

# Urban Congestion Report (UCR)

A Snapshot of Congestion Trends in the U.S. for October 2010 through December 2010



Federal Highway Administration

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monthly Trends -- Congested Hours</b></p>     | <p><b><u>Congested Hours</u></b><br/>Average duration of weekday congestion</p> <p><b>+22 minutes</b><br/>from last year</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Oct-Dec 2010: 4:50<br/>Oct-Dec 2009: 4:29</p>             |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monthly Trends -- Travel Time Index</b></p>   | <p><b><u>Travel Time Index</u></b><br/>Peak period travel times vs. off-peak travel times</p> <p><b>+2 points</b><br/>from last year</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Oct-Dec 2010: 1.24<br/>Oct-Dec 2009: 1.22</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monthly Trends -- Planning Time Index</b></p> | <p><b><u>Planning Time Index</u></b><br/>Unreliability (variability) of travel</p> <p><b>+3 points</b><br/>from last year</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Oct-Dec 2010: 1.56<br/>Oct-Dec 2009: 1.53</p>            |

## Summary of Nationwide Trends

- All three nationwide measures in 2010 showed worsening conditions when compared to the same three months in 2009.
- Four of the 20 cities showed improvements in all three measures.
- Thirteen of the 20 cities showed worsening conditions in all three measures.
- Three of the 20 cities had mixed results among the three measures.

***More UCR on page 2: Congestion and reliability trends for each UCR City.***

# Urban Congestion Report (UCR)

A Snapshot of City Congestion Trends for **October 2010** through **December 2010**



| City                           | Congested Hours |                  | Travel Time Index |                  | Planning Time Index |                  | % Change in VMT | % Usable Data |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
|                                | 2010            | Change from 2009 | 2010              | Change from 2009 | 2010                | Change from 2009 |                 |               |
| Atlanta, GA                    | 4:05            | <b>+0:15</b>     | 1.21              | <b>-3</b>        | 1.56                | <b>-10</b>       | +1%             | 77%           |
| Boston, MA                     | 5:37            | <b>+1:04</b>     | 1.30              | <b>+5</b>        | 1.76                | <b>+13</b>       | -1%             | 99%           |
| Chicago, IL                    | 6:58            | <b>-0:19</b>     | 1.32              | <b>-4</b>        | 1.69                | <b>-14</b>       | -5%             | 81%           |
| Detroit, MI                    | 2:10            | <b>+0:26</b>     | 1.20              | <b>+11</b>       | 1.39                | <b>+15</b>       | +6%             | 52%           |
| Houston, TX                    | 3:29            | <b>-0:56</b>     | 1.24              | <b>-5</b>        | 1.51                | <b>-20</b>       | 0%              | 82%           |
| Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN       | 4:43            | <b>+0:28</b>     | 1.23              | <b>+3</b>        | 1.73                | <b>+10</b>       | +1%             | 98%           |
| Oklahoma City, OK              | 1:34            | <b>-0:40</b>     | 1.06              | 0                | 1.18                | <b>-2</b>        | +2%             | 100%          |
| Orange County, CA              | 4:44            | <b>+0:50</b>     | 1.26              | <b>+5</b>        | 1.64                | <b>+14</b>       | -2%             | 100%          |
| Los Angeles, CA                | 7:14            | <b>+0:37</b>     | 1.34              | <b>+3</b>        | 1.70                | <b>+8</b>        | 0%              | 100%          |
| Philadelphia, PA               | 5:47            | <b>+0:43</b>     | 1.28              | <b>+4</b>        | 1.72                | <b>+10</b>       | -2%             | 95%           |
| Phoenix, AZ                    | n.a.            | n.a.             | n.a.              | n.a.             | n.a.                | n.a.             | n.a.            | n.a.          |
| Pittsburgh, PA                 | 6:40            | <b>+0:21</b>     | 1.21              | <b>+3</b>        | 1.46                | <b>+3</b>        | +2%             | 97%           |
| Portland, OR                   | n.a.            | n.a.             | n.a.              | n.a.             | n.a.                | n.a.             | n.a.            | n.a.          |
| Providence, RI                 | 3:00            | <b>+0:14</b>     | 1.14              | <b>+3</b>        | 1.38                | <b>+5</b>        | +1%             | 100%          |
| Riverside – San Bernardino, CA | 3:35            | <b>+0:43</b>     | 1.15              | <b>+4</b>        | 1.41                | <b>+11</b>       | -1%             | 100%          |
| Sacramento, CA                 | 2:32            | <b>+0:22</b>     | 1.11              | <b>+1</b>        | 1.31                | <b>+6</b>        | 0%              | 100%          |
| St. Louis, MO                  | 1:51            | <b>-0:09</b>     | 1.09              | <b>-1</b>        | 1.26                | <b>-5</b>        | +4%             | 95%           |
| Salt Lake City, UT             | 3:55            | <b>+1:20</b>     | 1.06              | <b>-1</b>        | 1.28                | <b>-4</b>        | +1%             | 99%           |
| San Antonio, TX                | n.a.            | n.a.             | n.a.              | n.a.             | n.a.                | n.a.             | n.a.            | n.a.          |
| San Diego, CA                  | 2:51            | <b>+0:37</b>     | 1.15              | <b>+6</b>        | 1.42                | <b>+14</b>       | -2%             | 100%          |
| San Francisco, CA              | 3:29            | <b>+0:09</b>     | 1.17              | <b>+1</b>        | 1.40                | <b>+2</b>        | 0%              | 100%          |
| Seattle, WA                    | 5:52            | <b>+0:11</b>     | 1.34              | <b>+1</b>        | 1.80                | <b>+4</b>        | -4%             | 93%           |
| Tampa, FL                      | 2:37            | <b>-0:03</b>     | 1.15              | <b>+5</b>        | 1.37                | <b>+10</b>       | -8%             | 100%          |

Notes: Green bolded values indicate improving conditions; red italics indicate worsening conditions.

“n.a.” indicates that data was not available or was of insufficient quality.

Comparison of 2010 to 2009 is for the same three-month period (October – December).

***For more information on the UCR, contact Rich Taylor (Rich.Taylor@dot.gov).***