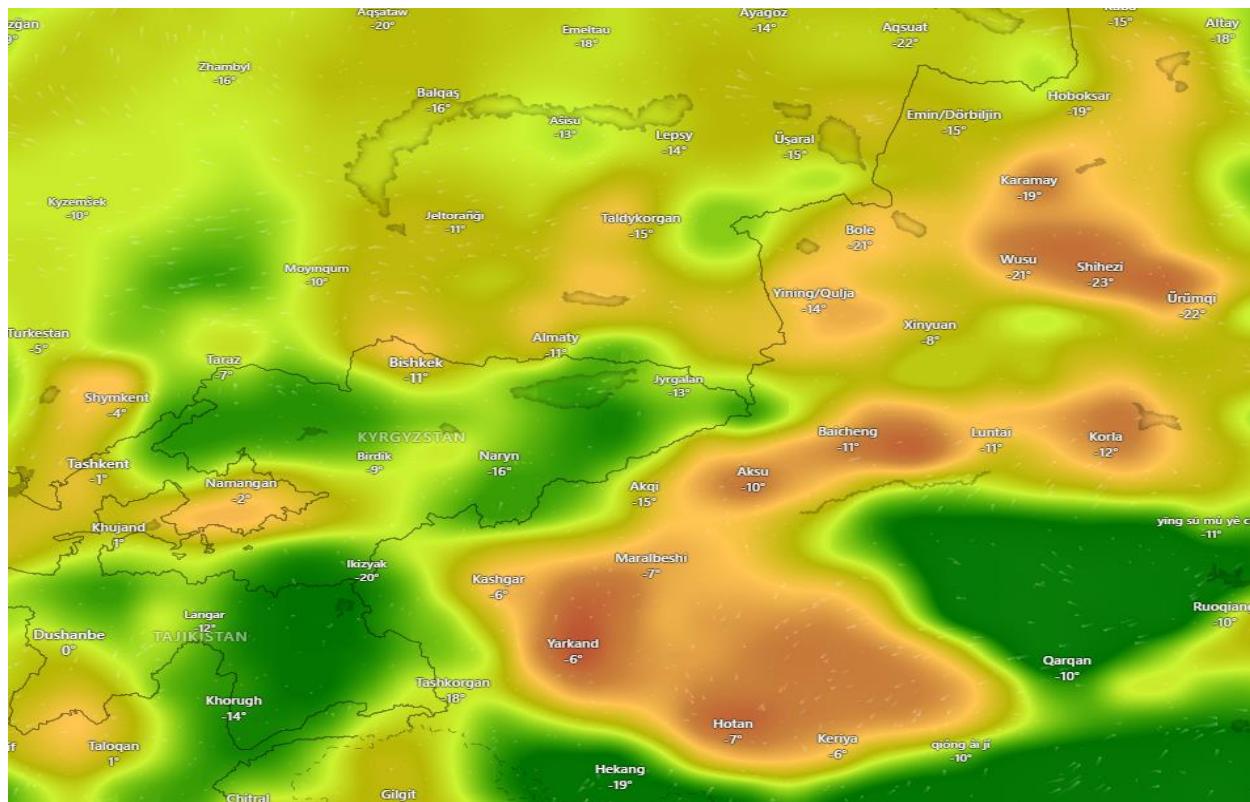




Dust Storm Affecting Central Asia



Valid: January 20–25 2026

Affected Areas

Southern Kazakhstan (Almaty region – highest dust concentration and unhealthy air quality); Uzbekistan (Tashkent area); Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek – unhealthy PM2.5 levels); northern Turkmenistan.

Hazard Types

High dust concentration, reduced visibility (haze), poor air quality (unhealthy PM2.5/PM10 levels), respiratory irritation.

Hazard Summary

Dust storm originates from Aral Sea and Kyzylkum deserts, moving north and east to impact southern Kazakhstan (Almaty – severe haze and unhealthy air), Uzbekistan (Tashkent), Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek – unhealthy pollution levels), and northern Turkmenistan. Thick dust causes hazy conditions and elevated pollution through Thursday.