

The background is a cityscape at dusk or dawn, with a warm orange and blue sky. Overlaid on the city are several circular icons representing different aspects of traffic and transportation. These include a globe, a location pin with a star, a parking 'P' sign, a lightbulb, a speech bubble, a map, a Wi-Fi symbol, a storefront, and a smartphone. Dotted lines with arrows connect these icons to various parts of the cityscape, suggesting a flow of information or data. At the bottom of the image, there is a yellow line with icons for a city skyline, a Wi-Fi signal, a car, and a person walking.

# 2023 INRIX Global Traffic Scorecard

Washington State Transportation Commission

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# Our Mission: Enabling Intelligent Transportation

To Provide Our Customers With the Best Data, Tools & Insights...

**4.8B Hours  
Lost**

In the U.S. due to  
traffic congestion



**6B  
Gross Tons**

Are caused by roadway  
traffic each year



**1B  
Gallons**

Of fuel are wasted by  
U.S. drivers searching  
for parking each year



**1.4 Million  
Deaths**

annually on roadways from traffic  
collisions; increased during the  
pandemic despite fewer miles driven



**Up to 25% of  
Traffic Delay**

Is attributed to traffic signals



... to Address Mobility Issues Globally



**FASTER**

Reducing stress, saving  
time & improving lives



**SAFER**

Reducing traffic  
collisions & deaths



**BETTER**

Improving mobility  
investment decisions

**GREENER**

Reducing pollution &  
carbon emissions



**INRIX**

Sources: INRIX Traffic Scorecard 2023, INRIX Signals Scorecard, ASIRT Annual Global Road Crash Statistics, combined totals for U.S. U.K., France & Germany/Wards Auto Vehicle report, NEAA Trends in Global CO2 & Greenhouse Gas Emissions



# Traffic Scorecard is THE Commuting Benchmark

Covering more than 900 urban areas in 37 countries

- Annual report covering commuting trends across the globe.
- Primary benchmark of congestion in a crowded field.
- Provides the latest year-over-year data on traffic delays, economic analyses, busiest corridors, time-of-day and day-of-week travel, downtown trip activity, transit, safety, and more.
- Featured in print, online, radio and TV broadcasts across the world



# Methodology

- Uses anonymized and aggregated GPS probe data
- Analyzes traffic speeds during the morning and afternoon peak periods, comparing that to free-flow conditions.
- Peak commute routes and distances calculated for each urban area individually

2023 Impact Rank	Urban Area	Country	Est Commute Distance (Miles)	2023 Impact Rank	Urban Area	Country	Est Commute Distance (Miles)
1	New York NY	USA	7.3	15	Rome	ITA	6.6
2	Mexico City	MEX	6.0	16	Dublin	IRL	8.3
3	London	UK	7.0	17	Toronto ON	CAN	7.1
4	Paris	FRA	7.6	18	Washington DC	USA	7.4
5	Chicago IL	USA	7.1	19	Houston TX	USA	9.5
6	Istanbul	TUR	8.2	20	Brussels	BEL	7.1
7	Los Angeles CA	USA	6.6	21	Atlanta GA	USA	8.3
8	Boston MA	USA	6.6	22	Melbourne	AUS	7.3
9	Cape Town	ZAF	6.8	23	Rotterdam	NLD	9.9
10	Jakarta	IDN	9.7	24	Prague	CZE	7.3
11	Miami FL	USA	7.1	25	Milan	ITA	6.6
12	Brisbane	AUS	7.7	United States			7.2
13	Philadelphia PA	USA	6.8	United Kingdom			8.8
14	Bangkok	THA	4.1	Germany			9.0



# Key Findings: United States

Traffic Delay Increases Globally, but just 30% of U.S. Urban Areas Above Pre-COVID Level

Top Delays, United States Urban Areas

2023 US Rank (2022 Rank)	Urban Area	2023 Delay (2022)	Compared to Pre- COVID	2023 Cost per Driver	2023 Cost per City
1 (1)	New York City NY	101 (105)	11%	\$1,762	\$9.1 B
2 (2)	Chicago IL	96 (87)	18%	\$1,672	\$6.1 B
3 (3)	Los Angeles CA	89 (78)	-4%	\$1,545	\$8.3 B
4 (4)	Boston MA	88 (78)	-1%	\$1,543	\$2.9 B
5 (6)	Miami FL	70 (66)	18%	\$1,219	\$3.1 B
6 (5)	Philadelphia PA	69 (67)	2%	\$1,209	\$2.9 B
7 (8)	Washington DC	63 (52)	-9%	\$1,095	\$2.7 B
8 (7)	Houston TX	62 (55)	1%	\$1,082	\$3.2 B
9 (9)	Atlanta GA	61 (51)	-3%	\$1,066	\$2.6 B
10 (12)	Seattle WA	58 (46)	-11%	\$1,010	\$1.6 B

## Key Statistics:

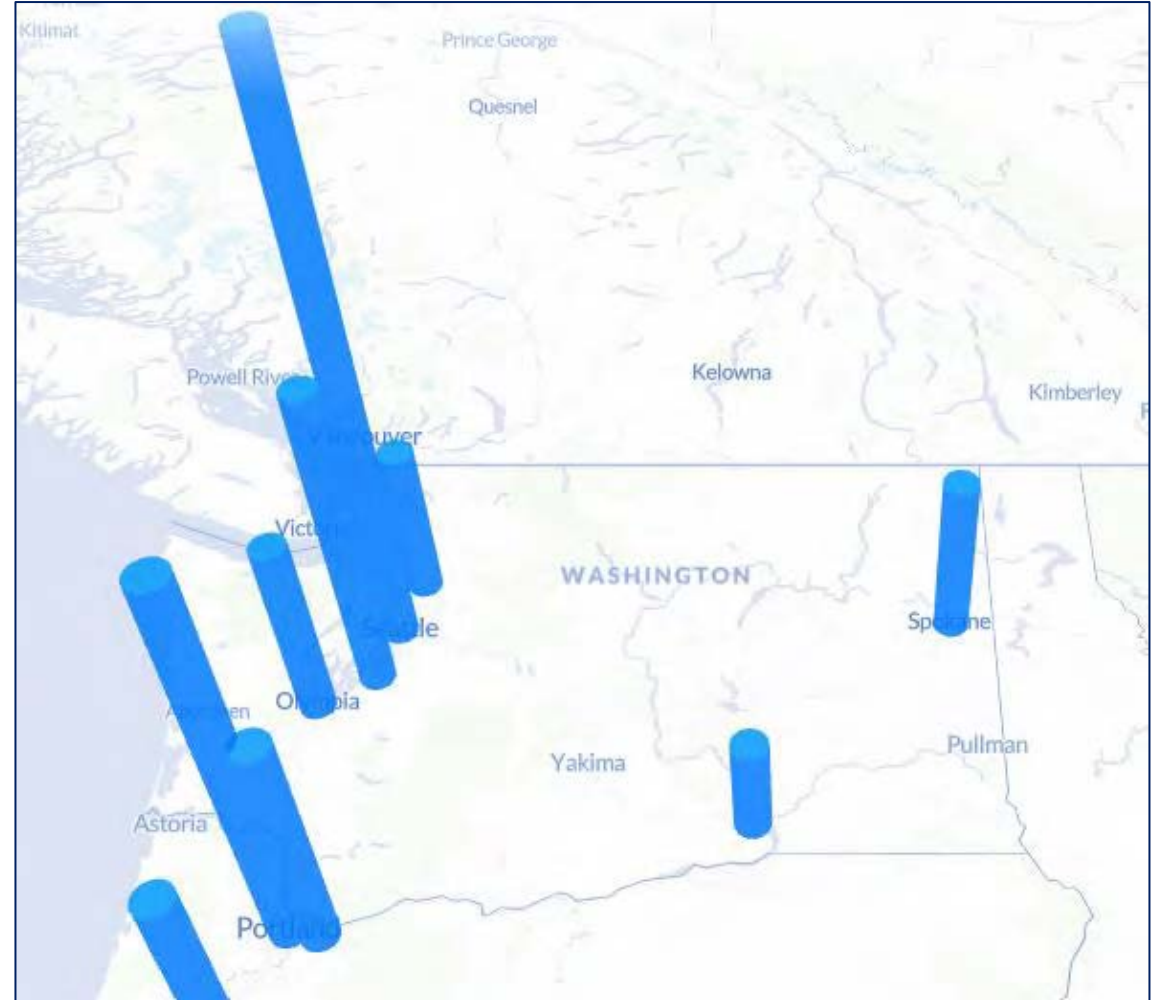
- **Congestion** cost drivers 42 hours in lost time in 2023, up 4 hours from 2022.
  - \$733 per driver, up \$95 from 2022.
  - Four billion hours lost nationally, equaling \$70 billion in lost time.
- **Collisions** up 10% from 2022.
- **Transit ridership** up 15%, but down 28% from 2019. Just 9% of urban areas are at pre-COVID levels of ridership
- **Cycling** to work up 19%, but down 9% from 2019
- **Working from home** decreased 12% from 2021 to 2022, yet still up more than 3x from 2019



# Key Findings: Washington State

## Key Washington State Findings:

- **Seattle** had the most delays at 58 hours, down 11% from 2019.
- Other notables:
  - **Tacoma**: 32 hours lost, -3% from 2019
  - **Spokane**: 17 hours lost, -15% from 2019
  - **Olympia**: 19 hours lost, -10% from 2019
  - **Everett**: 16 hours lost, -10% from 2019
  - **Spokane**: 17 hours lost, -15% from 2019
  - **Tri-Cities**: 10 hours lost, unchanged



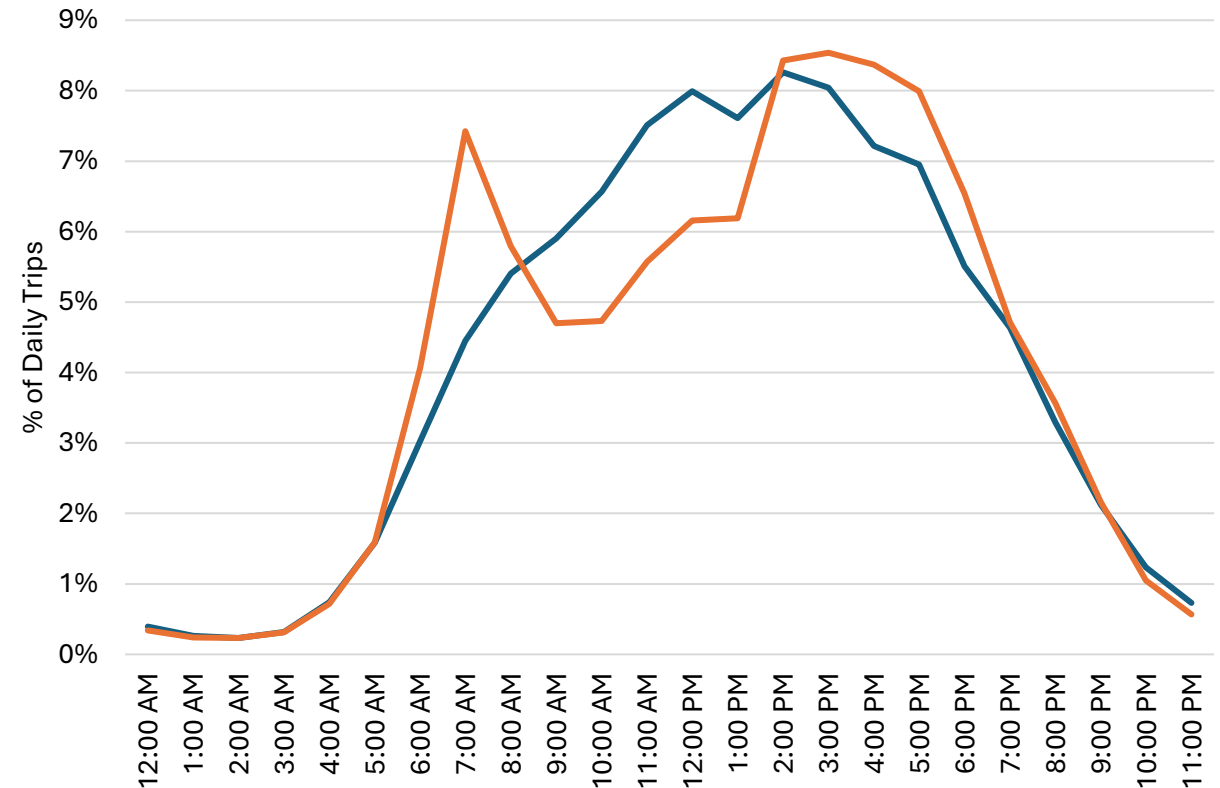
# Key Findings:

Drivers' travel habits have changed since 2019

Midday travel continues to be strong post COVID-19

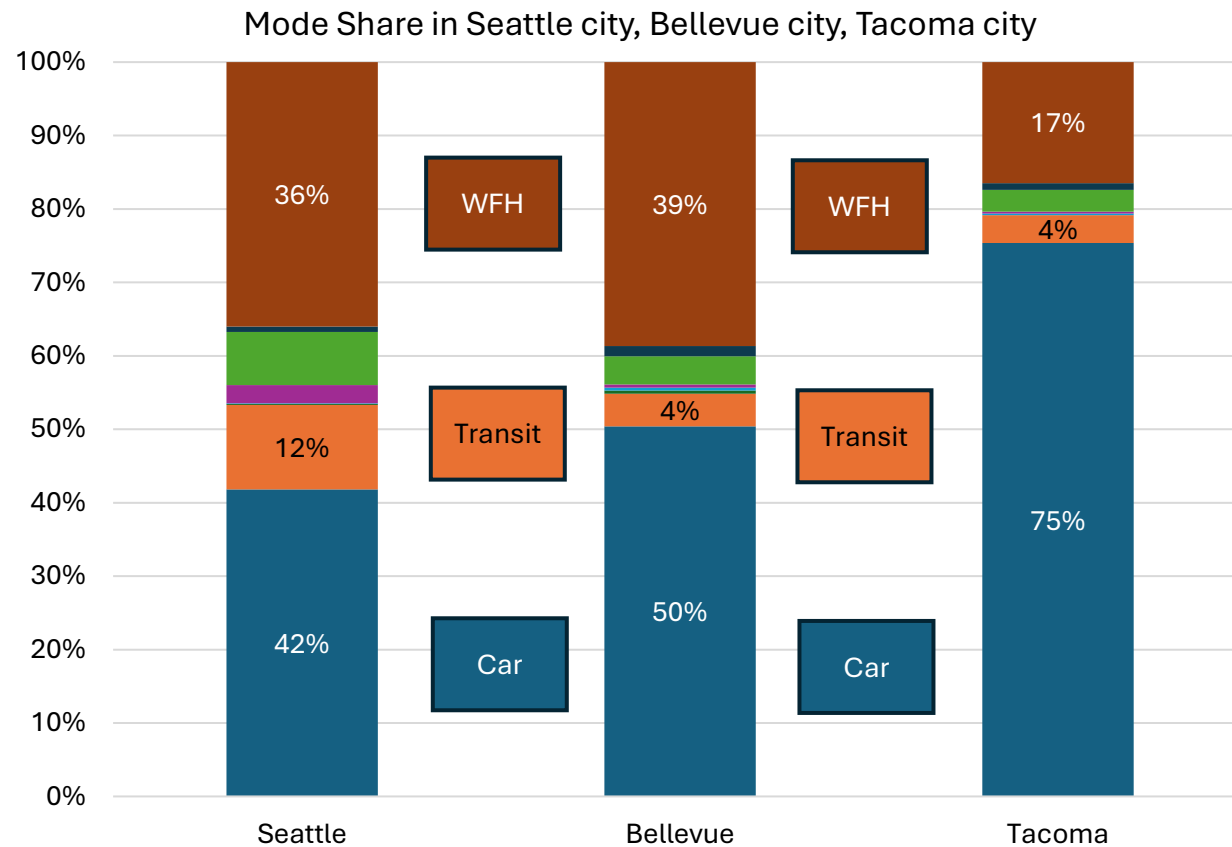
- Since 2020, midday travel has remained strong. Traffic signal data revealed a strong midday peak
- Those trends continue today.
- Presents opportunity to continue to flatten the peaks and mitigate congestion in the midday through signal timing, incident response, freeway on-ramps, etc.

Trip Distribution by Trip Start Hour, Weekdays, 2023 v 2019 - Seattle Area



# Census Data on Commuter Mode Choice

2023 Data Not Yet Available – Table B08301 – Means of Transportation to Work – 1 Year Estimates



- The Seattle Region still boasts a large share of telecommuters.
- Since 2019, telecommuting has increased:
  - 312% in Bellevue
  - 354% in Seattle
  - 264% in Tacoma
- Driving has decreased:
  - -22% in Bellevue
  - -19% in Seattle
  - -14% in Tacoma
- Transit has decreased:
  - -65% in Bellevue
  - -54% in Seattle
  - -37% in Tacoma





# Conclusion

## Challenges Exist but Solutions Available

### Summary/Challenges

- Traffic congestion still plagues the Seattle Region despite commute mode shifts
- Midday trip gains ease morning commute, but could be building congestion earlier in the afternoon/evening
- Collisions and Fatalities on Washington State Roads still high
- System largely built around bringing people downtown/offices
- Lack of flexibility to adapt to quickly changing environment
  - Long-range planning
  - Inflation
  - Economic uncertainty

### Potential Solutions

- Operating solutions to improve signal timing, incident clearing, ramp metering – especially during midday
  - CATT Lab notes 21% of delays are at signals, #2 source behind recurring congestion (39%)
  - Incidents involved in 14% of delay
- Flexibility in transit and vanpools
  - Destinations are less about downtown
- Lack of maintenance and preservation still an issue
- Less reliance on long range plans that may not reflect reality (land use, office buildings, mode choice, etc.)

