Urban Congestion Report (UCR)
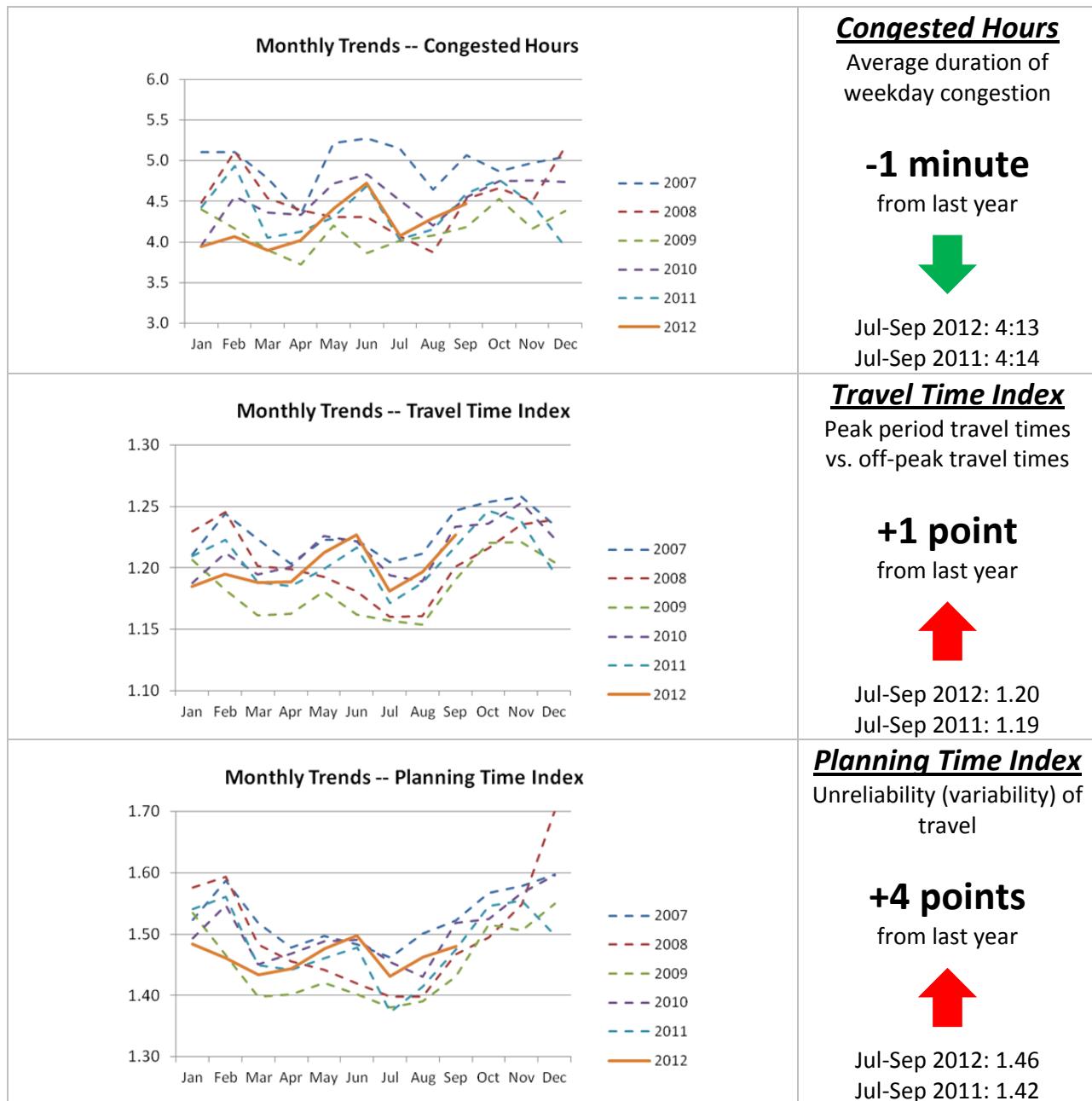
A Snapshot of Congestion Trends in the U.S. for **July 2012** through **September 2012**

Congested Hours
Average duration of weekday congestion

-1 minute
from last year

Jul-Sep 2012: 4:13
Jul-Sep 2011: 4:14

Travel Time Index
Peak period travel times vs. off-peak travel times

+1 point
from last year

Jul-Sep 2012: 1.20
Jul-Sep 2011: 1.19

Planning Time Index
Unreliability (variability) of travel

+4 points
from last year

Jul-Sep 2012: 1.46
Jul-Sep 2011: 1.42

Summary of Nationwide Trends

- Congested hours decreased slightly (1 minutes shorter), whereas the travel time index and planning time index worsened (by 1 point and 4 points, respectively). All measures compared the most recent 3 months in 2012 to the same 3 months in 2011.
- 5 of the 19 cities (26%) showed improvements in all three measures.
- 9 of the 19 cities (48%) showed worsening conditions in all three measures.
- 5 of the 19 cities (26%) had stable or 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 **July 2012** through **September 2012**

City	Congested Hours		Travel Time Index		Planning Time Index		% Change in VMT	% Usable Data
	2012	Change from 2011	2012	Change from 2011	2012	Change from 2011		
Atlanta, GA	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Boston, MA	5:50	*+0:01*	1.29	*+4*	1.69	*+6*	0%	100%
Chicago, IL	6:57	**-0:45**	1.21	**-12**	1.48	**-17**	-5%	83%
Detroit, MI	2:32	**-0:28**	1.11	**-1**	1.32	**-6**	-5%	100%
Houston, TX	4:10	*+1:33*	1.30	*+13*	1.70	*+42*	-2%	92%
Los Angeles, CA	6:09	*+0:36*	1.27	*+3*	1.55	*+7*	0%	99%
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4:42	*+0:53*	1.23	*+4*	1.53	*+9*	0%	90%
Oklahoma City, OK	1:20	**-0:41**	1.06	**-1**	1.18	**-2**	+4%	100%
Orange County, CA	3:51	*+0:18*	1.21	*+3*	1.45	*+3*	+1%	99%
Philadelphia, PA	4:30	**-0:59**	1.18	**-3**	1.50	**-10**	+2%	100%
Phoenix, AZ	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pittsburgh, PA	5:49	**-0:49**	1.22	**-7**	1.46	**-21**	+6%	100%
Portland, OR	1:53	*+0:02*	1.26	*+1*	1.61	0	-6%	32%
Providence, RI	2:42	**-0:17**	1.11	0%	1.33	*+1*	+2%	100%
Riverside – San Bernardino, CA	2:43	*+0:21*	1.10	*+1*	1.24	**-1**	+1%	99%
Sacramento, CA	1:36	**-0:11**	1.08	0	1.21	*+1*	0%	98%
St. Louis, MO	4:43	*+1:37*	1.07	**-1**	1.20	**-3**	-1%	96%
Salt Lake City, UT	1:44	*+0:33*	1.07	*+3*	1.20	*+7*	+6%	69%
San Antonio, TX	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
San Diego, CA	2:24	*+0:16*	1.11	*+1*	1.29	*+2*	0%	99%
San Francisco, CA	4:01	*+1:00*	1.18	*+4*	1.39	*+9*	-2%	99%
Seattle, WA	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Tampa, FL	3:13	*+0:15*	1.15	*+4*	1.40	*+11*	0%	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 2012 to 2011 is for the same three-month period (July – September).

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