

Measuring Delay and Congestion

Annual Report

Congestion Report Dashboard of Indicators

2010 Congestion Report Dashboard of Indicators	2006	2007	2008 ⁵	2009	Difference 2007 vs. 2009*
Demographic and economic indicators					
State population (millions)	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7	+2.8%
Average gas price per gallon (July)	\$3.08	\$3.05	\$4.36	\$2.81	-7.9%
Unemployment rate (annual)	4.9%	4.6%	5.4%	8.9%	+4.3%
Rate of annual economic growth ¹	2.8%	4.4%	2.0%	N/A	N/A
Real personal income (billions) ¹	245.3	256.8	259.9	257.3	+0.2%
Systemwide congestion indicators					
Less travel					
Statewide vehicle miles traveled (VMT), in billions	56.5	57.0	55.6	56.5	-0.9%
Statewide per capita VMT, in miles	8,867	8,779	8,440	8,467	-3.6%
Less of the system congested					
Lane miles of state highway system congested ³	1,030	1,011	930	950	-6.0%
Percent of state highway system congested ³	5.7%	5.6%	5.2%	5.2%	-0.4%
Less delay					
Total vehicle hours of delay on state highways, in millions of hours ²	37	32	32	25	-21%
Annual hours of per capita delay on state highways ²	5.7	4.9	4.8	3.8	-22%
Reduced costs (2009 dollars in millions)					
Estimated economic costs of delay on state highways ^{2,6}	\$878	\$767	\$762	\$608	-21%
Corridor-specific congestion indicators					
Congestion on 38 high-demand commute routes in the central Puget Sound (compared to two years earlier)					
Number of routes where the duration of the congested period improved ⁴	1	8	31	34	N/A
Number of routes where average peak travel time improved	3	9	30	31	N/A
Number of routes where 95% reliable travel time improved	2	10	26	28	N/A
WSDOT congestion relief projects					
Number of completed Nickel and TPA mobility projects as of September 30th of each year (cumulative)	12	34	46	70	36
Cumulative project value (dollars in millions)	\$172	\$708	\$1,154	\$2,400	\$1,692

Data sources include: WSDOT, Office of Financial Management; Economic and Revenue Forecast Council; Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Information Administration; Bureau of Labor Statistics - Consumer Price Index.

***Note:** Analysis in the Congestion Report examines 2007 and 2009 annual data, to more accurately capture congestion trends. 2006 and 2008 data is provided for information only. **1** Real Gross Domestic Product for Washington is measured in chained 2000 dollars. Real personal income for Washington is measured in chained 2005 dollars. **2** Based on maximum throughput speed thresholds (85% of posted speed). **3** Based on below 70% of posted speed; see page 14 for an explanation on lane miles. **4** For central Puget Sound Corridors, duration of congestion is calculated with 45 mph as threshold. **5** 2008 data not available for four of the 38 routes. For more information see gray box on p. 15 of the 2009 Annual Congestion Report. **6** Inflation adjusted through the Consumer Price Index.