



Home > Transportation Blog

Study finds that Dallas-Fort Worth drivers spent 59 hours idling in traffic in 2013



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Dallas-Fort Worth drivers spent an average of 59 hours stuck in traffic last year — which seems about right. That’s according to [a study released today by Tom Tom](#), the Dutch maker of car-navigation systems.

But long story short: It could be a *whole* lot worse. As in: You could live in Los Angeles, where commuters waste 90 hours a year idling on the road to nowhere. Or you could live in Houston, which has the 14th-worst traffic in the United States — *well* above Dallas-Fort Worth, which comes in at No. 29. Austin too finishes ahead of DFW, as it should, because taking an hour or so to travel from the northern city limits to downtown on Interstate 35 during rush hour is just no way to live.

Tom Tom ranks Dallas’ congestion level at 16 percent, which actually places us closer to the bottom of the list (Kansas City at 9 percent and Indianapolis at 10) than the top (LA’s 36 percent, San Francisco’s 32 percent and Honolulu’s 29). Tom Tom arrived at the percentages using a complex math formula [simplified by Time as](#) “the average percentage increase in travel time during period of peak congestion, compared with when roads were running freely.”

Other DFW details: Tuesday mornings and Friday evenings rank as our worst peak periods, and “non-highways” are more congested than, well, highways. Also: The most congested day in 2013 was a Saturday — as in, December 7. Well, yeah. [Cobblestone ice might have had something to do with that.](#)

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