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# ***Congestion hurts business***

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Road congestion has a major economic impact on Montreal residents and businesses.

In the United States costs related to traffic congestion are evaluated **at US\$75 billion**<sup>1</sup> (more than 1% of the GDP).

- ✓ Los Angeles : **US\$9 billion**
- ✓ New York : **US\$8 billion**
- ✓ Federal Express and UPS report that every five additional minutes of congestion per day costs them **US\$40 million**<sup>2</sup> a year.

Recent studies<sup>3</sup> have estimated the annual cost to businesses alone in the region of Montreal at some **\$600 million.**

According to surveys carried out by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, road congestion in the Toronto region costs businesses approximately **\$2 billion a year in lost time and productivity**, primarily due to delays caused by truck deliveries.

1. Aldaron Inc., *Dollars and sense*, 1997.

2. *FTA 1996 Report*.

3. Speaking notes for the Honourable David Collenette, Minister of Transport, March 2001.