

District 05 Mobility Performance Report

2024 Fourth Quarter

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

January 30, 2025
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District 05 Mobility Performance Report

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

Caltrans District 5 contains five counties located along the central coast of California: Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties. All counties are in urban settings within city limits and rural settings outside city limits. Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara were the top two most congested counties in the 4th quarter.

The Mobility Performance quarterly analysis compares information with over a year ago and over last quarter in the following performance measures:

- Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT)
- Vehicle Hours of Delay (VHD), Bottleneck Locations
- Lost Lane Miles (equivalent lost productivity)
- Detector Health

This information is based on data collected every day of the quarter, twenty-four hours a day, by automated vehicle detector stations deployed on urban-area freeways where congestion is regularly experienced. The MPR presents congestion information at two speed thresholds: delay from vehicles traveling below 35 miles per hour (mph), and delay from vehicles traveling below 60 mph. The delay at the 35 mph threshold represents severe congestion while delay at 60 mph represents all congestion, both light and heavy. These thresholds are set by Caltrans and are based upon engineering experience and District input.

FINDINGS

In the fourth quarter, total delay equaled 502,100 vehicle hours of delay (VHD) at the 35 mph speed threshold, and 1,088,500 VHD at the 60 mph threshold. The average weekday delay experienced in this quarter was approximately 7,062 VHD at 35 mph, and 14,870 VHD at 60 mph.

Top Ten Bottlenecks for Quarter 4

Rank	County	Fwy	Location	Shift	Absolute Postmile	Begin CA PM	Avg Extent (miles)	Total Delay (veh-hrs)	Total Duration (hours)	# of Active Days	Latitude	Longitude
1	Monterey	SR1-N	CANYON DEL REY BLVD AT HWY 1 NB	PM	330.075	R79.54	3.26	43,206.30	153.4	61	36.6119	-121.855
2	Santa Cruz	SR1-N	41ST ST EXIT AT HWY 1 SB VDS MLN	AM	365.27	13.929	4.54	39,270.50	108.5	53	36.9832	-121.9699
3	Santa Cruz	SR1-S	STATE PARK DR AT HWY 1 NB VDS ML	PM	361.617	10.319	4.81	35,503.90	93.8	57	36.9762	-121.9071
4	Santa Cruz	SR1-S	RIO DEL MAR BLVD AT HWY 1 NB VDS	PM	360.312	9.0141	3.67	33,044.10	96.5	51	36.9742	-121.884
5	Monterey	SR1-S	SOUTH OF FREMONT BLVD AT HWY 1 N	AM	330.929	R80.46	4.43	30,422.60	87.5	54	36.6225	-121.8454
6	Santa Barbara	US101-N	SHEFFIELD DR MLNB	AM	91.776	8.861	3.04	21,661.10	92.7	57	34.4217	-119.6116
7	Santa Barbara	US101-S	NORTH PADARO LANE 101 NB VDS MLS	PM	90.199	7.303	3.80	19,410.30	75.2	56	34.4169	-119.5856
8	Santa Barbara	US101-S	FAIRVIEW AVE 101 NB PM 105.039 V	PM	104.994	22.13	1.51	17,081.30	179.0	60	34.4401	-119.8256
9	San Luis Obispo	US101-S	SPYGLASS DR 101 SB VDS MLSB SB	PM	193.322	R19.797	1.84	13,648.10	110.0	60	35.1638	-120.6868
10	Santa Barbara	US101-S	TORO CANYON 101 NB VDS MLSB SB	PM	89.349	6.453	3.66	12,922.70	55.2	44	34.4161	-119.571

Quarterly Mobility Statistics

Measure	Graph	Percentage Change									
Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT)	Miles (Billions) <table><tr><th>Quarter</th><th>VMT (Billions)</th></tr><tr><td>2023 Q4</td><td>0.99</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q3</td><td>1.08</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q4</td><td>1.03</td></tr></table>	Quarter	VMT (Billions)	2023 Q4	0.99	2024 Q3	1.08	2024 Q4	1.03	Over one year ago	Over last quarter
		Quarter	VMT (Billions)								
		2023 Q4	0.99								
2024 Q3	1.08										
2024 Q4	1.03										
3.5%	-5%										
Total Vehicle Hours of Delay (VHD) at 35 mph	Hours (Thousands) <table><tr><th>Quarter</th><th>VHD (Thousands)</th></tr><tr><td>2023 Q4</td><td>374.9</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q3</td><td>723</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q4</td><td>502.1</td></tr></table>	Quarter	VHD (Thousands)	2023 Q4	374.9	2024 Q3	723	2024 Q4	502.1	Over one year ago	Over last quarter
		Quarter	VHD (Thousands)								
		2023 Q4	374.9								
2024 Q3	723										
2024 Q4	502.1										
33.9%	-30.5%										
Average Non-Holiday Weekday Vehicle Hours of Delay (VHD) at 35 mph	Hours <table><tr><th>Quarter</th><th>VHD (Hours)</th></tr><tr><td>2023 Q4</td><td>5,409</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q3</td><td>8,959</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q4</td><td>7,062</td></tr></table>	Quarter	VHD (Hours)	2023 Q4	5,409	2024 Q3	8,959	2024 Q4	7,062	Over one year ago	Over last quarter
		Quarter	VHD (Hours)								
		2023 Q4	5,409								
2024 Q3	8,959										
2024 Q4	7,062										
30.6%	-21.2%										
Total Vehicle Hours of Delay (VHD) at 60 mph	Hours (Millions) <table><tr><th>Quarter</th><th>VHD (Millions)</th></tr><tr><td>2023 Q4</td><td>0.9</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q3</td><td>1.5</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q4</td><td>1.1</td></tr></table>	Quarter	VHD (Millions)	2023 Q4	0.9	2024 Q3	1.5	2024 Q4	1.1	Over one year ago	Over last quarter
		Quarter	VHD (Millions)								
		2023 Q4	0.9								
2024 Q3	1.5										
2024 Q4	1.1										
25.6%	-27.1%										
Average Non-Holiday Weekday Vehicle Hours of Delay (VHD) at 60 mph	Hours (Thousands) <table><tr><th>Quarter</th><th>VHD (Thousands)</th></tr><tr><td>2023 Q4</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q3</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>2024 Q4</td><td>15</td></tr></table>	Quarter	VHD (Thousands)	2023 Q4	12	2024 Q3	18	2024 Q4	15	Over one year ago	Over last quarter
		Quarter	VHD (Thousands)								
		2023 Q4	12								
2024 Q3	18										
2024 Q4	15										
22.6%	-18.3%										

Measure	Graph	Percentage Change	
Average Vehicle Hours of Delay by Day of Week at 60 mph		Largest Magnitude Decrease over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Decrease over last quarter
		–	Saturday -51.7%
Average Vehicle Hours of Delay by Hour of Day at 35 mph, Weekdays		Largest Magnitude Increase over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Increase over last quarter
		Thursday 219%	–
Average Vehicle Hours of Delay by Hour of Day at 35 mph, Saturdays		Largest Magnitude Weekday Decrease over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Weekday Decrease over last quarter
		11 PM -73.9%	4 PM -26.3%
Average Vehicle Hours of Delay by Hour of Day at 35 mph, Sundays/Holidays		Largest Magnitude Weekday Increase over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Weekday Increase over last quarter
		5 PM 30.1%	7 AM 14%
Average Vehicle Hours of Delay by Hour of Day at 35 mph, Saturdays		Largest Magnitude Saturday Decrease over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Saturday Decrease over last quarter
		12 AM -99.5%	3 PM -69.6%
Average Vehicle Hours of Delay by Hour of Day at 35 mph, Sundays/Holidays		Largest Magnitude Saturday Increase over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Saturday Increase over last quarter
		1 PM 100.7%	9 AM 41.1%
Average Vehicle Hours of Delay by Hour of Day at 35 mph, Sundays/Holidays		Largest Magnitude Sun./Holiday Decrease over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Sun./Holiday Decrease over last quarter
		10 AM -42.6%	2 PM -67.2%
Average Vehicle Hours of Delay by Hour of Day at 35 mph, Sundays/Holidays		Largest Magnitude Sun./Holiday Increase over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Sun./Holiday Increase over last quarter
		3 PM 63.8%	8 AM 4748.7%

Measure	Graph	Percentage Change	
Total Vehicle Hours of Delay (VHD) by County at 35 mph	Hours (Thousands) ■ 2023 Q4 ■ 2024 Q3 ■ 2024 Q4	Largest Magnitude Decrease over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Decrease over last quarter
			Monterey -39.2% ↓
		Largest Magnitude Increase over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Increase over last quarter
Average Non-Holiday Weekday Equivalent Lost Lane Mile Hours at 35 mph	Miles ■ 2023 Q4 ■ 2024 Q3 ■ 2024 Q4 AM Peak (6 AM to 10 AM) Off-Peak Day (10 AM to 3 PM) PM Peak (3 PM to 7 PM) Off-Peak Night (7 PM to 6 AM)	Largest Magnitude Decrease over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Decrease over last quarter
		Off-Peak Night -52.4% ↓	PM Peak -19.4% ↓
		Largest Magnitude Increase over one year ago	Largest Magnitude Increase over last quarter
Average Number of Good and Bad Detectors	Number of Detectors ■ Average of Good ■ Average of Bad 2023 Q4: 1,019 Good, 29 Bad 2024 Q3: 1,038 Good, 18 Bad 2024 Q4: 1,031 Good, 25 Bad	Change in Good over one year ago	Change in Good over last quarter
		1% ↑	-1% ↓
		Change in Bad over one year ago	Change in Bad over last quarter
		-11% ↓	38% ↑

Congestion by Route											
Route	County	Vehicle Hours of Delay at 35 mph			Difference 2024 Q4-2023 Q4		Difference 2024 Q4-2024 Q3		Rank		
		2023 Q4	2024 Q3	2024 Q4	Absolute	Percentage	Absolute	Percentage	2023 Q4	2024 Q3	2024 Q4
SR1	Santa Cruz	131,980	206,321	149,606	17,626	13.4%	-56,715	-27.5%	1	1	1
US101	Santa Barbara	85,577	175,358	141,249	55,672	65.1%	-34,110	-19.5%	2	2	2
SR1	Monterey	64,891	150,953	89,317	24,426	37.6%	-61,636	-40.8%	3	3	3
US101	San Luis Obispo	27,264	54,293	31,792	4,529	16.6%	-22,501	-41.4%	4	4	5
SR68	Monterey	24,254	41,238	33,075	8,821	36.4%	-8,163	-19.8%	5	5	4
SR156	San Benito	12,678	36,090	13,559	881	6.9%	-22,531	-62.4%	8	6	8
US101	Monterey	14,920	32,627	14,206	-714	-4.8%	-18,421	-56.5%	6	7	7
SR17	Santa Cruz	13,341	16,367	23,299	9,958	74.6%	6,932	42.4%	7	8	6
US101	San Benito	0	8,715	6,046	6,046		-2,669	-30.6%		9	9
SR46	San Luis Obispo	0	1,018	0	0		-1,018	-100.0%		10	10
SR246	Santa Barbara	0	1	0	0		-1	-100.0%		11	
TOTALS		374,905	722,982	502,150	127,245	33.9%	-220,833	-30.5%			