

Table 5. Congestion Trends – Wasted Time (Travel Time Index, 1982 to 2007)

Urban Area	Travel Time Index				Point Change in Peak-Period Time Penalty	
	2007	2006	1997	1982	Points	Rank
Very Large Average (14 areas)	1.37	1.38	1.30	1.14	23	
Chicago IL-IN	1.43	1.45	1.33	1.12	31	2
San Francisco-Oakland CA	1.42	1.44	1.30	1.14	28	4
Washington DC-VA-MD	1.39	1.37	1.32	1.11	28	4
New York-Newark NY-NJ-CT	1.37	1.38	1.26	1.10	27	6
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington TX	1.32	1.33	1.17	1.05	27	6
Miami FL	1.37	1.37	1.26	1.11	26	8
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana CA	1.49	1.51	1.45	1.24	25	10
Atlanta GA	1.35	1.34	1.27	1.10	25	10
Seattle WA	1.29	1.30	1.31	1.07	22	15
Boston MA-NH-RI	1.26	1.27	1.20	1.08	18	24
Philadelphia PA-NJ-DE-MD	1.28	1.27	1.20	1.11	17	26
Detroit MI	1.29	1.29	1.27	1.13	16	27
Phoenix AZ	1.30	1.29	1.21	1.15	15	29
Houston TX	1.33	1.34	1.23	1.19	14	31
Large Average (29 areas)	1.23	1.24	1.19	1.07	16	
Riverside-San Bernardino CA	1.36	1.36	1.18	1.03	33	1
San Diego CA	1.37	1.38	1.23	1.07	30	3
Sacramento CA	1.32	1.33	1.21	1.06	26	8
Baltimore MD	1.31	1.31	1.20	1.07	24	12
Las Vegas NV	1.30	1.30	1.23	1.06	24	12
San Jose CA	1.36	1.37	1.23	1.13	23	14
Denver-Aurora CO	1.31	1.31	1.26	1.09	22	15
Austin TX	1.29	1.29	1.22	1.07	22	15
Portland OR-WA	1.29	1.29	1.24	1.07	22	15
Orlando FL	1.30	1.31	1.30	1.10	20	20
Minneapolis-St. Paul MN	1.24	1.25	1.21	1.04	20	20
San Antonio TX	1.23	1.23	1.13	1.04	19	22
Charlotte NC-SC	1.25	1.24	1.16	1.07	18	24
Jacksonville FL	1.23	1.22	1.18	1.07	16	27
Columbus OH	1.18	1.19	1.16	1.03	15	29
Cincinnati OH-KY-IN	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.04	14	31
Providence RI-MA	1.17	1.15	1.10	1.03	14	31
Indianapolis IN	1.21	1.21	1.25	1.08	13	36
Raleigh-Durham NC	1.17	1.16	1.12	1.04	13	36
Tampa-St. Petersburg FL	1.31	1.30	1.26	1.20	11	42
Virginia Beach VA	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.07	11	42
Milwaukee WI	1.13	1.12	1.12	1.05	8	54
Memphis TN-MS-AR	1.12	1.13	1.12	1.04	8	54
New Orleans LA	1.17	1.17	1.15	1.11	6	67
St. Louis MO-IL	1.13	1.16	1.19	1.07	6	67
Cleveland OH	1.08	1.09	1.13	1.03	5	72
Kansas City MO-KS	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.02	5	72
Buffalo NY	1.07	1.08	1.04	1.03	4	79
Pittsburgh PA	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.06	3	83
90 Area Average	1.29	1.29	1.23	1.10	19	
Remaining Areas						
48 Urban Areas Over 250,000 Popn	1.16	1.15	1.11	1.05	11	
301 Urban Areas Under 250,000 Popn	1.10	1.11	1.09	1.03	7	
All 439 Urban Areas	1.25	1.25	1.20	1.09	16	

Very Large Urban Areas—over 3 million population.

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

Travel Time Index – The ratio of travel time in the peak period to the travel time at free-flow conditions. A value of 1.30 indicates a 20-minute free-flow trip takes 26 minutes in the peak. Free-flow speeds (60 mph on freeways and 35 mph on principal arterials) are used as the comparison threshold.

Data for all years include the 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 5. Congestion Trends – Wasted Time (Travel Time Index, 1982 to 2007), Continued

Urban Area	Travel Time Index				Point Change in Peak-Period Time Penalty	
	2007	2006	1997	1982	Points	Rank
Medium Average (31 areas)	1.14	1.14	1.11	1.05	9	
Oxnard-Ventura CA	1.24	1.23	1.12	1.03	21	19
Bridgeport-Stamford CT-NY	1.25	1.25	1.17	1.06	19	22
Tucson AZ	1.24	1.25	1.16	1.10	14	31
Salt Lake City UT	1.19	1.18	1.18	1.05	14	31
Honolulu HI	1.24	1.23	1.19	1.11	13	36
Albuquerque NM	1.18	1.17	1.18	1.05	13	36
Omaha NE-IA	1.16	1.17	1.11	1.04	12	40
Birmingham AL	1.15	1.15	1.10	1.04	11	42
Colorado Springs CO	1.13	1.14	1.09	1.02	11	42
El Paso TX-NM	1.12	1.13	1.07	1.02	10	46
Oklahoma City OK	1.12	1.10	1.08	1.02	10	46
Louisville KY-IN	1.20	1.22	1.19	1.11	9	51
Sarasota-Bradenton FL	1.19	1.20	1.18	1.10	9	51
Hartford CT	1.12	1.12	1.09	1.03	9	51
Allentown-Bethlehem PA-NJ	1.14	1.13	1.16	1.06	8	54
Fresno CA	1.13	1.13	1.11	1.05	8	54
New Haven CT	1.11	1.11	1.09	1.03	8	54
Albany-Schenectady NY	1.10	1.09	1.04	1.02	8	54
Bakersfield CA	1.09	1.09	1.04	1.01	8	54
Tulsa OK	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.03	7	63
Grand Rapids MI	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.03	7	63
Nashville-Davidson TN	1.15	1.16	1.14	1.09	6	67
Indio-Cathedral City-Palm Springs CA	1.14	1.16	1.12	1.08	6	67
Toledo OH-MI	1.08	1.09	1.08	1.02	6	67
Richmond VA	1.09	1.09	1.08	1.04	5	72
Poughkeepsie-Newburgh NY	1.09	1.09	1.07	1.04	5	72
Akron OH	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.02	5	72
Lancaster-Palmdale CA	1.10	1.10	1.06	1.06	4	79
Rochester NY	1.06	1.07	1.06	1.02	4	79
Dayton OH	1.09	1.10	1.12	1.07	2	86
Springfield MA-CT	1.06	1.07	1.05	1.04	2	86
Small Average (16 areas)	1.10	1.09	1.08	1.03	7	
Charleston-North Charleston SC	1.20	1.18	1.14	1.08	12	40
Cape Coral FL	1.17	1.15	1.14	1.07	10	46
Pensacola FL-AL	1.13	1.13	1.10	1.03	10	46
Laredo TX	1.12	1.10	1.07	1.02	10	46
Salem OR	1.10	1.10	1.07	1.02	8	54
Columbia SC	1.10	1.08	1.05	1.02	8	54
Knoxville TN	1.12	1.11	1.14	1.05	7	63
Little Rock AR	1.09	1.08	1.04	1.02	7	63
Boulder CO	1.09	1.11	1.10	1.04	5	72
Brownsville TX	1.07	1.07	1.05	1.02	5	72
Eugene OR	1.08	1.08	1.05	1.04	4	79
Beaumont TX	1.05	1.05	1.03	1.02	3	83
Spokane WA	1.05	1.04	1.05	1.02	3	83
Corpus Christi TX	1.05	1.05	1.04	1.03	2	86
Anchorage AK	1.07	1.07	1.06	1.06	1	89
Wichita KS	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.01	1	89
90 Area Average	1.29	1.29	1.23	1.10	19	
Remaining Areas						
48 Urban Areas Over 250,000 Popn	1.16	1.15	1.11	1.05	11	
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Medium Urban Areas—over 500,000 and less than 1 million population.

Small Urban Areas—less than 500,000 population.

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