

Quarterly Congestion Analysis Report for the Baltimore Region

Top 10 Bottleneck Locations



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About the Region

Located in the heart of the Mid-Atlantic on the east coast, the Baltimore region includes:



The Baltimore region is the nation's 19th largest market, with over 2.5 million people. The market also ranks among the top 20 in the country in the number of households, total effective buying income and retail sales.

Baltimore County PENNSYLVANIA Fallstaff Homeland toland Park Hamilton Pimlico Cecil Belmar County Guilford Hampden Waverly Forest Park Carroll Westminster Harford County County Walbrook Aberdeen Baltimore Cockeysville 895 Baltimore City County Frederick Reisterstown County 395 Edgewood Canto n Claremont South Baltimore Perry Hall Towson kes ville 895 Middle River West Batimore Cherry Hill Patapsco River Baltimore fford City Damascus ato ns ville 95 Howard East Brooklyn 895 Kent County County Ba Columbia Elkridge 195 ake Germantown Anne Arundel County 695 2 Olney Chesape Montgomery Miles Severn County Pasadena aurel Odentor kville Anne Arundel nold County Greenbelt Annapolis Queen Anne's Bowie attsville County DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA -Prince George's County 3 VIRGINIA Easton Clintor Talbot Fort Washington County Calvert Prepared by County Transportation Planning Division Charles Walderf 10 Projected Coordinate System: NAD 1983 State Plane (ft) Data Source: BMC, © NAVTEQ 2013, TIGER/Line®, MTA County Miles Printed - July 2013

Baltimore Metropolitan Region

How are bottleneck conditions tracked?

If the reported speed falls below 60% of the reference, the road segment is flagged as a potential bottleneck

Bottleneck conditions are determined by comparing the current reported speed to the reference speed for each segment of road. Reference speed values are provided by INRIX for each segment, and represent the 85th percentile observed speed for all time periods, with a maximum value of 65 mph. If the reported speed falls below 60% of the reference, the road segment is flagged as a potential bottleneck. If the reported speed stays below 60% for five minutes, the segment is confirmed as a bottleneck location. Adjacent road segments meeting this condition are joined together to form the bottleneck queue. When reported speeds on every segment associated with a bottleneck queue have returned to values greater than 60% of their reference values and remained that way for 10 minutes, the bottleneck is considered cleared. Bottlenecks whose total queue length, determined by adding the length of each road segment associated with the bottleneck is less than 0.3 miles are ignored. Queues may originate outside the Baltimore region but are reported on if any portion extends into the region.



Bottleneck Ranking Incident Icons

When showing event/incident icons on some of the graphs in the Bottleneck Ranking tool a minimalist approach has been taken. In order to reduce clutter and confusion on the graphs, icons have been simplified down to single shape and color. Each represents the following:



Red — Severe events and incidents

- **Emergency Roadwork** ٠
- Injury .
- Medical Emergency ٠



Orange — Roadwork

 \diamond Yellow — All other events and incidents

More detailed icons may be used at times when a major incident was the cause of a bottleneck.





203 10 Soldiers Delight Gillis Falls Resrv Site Bush River 813 95 695 70 10 95 200 Ellicott City 293 695 895 Columbia $\sqrt{2}$ E T Chester River Severn River 301 70 495 Bethesda 301 293 301 Annapolis 51

Overview Map

By Impact Factor

Number of Occurrences x Average Duration in Minutes x Average Length This table indicates the top 10 congested corridors in the region.

	Location	Average Duration	Average max length (miles)	Occurrences	Number of Incidents/ Events	Impact Factor
1	I-95 N @ MD-100/EXIT 43	2 h	6.98	234	117	196,087
2	MD-295 N @ I-195	2 h 48 m	10.96	89	169	163,871
3	MD-295 S @ MD-193	3 h 21 m	12.07	66	115	160,058
4	I-695 CCW @ US-40/EXIT 15	1 h 40 m	8.31	184	227	152,837
5	I-695 CCW @ EDMONDSON AVE/EXIT 14	2 h 36 m	9.4	103	269	151,099
6	I-695 CW @ MD-41/PERRING PKWY/EXIT 30	2 h 5 m	6.26	174	209	136,097
7	I-695 CW @ I-795/EXIT 19	2 h 35 m	9.05	86	358	120,622
8	I-695 CW @ I-83/MD-25/EXIT 23	1 h 39 m	6.95	154	231	105,980
9	MD-295 S @ POWDER MILL RD	2 h 41 m	6.4	102	82	105,134
10	MD-295 S @ GODDARD RD	2 h 35 m	9.14	59	112	83,585



CCW = Counterclockwise



Top 10 Bottlenecks in the Baltimore Region

By Impact Factor

(Number of Occurrences x Average Duration in Minutes x Average Length)

2nd Quarter 2015

Average max length (miles)

Average duration (hours)

By Average Duration - This table indicates the longest lasting bottlenecks

	Location	Average Duration	Average max length (miles)	Occurrences	Number of Incidents/ Events	Impact Factor
1	I-95 N @ CHESAPEAKE HOUSE TRAVEL PLAZA	4 h 34 m	13.06	3	213	10,739
2	MD-32 W @ TEN OAKS RD	3 h 39 m	5.87	7	5	9,006
3	MD-295 S @ EASTERN AVE	3 h 28 m	21.15	2	305	8,799
4	MD-295 N @ US-40/MULBERRY ST/FRANKLIN ST	3 h 24 m	2.95	41	13	24,700
5	MD-295 S @ MD-193	3 h 21 m	12.07	66	115	160,058
6	MD-295 N @ W LOMBARD ST	3 h 5 m	2.77	24	13	12,304
7	MD-295 S @ MD-450	3 h 3 m	15.98	4	155	11,700
8	I-695 CW @ MD-43/WHITEMARSH BLVD/EXIT 31	3 h 3 m	9.85	5	320	9,014
9	MD-295 S @ RIVERDALE RD	3 h	14.46	17	155	44,257
10	I-895 S @ MD-2/POTEE ST/EXIT 7	3 h	2.73	16	200	7,862

By Average Length - This table indicates the longest bottlenecks by distance.

	Location	Average Duration	Average max length (miles)	Occurrences	Number of Incidents/ Events	Impact Factor
1	MD-295 S @ EASTERN AVE	3 h 28 m	21.15	2	305	8,799
2	MD-295 S @ MD-450	3 h 3 m	15.98	4	155	11,700
3	MD-295 S @ RIVERDALE RD	3 h	14.46	17	155	44,257
4	I-95 N @ CHESAPEAKE HOUSE TRAVEL PLAZA	4 h 34 m	13.06	3	213	10,739
5	MD-295 S @ MD-193	3 h 21 m	12.07	66	115	160,058
6	MD-295 S @ I-495/I-95	2 h 12 m	11.17	9	139	13,273
7	MD-295 N @ I-195	2 h 48 m	10.96	89	169	163,871
8	I-95 S @ MD-43/WHITEMARSH BLVD/EXIT 67	1 h 39 m	10.88	45	235	48,487
9	I-695 CW @ MD-43/WHITEMARSH BLVD/EXIT 31	3 h 3 m	9.85	5	320	9,014
10	MD-32 W @ I-70/US-40	2 h 40 m	9.55	7	5	10,700

	Location	Average Duration	Average max length (miles)	Occurrences	Number of Incidents/ Events	Impact Factor
1	I-895 N @ CHILDS ST/EXIT 9	36 m	0.12	1088	79	4,555
2	I-83 S @ FAYETTE ST/EXIT 1	43 m	0.21	1083	0	9,730
3	I-95 N @ KEITH AVE/EXIT 56	33 m	0.53	801	33	14,062
4	MD-100 E @ MD-607/MAGOTHY BRIDGE RD	31 m	0.16	797	0	3,921
5	I-895 S @ HARBOR TUNNEL TOLL PLAZA	44 m	0.07	739	47	2,376
6	I-95 S @ FORT MCHENRY TUNNEL	26 m	1.8	698	223	32,610
7	US-50 E @ BAY BRIDGE	42 m	1.11	613	328	28,676
8	MD-295 N @ BAYARD ST	56 m	0.35	530	1	10,275
9	I-895 S @ HARBOR TUNNEL THWY (SOUTH)	36 m	0.65	529	0	12,427
10	MD-100 W @ MD-607/MAGOTHY BRIDGE RD	36 m	0.3	528	1	5,708

By Number of Occurrences - This table indicates the most frequently occurring bottlenecks.



#1 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: Congestion in the afternoon rush hour. Contributing factors include traffic entering at MD-175, weaving to exit at MD-100, and the halfmile uphill grade midway between MD-175 and MD-100.

#1 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region - 2nd Quarter 2015



#2 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region - 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: This moderate to severe congestion was primarily caused by merging traffic from Nursery Rd, probably exacerbated by additional traffic from MD 195. (The Nursery Rd merge occurs .5 miles before MD 295 widens to 3 northbound lanes.) Occasionally, upstream traffic was also affected by this bottleneck, almost as far back as MD 100.

#2 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



#3 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: MD-295 merge with the Capital Beltway I-495. Congestion seen in the afternoon peak period sometimes extends into the southern portion of the Baltimore region near the Fort Meade area.

#3 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region - 2nd Quarter 2015



#4 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: Delays found in both the morning and afternoon. Longstanding bottleneck on the outer loop of the beltway primarily during the morning rush. High traffic volume area. Delays extend back as far as MD-26/Liberty Rd. Also contributing to congestion in the area is a beltway widening project. Morning delays overlap with #5 ranked bottleneck beginning at US-40. See page 18 for more information.

#4 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



#5 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: Longstanding bottleneck on the outer loop of the beltway primarily during the morning rush. High traffic volume area. Delays extend back as far as MD-26/Liberty Rd. Also contributing to congestion in the area is a beltway widening project which began in February. "The plan is for crews to add a fourth lane to the outer loop and widen the median in anticipation of a possible fifth lane. The bridges over Ingleside and Edmondson avenues will be replaced to increase the clearance height." (Source: The Baltimore Sun 2/23/15)

#5 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



#6 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: Congestion was most severe between I-83 and Providence Rd. Factors contributing to this long standing and extended congested zone: merging and weaving associated with traffic at each interchange and a lane drop (to 3 lanes) at MD-45/York Rd.

#6 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



#7 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: Longstanding west side beltway inner loop traffic in the afternoon generally between 3 and 7pm from Exit 19/I-795 often extending back to Exit 13/MD-44/Frederick Rd. High traffic volume.

#7 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



#8 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: Morning rush hour congestion. The lane drop approaching the ramp to southbound I-83 is a contributing factor, as are merging and weaving at the interchanges in this segment.

#8 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region - 2nd Quarter 2015



#9 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: Southbound congestion extending from Powder Mill Rd just barely extending into the southern portion of the Baltimore region near Fort Meade occurring during both the morning and afternoon peak periods.

#9 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region – 2nd Quarter 2015



#10 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region - 2nd Quarter 2015



Notes: Southbound congestion extending from Powder Mill Rd just barely extending into the southern portion of the Baltimore region near Fort Meade occurring during both the morning and afternoon peak periods. This could be considered a continuation of bottleneck number #9 but primarily in the afternoon rush starting further south on MD-295.

#10 Ranked Bottleneck in the Baltimore Region - 2nd Quarter 2015



Average Speed Maps – AM Peak Period 8:00-9:00 Weekdays: 2nd Quarter 2015

I-695, I-83, I-70, I-795, I-97, I-895, I-895 SPUR, US-50, MD-10, MD-100, MD-32, I-195, US-29, MD-295, and I-95 using INRIX data



Average Speed Maps – PM Peak Period 5:00-6:00 Weekdays: 2nd Quarter 2015

I-695, I-83, I-70, I-795, I-97, I-895, I-895 SPUR, US-50, MD-10, MD-100, MD-32, I-195, US-29, MD-295, and I-95 using INRIX data



The Vehicle Probe Project

Data and graphics in this report were generated from the *Vehicle Probe Project* suite. *The Vehicle Probe Project* (VPP) is a groundbreaking initiative and collaborative effort among the I-95 Corridor Coalition, University of Maryland, INRIX, HERE and Tom Tom and has been providing comprehensive and continuous real-time travel information for more than seven years. Member agencies like the Baltimore Metropolitan Council have found numerous uses for the data beyond simply travel information.

There are now 7,000 centerline freeway miles, more than 20,000 freeway and arterial miles in all, including continuous coverage of the I-95 corridor from New Jersey through Florida. Coverage also exists in Rhode Island. The network includes full coverage of freeways and major arterials in North Carolina and the Tidewater area of Virginia, full or nearly full coverage of limited access roads in New Jersey, Maryland and South Carolina and the northern and eastern portions of Florida. In addition, coverage now includes ramps at 160 major highway-to- highway interchanges, with all states having interchanges included except Georgia.

Agency Participation

As the value of the data from the Vehicle Probe Project is realized through the various applications and the continued quality via the validation efforts, the member states have increased their commitment to this project. In fact, all of the participating states have committed their own funds to continue this project and many have increased their coverage far beyond the initial core area.

Numerous Uses for the Data

I-95 Corridor Coalition member agencies have found many uses for the vehicle probe data, including:

- Travel Information for 511 (web and phone) Systems, Dynamic Message Signs, and Kiosks
- Travel Time Calculations for Message Boards
- Performance Measures and Travel Time Reliability Support
- Traffic Pattern Observations (in-state and multi-state)
- Trip Planning (www.i95travelinfo.net)
- Performance Measures Tool Continuing the momentum in performance analysis, the newest initiative from the Coalition is the Vehicle Probe Project Suite. The basic tools include:

Bottleneck and Incident dashboard

Massive Raw Data Downloader Historical Data Visualizations and Performance Measures (Congestion Scan) UMD CATT Lab made the VPP suite available to participating agencies. For the training video, please visit http://vpp.ritis.org/suite/screencast/

Should you have any questions, please contact:

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