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## Report: Traffic congestion in Dallas-Fort Worth is bad, but it's not the worst

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By Tom Benning / Reporter  
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Traffic in Dallas-Fort Worth is a mess — among the most congested in the nation — and it's costing North Texas motorists hours of free time, hundreds of dollars and untold amounts of stress.

But even as the Texas A&M Transportation Institute's annual [Urban Mobility Report](#) shows that the region's congestion problems aren't exactly improving, there's a sliver of good news: driving here today is still better than the traffic-choked days of the mid-2000s.

North Texas commuters wasted an average 45 hours in traffic in 2011, ranking the region 13th behind places like D.C., Atlanta and Houston. That was just more than the 44 hours delayed in 2010, but a whole lot better than the 52 hours that went up in fumes in 2006.

Traffic delays cost North Texas drivers an average \$957 in 2011, ranking 15th behind places like Los Angeles, New York City and Houston. That's again slightly worse than the \$938 wasted per commuter in 2010, but much better than the \$1,414 total in 2006.

And Dallas-Fort Worth's Travel Time Index rating was 1.26 in 2011, meaning that a 20-minute trip in light traffic took 25.2 minutes during peak times. The rating — about the same as Houston's — was close to the 1.25 in 2010, but a big improvement over the 1.32 rating in 2006.

The report, which used 30 years of traffic data, found that the total cost of congestion last year in the United States was \$1.2 billion dollars. Other impacts of congestion also were 2.9 billion gallons of fuel wasted and 56 billion pounds of extra carbon dioxide emissions.

And while it's likely little of solace to Dallas-Fort Worth motorists stuck in traffic this morning, the report seems fairly consistent on one point: driving in North Texas isn't quite as bad as the experience in Houston.

To read the full report, [click here](#). And to look at how Dallas-Fort Worth has performed over the years, [click here](#).

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