



Traffic Index 2018

As per the GPS-based study on traffic congestion, **Mumbai** has been ranked as the **most traffic-congested city in the world** for the second consecutive year.

- Traffic Index 2018 is published by **TomTom**, an **Amsterdam** based company that offers traffic solutions, by using location technology to collect traffic information.
- The latest index ranks 403 cities across 56 countries, including 13 new cities. [//](#)



SAT EVENINGS, CITY SUFFERS 95% CONGESTION

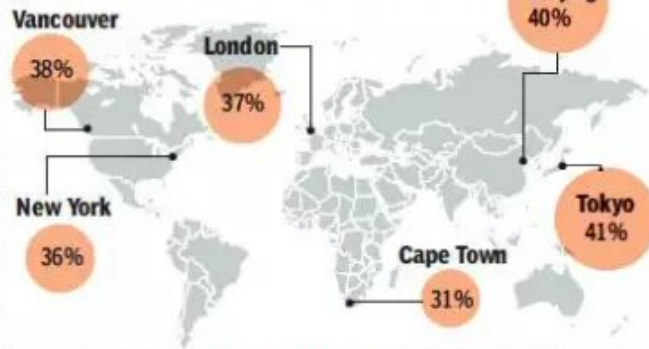
WORLD'S TOP 10 CONGESTED CITIES



Overall daily congestion level in terms of extra travel time

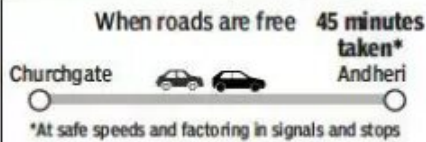
Criterion | Cities considered each have a population of over 8 lakh

OTHER CITIES IN COMPARISON



WHAT DOES 65% MEAN?

It is the extra time (on average) taken to go between two places in Mumbai by road



As seen above, the time taken to cover the same distance during traffic jams is 65% more than when roads are free

Highways are less congested than other roads



Best day in 2018 | March 2 (Holi), 16% congestion

Worst day in 2018 | Aug 21 (Eid eve), 111% congestion

Weekend congestion
Saturday | Evening peak, 95%



Peak hour extra commute
Morning | 24 additional minutes for otherwise-30-minute trip
Evening | 31 additional minutes for otherwise-30-minute trip



- Bogota in Colombia and Lima in Peru were ranked second and third on the list respectively, while the Russian capital Moscow ranked fifth.
- **Delhi** is the **fourth** most traffic congested city in the world.
- **Congestion** has been defined in terms of the **additional time taken** to reach a destination as opposed to when the road would have been clear of traffic.
- Mumbai's extra travel time is **65%** more than an average trip would take during uncongested

conditions and **Delhi's** extra travel time is **58% more**.

- As per the study, nearly 75% of the cities part of the 2018 index had increased or stable congestion levels between 2017 and 2018, with only 90 cities showing measurable decreases.

Effects of Traffic Congestion

- **Environmental concerns** like Increasing air and noise pollution.
 - In 2016, a World Health Organisation (WHO) study found that fourteen of the twenty world's most polluted cities belonged to India.
- **Road accidents**: India experiences 120,000 deaths per year due to traffic fatalities, more than any other country.
 - Delhi has the highest accident rate in India and third-highest in the world.
- **Economic loss** is concerned with the monetary value of the time spent sitting in traffic.
 - Congestion in Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, and Kolkata costs the economy Rs 1.47 lakh crore annually, according to a study conducted by a global consultancy firm.
 - Traffic congestion in Bangalore alone costs the city approximately 5% of its economic output.
- Blocked traffic also interferes with the passage of emergency vehicles etc.
- Traffic rules, red lights, lane driving are not followed which are both the causes and effects of traffic congestion.
- On a positive side, traffic congestion indicates a **strong global economy**.

Way Forward

- **Road expansions** and **overpass** construction projects must be taken up by the government.
- Improvement in **public transport** and additional schemes like the **Bus Rapid Transport (BRT)**. **The BRT** is implemented in some cities like Pune, and it can be very helpful if implemented correctly.
- Proper **road network planning** and **Traffic engineering and management**.
 - Strict and stringent measures (through fines and penalties) against traffic violators
- Provision of **commuter subsidies** for public transport, carpooling or **Ridesharing**.
 - In Delhi alone, 22,369 acres can be freed up by ridesharing.
 - There is a need for a shift from **car-centric policy** to a restriction imposed over the purchase of cars or four wheelers.
 - **Preferred parking locations** for employees who choose to carpool.
- A free shuttle service from nearby metro stations to all corporate offices can address the issue of **last mile connectivity**.
- A **commuter guidebook** for all employees containing comprehensive information about alternative transport options.