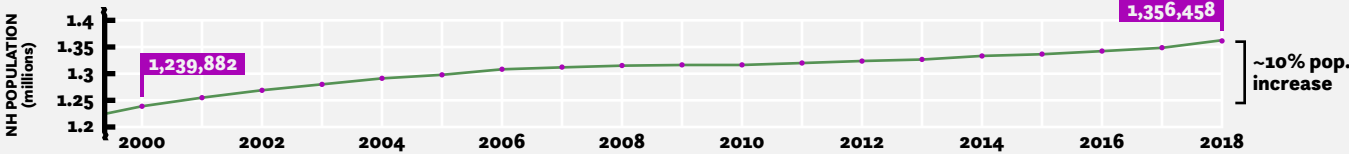
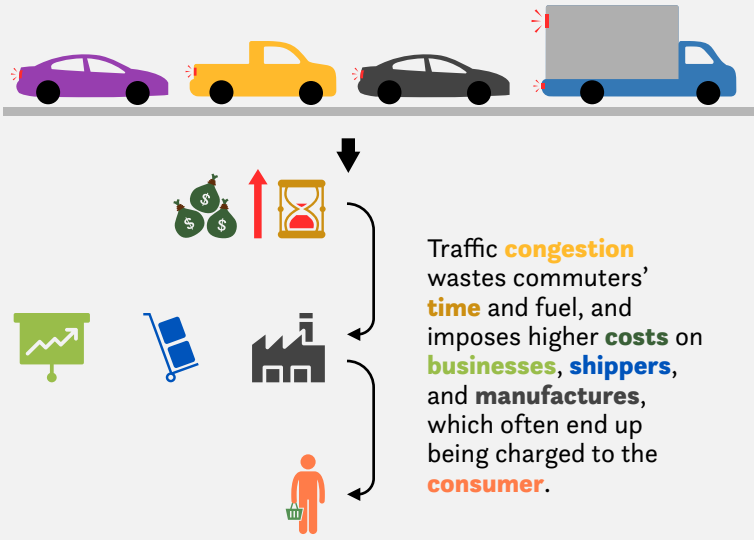
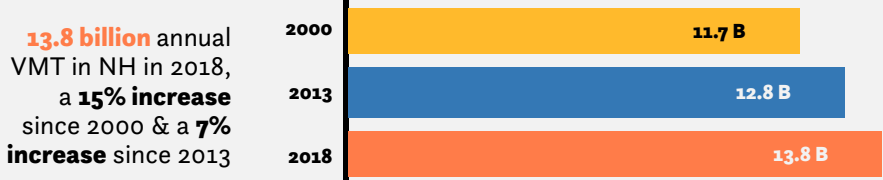


TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Increasing levels of traffic congestion cause significant delays in New Hampshire, particularly in its larger urban areas, choking commuting and commerce. Traffic congestion robs commuters of time and money and imposes increased costs on businesses, shippers and manufacturers, which are often passed along to the consumer. Increased levels of congestion can also reduce the attractiveness of a location to a company when considering expansion or where to locate a new facility.



The growth of New Hampshire’s population and economy have placed additional stress on the state’s transportation system. New Hampshire’s population grew to 1,356,458 residents in 2018, a 10 percent increase since 2000.¹ New Hampshire had approximately 1.1 million licensed drivers in 2017.² In 2018, the state’s transportation system carried 13.8 billion annual vehicle miles of travel (VMT), a 15 percent increase since 2000 and an increase of seven percent from 2013 to 2018.³



Based on TTI analysis, TRIP estimates the total value of lost time and wasted fuel in New Hampshire is approximately \$500 million a year. The chart to the left shows the number of hours lost annually for each driver in the state’s largest urban areas, and the per-driver cost of lost time and wasted fuel due to congestion.

	Hours lost to congestion	Annual cost/driver
DOVER-ROCHESTER	20	\$413
MANCHESTER	22	\$450
NASHUA	22	\$459
PORTSMOUTH	30	\$612

Source: Texas Transportation Institute Urban Mobility Report, 2019.

WORKS CITED

- 1 U.S. Census Bureau (2018).
- 2 Highway Statistics (2018). Federal Highway Administration. DL-1C.
- 3 U.S. Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration: Highway Statistics 2013 and 2018 and analysis of Federal Highway Administration Traffic Volume Trends (2018)
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