

Table 4. Congestion Trends – Wasted Hours (Annual Delay per Traveler, 1982 to 2007)

Urban Area	Annual Hours of Delay per Traveler				Long-Term Change 1982 to 2007	
	2007	2006	1997	1982	Hours	Rank
Very Large Average (14 areas)	51	52	43	21	30	
Washington DC-VA-MD	62	59	52	16	46	1
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington TX	53	55	34	10	43	2
Atlanta GA	57	59	56	19	38	5
Miami FL	47	48	35	15	32	11
New York-Newark NY-NJ-CT	44	45	32	12	32	11
San Francisco-Oakland CA	55	58	47	23	32	11
Boston MA-NH-RI	43	44	32	12	31	15
Seattle WA	43	45	52	12	31	15
Detroit MI	52	53	48	24	28	21
Houston TX	56	56	39	29	27	22
Chicago IL-IN	41	43	35	15	26	23
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana CA	70	72	69	44	26	23
Philadelphia PA-NJ-DE-MD	38	38	28	16	22	36
Phoenix AZ	44	45	35	35	9	70
Large Average (29 areas)	35	36	31	11	24	
San Diego CA	52	54	36	12	40	3
Riverside-San Bernardino CA	44	45	26	5	39	4
Orlando FL	53	55	59	18	35	6
Las Vegas NV	44	43	34	10	34	7
Baltimore MD	44	44	32	11	33	9
Minneapolis-St. Paul MN	39	40	38	6	33	9
San Antonio TX	38	40	24	6	32	11
Charlotte NC-SC	40	39	25	10	30	17
San Jose CA	53	55	44	23	30	17
Austin TX	39	39	32	10	29	19
Denver-Aurora CO	45	48	41	16	29	19
Columbus OH	30	32	31	4	26	23
Providence RI-MA	29	26	15	3	26	23
Raleigh-Durham NC	34	32	31	8	26	23
Portland OR-WA	37	38	35	13	24	28
Sacramento CA	39	42	35	15	24	28
Tampa-St. Petersburg FL	47	48	37	24	23	32
Jacksonville FL	39	38	39	17	22	36
Cincinnati OH-KY-IN	25	26	29	5	20	40
Indianapolis IN	39	42	56	19	20	40
Memphis TN-MS-AR	25	28	23	6	19	44
Virginia Beach VA	29	30	31	14	15	56
St. Louis MO-IL	26	30	39	12	14	57
Kansas City MO-KS	15	17	19	3	12	64
Milwaukee WI	18	18	19	7	11	67
Cleveland OH	12	13	18	3	9	70
Buffalo NY	11	12	7	3	8	72
Pittsburgh PA	15	15	18	11	4	82
New Orleans LA	20	20	21	17	3	87
90 Area Average	41	42	36	16	25	
Remaining Areas						
48 Urban Areas Over 250,000 Popn	24	23	19	7	17	
301 Urban Areas Under 250,000 Popn	18	18	16	5	13	
All 439 Urban Areas	36	37	32	14	22	

Very Large Urban Areas—over 3 million population.

Large Urban Areas—over 1 million and less than 3 million population.

Annual Delay per Traveler – Extra travel time for peak-period travel during the year divided by the number of travelers who begin a trip during the peak period (6 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.). Free-flow speeds (60 mph on freeways and 35 mph on principal arterials) are used as the comparison threshold.

Data for all years include effects of operational treatments.

Note: Please do not place too much emphasis on small differences in the rankings. There may be little difference in congestion between areas ranked (for example) 6th and 12th. The actual measure values should also be examined.

Also note: The best congestion comparisons use multi-year trends and are made between similar urban areas.

Table 4. Congestion Trends – Wasted Hours (Annual Delay per Traveler, 1982 to 2007), Continued

Urban Area	Annual Hours of Delay per Traveler				Long-Term Change 1982 to 2007	
	2007	2006	1997	1982	Hours	Rank
Medium Average (31 areas)	23	24	20	8	15	
Oxnard-Ventura CA	38	36	21	4	34	7
Birmingham AL	32	33	24	8	24	28
Bridgeport-Stamford CT-NY	33	33	24	9	24	28
Albuquerque NM	34	33	33	11	23	32
Oklahoma City OK	27	24	20	5	22	36
Omaha NE-IA	26	28	19	5	21	39
Louisville KY-IN	38	40	39	18	20	40
Colorado Springs CO	23	26	16	4	19	44
Salt Lake City UT	27	26	28	8	19	44
Hartford CT	21	21	15	4	17	49
Nashville-Davidson TN	37	38	36	20	17	49
Tucson AZ	41	43	29	24	17	49
Albany-Schenectady NY	19	17	9	3	16	52
El Paso TX-NM	19	21	10	3	16	52
Grand Rapids MI	22	23	21	6	16	52
New Haven CT	19	19	15	5	14	57
Richmond VA	20	20	21	6	14	57
Tulsa OK	22	22	18	8	14	57
Allentown-Bethlehem PA-NJ	22	21	25	9	13	61
Honolulu HI	26	24	22	14	12	64
Toledo OH-MI	14	15	14	2	12	64
Sarasota-Bradenton FL	25	27	22	14	11	67
Bakersfield CA	12	13	7	2	10	69
Fresno CA	20	20	18	12	8	72
Akron OH	9	11	13	2	7	74
Poughkeepsie-Newburgh NY	17	18	14	10	7	74
Rochester NY	10	9	8	3	7	74
Dayton OH	14	17	22	10	4	82
Springfield MA-CT	11	12	10	7	4	82
Lancaster-Palmdale CA	6	5	6	12	-6	89
Indio-Cathedral City-Palm Springs CA	13	15	15	20	-7	90
Small Average (16 areas)	19	18	15	6	13	
Charleston-North Charleston SC	38	35	27	15	23	32
Pensacola FL-AL	28	28	22	5	23	32
Cape Coral FL	29	28	26	9	20	40
Columbia SC	22	19	12	4	18	47
Little Rock AR	22	19	10	4	18	47
Knoxville TN	26	25	39	10	16	52
Laredo TX	15	12	9	2	13	61
Salem OR	16	17	12	3	13	61
Beaumont TX	11	12	6	4	7	74
Boulder CO	12	14	14	6	6	78
Brownsville TX	8	7	4	2	6	78
Spokane WA	9	8	10	3	6	78
Eugene OR	11	11	9	6	5	81
Corpus Christi TX	9	8	7	5	4	82
Wichita KS	6	5	5	2	4	82
Anchorage AK	10	10	9	10	0	88
90 Area Average Remaining Areas	41	42	36	16	25	
48 Urban Areas Over 250,000 Popn	24	23	19	7	17	
301 Urban Areas Under 250,000 Popn	18	18	16	5	13	
All 439 Urban Areas	36	37	32	14	22	

Medium Urban Areas—over 500,000 and less than 1 million population.

Small Urban Areas—less than 500,000 population.

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