THE COST OF CONGESTION ON THE TEXAS HIGHWAY FREIGHT NETWORK

Texas Department of Transportation

Slowing Down Freight, Slowing Down the Economy

Congestion on the Texas Highway Freight Network (THFN) costs Texas' businesses and residents billions in increased costs each year.

Highway users experience about **314 million hours of delay**.

Autos and trucks waste **180 million gallons of fuel per year**, costing $495 million annually.

Congestion on the freight network costs **$10 billion annually**.

Economic Impact of Congestion on the Texas Highway Freight Network

The Texas economy has experienced significant sustained growth over the past two decades. This has resulted in increasing demand to move more freight. Investment in the THFN has struggled to keep pace with the growing demand, leading to increased congestion. This congestion costs the freight industries, businesses, and residents time and money.

Freight Demand on THFN in 2018

- *3.3 billion tons moved, valued at $3 trillion*
- *25.5 billion truck vehicle miles traveled*
- *31 million hours of truck delay*

The direct impacts of congestion on the THFN costs:

Annual truck impacts in...

2018	**31 million hours** *of delay*	**62 million gallons** *of fuel wasted*	**$2 billion** *in congestion costs*
2050	**517 million hours** *of delay*	**930 million gallons** *of fuel wasted*	**$32.4 billion** *in congestion costs*

The direct cost of not responding to congestion on the highway freight network leads to slower economic growth, leading to:

2018

33,800 *fewer jobs worth nearly* **$2 billion** *in personal income.*

Reduction in GSP of **$2.6 billion** *annually.*

$418 million *in lost tax revenue.*

by 2050

284,000 *fewer jobs worth nearly* **$17.9 billion** *in personal income.*

Reduction in GSP of **$25.3 billion** *annually.*

$4.1 billion *in lost tax revenue.*

The information provided comes from the TxDOT *Economic Role of Freight in Texas Study*. All dollar figures are expressed in 2018 dollars.

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TxDOT is Investing to Ensure a Safe and Efficient Freight Network

Texas Clear Lanes initiative launched in September 2015 is a statewide strategic plan to provide congestion relief in Texas' largest metro areas and on the THFN.

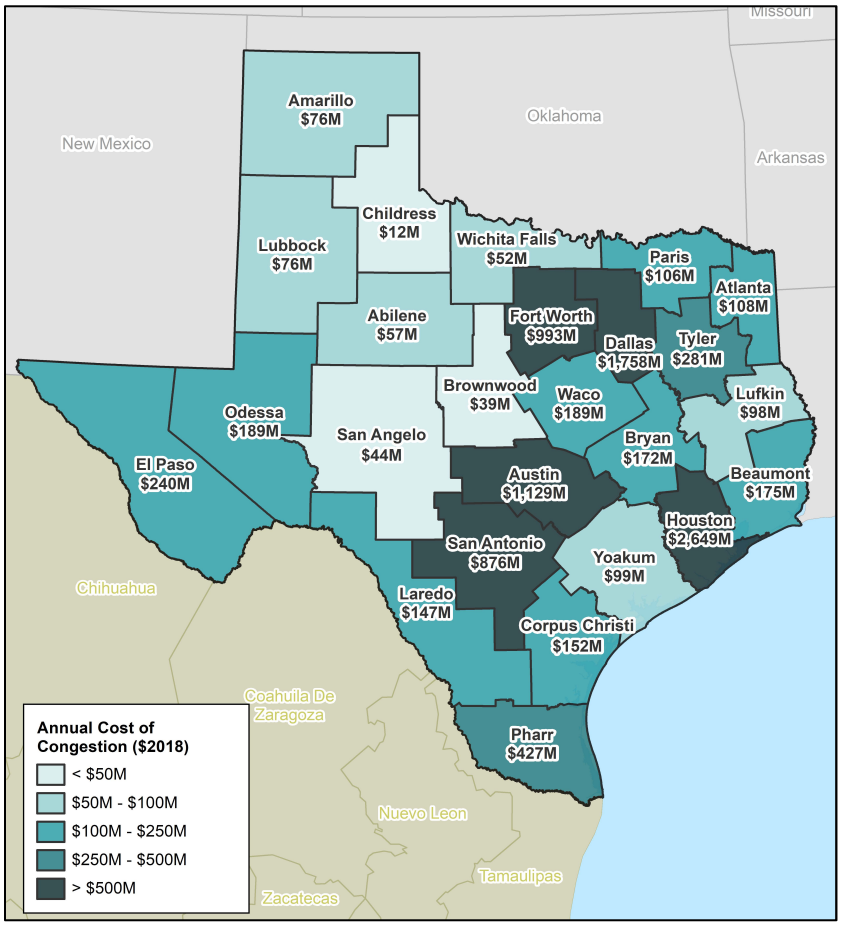
- 3 projects complete and 18 under construction
- 19 more projects in development
- $4.9 billion funding allocated to 12 projects in the 2020 UTP

The unconstrained **Freight Investment Plan** (FIP) includes 353 high-priority projects on the THFN costing $3.1 billion. These projects will lead to **annual** economic benefits of:

- $11 billion in Gross State Product
- 124,720 new jobs and $7 billion in personal income
- $2 billion in tax revenue

Cost of Congestion on the Texas Highway Freight Network

Congestion costs Texas' businesses and commuters billions of dollars every year. While metro districts experience the highest levels of congestion, the impacts ripple throughout the State, increasing the cost of doing business and the prices for consumer products. Congestion in rural districts is different from that in metro districts, but it is no less significant. Rural congestion can significantly impact manufacturing processes, agricultural production, productivity, and competitiveness. In the Permian Basin, congestion inhibits productivity of the energy sector. Companies must provide more trucks and drivers to deliver the necessary inputs for fracing activity. During harvest season, truck traffic increases significantly. Agricultural transport often relies on two lane roads, which leads to significant delay for all travelers in rural areas. Continued investment in the THFN is one step to take to prevent losing economic activity in urban and rural areas in Texas.



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