

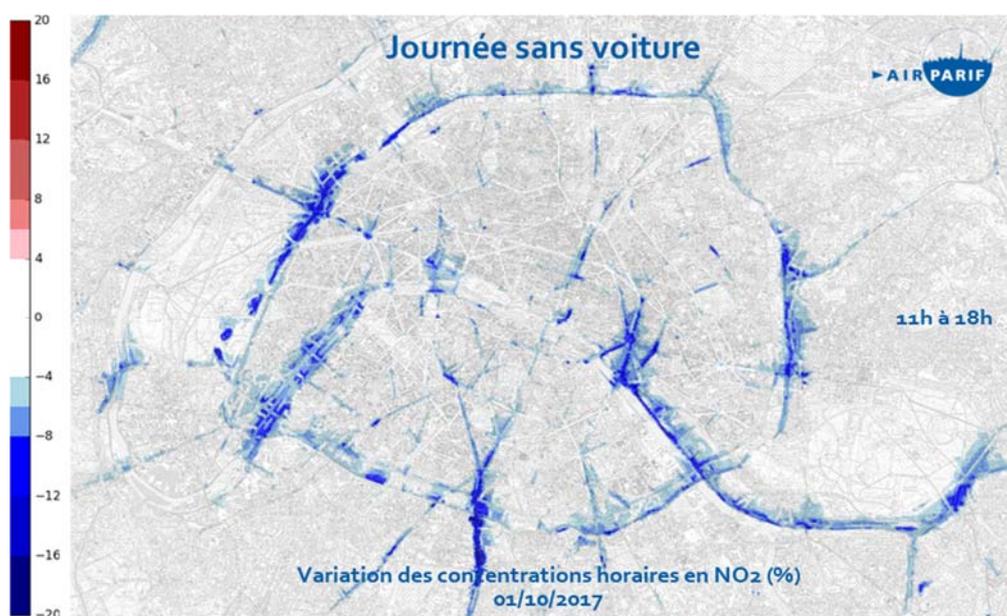
Paris car free day: What impact on air quality?



For this 3rd edition of the Paris Car free day, the whole inner city was concerned by the event. Given the combined effect of these traffic restrictions on a much larger perimeter than the previous years and a rainy day, the pollution levels recorded on the 1st of October 2017 were relatively low in Paris region.

Compared to a Sunday without traffic limitations but with comparable weather conditions (September 10th, 2017), the difference map below shows a decrease in nitrogen dioxide levels along the main roads. This decrease varies according to Airparif's network traffic stations and can reach up to -20% nitrogen dioxide (on average between 11H and 18H), in particular for the main roads access to the capital. At 1pm, it was the most marked, reaching up to -25% at the junction between the A6, before reaching the Paris ring road, Boulevard Périphérique.

Far from the traffic, the background levels were barely impacted. On the other hand, the decrease observed on many main Paris roads is also visible outside Paris. In addition, unlike previous editions where the perimeter was more limited, there was no increase in pollution levels in other sectors, with the exception of a very limited spots to the east of the ring road, probably related to "snail" actions.



Difference map (%) in nitrogen dioxide levels observed between Sunday 10 September and Sunday 1 October, with comparable meteorology, but with the "car-free day" in Paris on 1 October. Average between 11 am and 6 pm

Like the previous years, Airparif's team participated to this day by conducting an assessment of the impact on air quality and by running public awareness campaigns.

Airparif's tricycle equipped with sensors traveled the streets of Paris to meet Parisians and the public. It was an opportunity to remind people that the car passenger is the most exposed to air pollution, and to inform cyclists, pedestrians and runners about pollution levels they are exposed on their journeys via the app [Airparif itinér'AIR](#)

