

METROPOLITAN MANILA ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC STATISTICS: 2013-2023

The Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) is a set of statistics compiled by the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) that records traffic along Metro Manila's circumferential and radial roads, and other major thoroughfares. According to the Department of Public Works and Highways, circumferential roads are those that are intended to traverse a huge portion of Metropolitan Manila whereas radial roads are smaller and are meant to connect circumferential roads to one another.

The AADT is also compiled based on major vehicle type such as cars, public utility buses (PUBs), public utility jeepneys (PUJs), motorcycles, among others.

By Major Thoroughfare. In 2023, AADT increased to over 3.6 million from more than 2.5 million in 2013 (*Table 1*). This represents an increase of close to 1.1 million more vehicles plying Metro Manila's major roads for the given period. Commonwealth Avenue recorded the highest jump in volume among all the major thoroughfares with Quezon Avenue coming in at second. Incidentally, both routes are classified under radial road 7 (R:7).

**TABLE 1. ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC
BY MAJOR THROUGHFARE, 2013 AND 2023**

By major thoroughfare		2013	2023	growth/(decline)	
				volume	%
C:1	Recto	63,533	87,391	23,858	37.6
C:2	Mendoza	82,523	145,235	62,712	76.0
	Pres. Quirino Ave.	129,893	177,881	47,988	36.9
C:3	Araneta Ave.	105,694	132,222	26,528	25.1
C:4	EDSA	342,612	407,342	64,730	18.9
C:5	Katipunan/C.P. Garcia/T.Sora	175,929	238,695	62,766	35.7
R:1	Roxas Blvd.	141,963	190,184	48,221	34.0
R:2	Taft Avenue	77,903	134,321	56,418	72.4
R:3	South Super Highway	131,975	176,904	44,929	34.0
R:4	Shaw Blvd.	88,430	127,095	38,665	43.7
R:5	Ortigas Ave.	106,183	146,597	40,414	38.1
R:6	Magsaysay Blvd.	92,617	137,916	45,299	48.9
	Aurora Blvd.	122,022	121,928	(94)	-0.1
R:7	Quezon Ave.	183,609	312,486	128,877	70.2
	Commonwealth Ave.	237,577	407,988	170,411	71.7
R:8	A. Bonifacio	80,570	105,934	25,364	31.5
R:9	Rizal Ave.	71,669	114,674	43,005	60.0
R:10	Del Pan	53,539	104,615	51,076	95.4
Other	Marcos Highway	173,218	243,636	70,418	40.7
	McArthur Highway	73,619	121,189	47,570	64.6
GRAND TOTAL		2,535,078	3,634,233	1,099,155	43.4

Source: MMDA.

Facts in Figures

Congressional Policy and Budget Research Department
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In Quezon Avenue, AADT swelled to 312,486 in 2023 from 183,609 in 2013 or an increase of 70.2% or 128,877 more vehicles. Commonwealth Avenue was even worse as average daily traffic surged by 71.7% to 170,411. Note that the AADT in Commonwealth Avenue is now more than EDSA, which was certainly not the case in 2013. Only Aurora Boulevard recorded a decline in activity in 2023 relative to 2013.

By Circumferential and Radial Roads. While there was an increase in AADT in both radial and circumferential roads, the former recorded an increase of almost 50.0% increase as compared to the latter at only 32.1% (*Table 2*). Motorcycle riders spiked in both circumferential and radial roads. On the other hand, car volume was down in circumferential roads as opposed to radial roads.

**TABLE 2. ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC BY
CIRCUMFERENTIAL AND RADIAL ROADS AND BY VEHICLE
TYPE, 2013 AND 2023**

Thoroughfare	2013	2023	growth/(decline)	
			volume	%
Circumferential Roads total	900,184	1,188,766	288,582	32.1
Car	659,863	604,592	(55,271)	(8.4)
PUJ	32,225	10,409	(21,816)	(67.7)
PUB	16,629	5,695	(10,934)	(65.8)
Truck	30,691	30,494	(197)	(0.6)
Trailer	5,187	3,821	(1,366)	(26.3)
Motorcycles	139,408	517,524	378,116	271.2
Tricycles	16,181	16,231	50	0.3
Radial Roads total	1,388,057	2,080,642	692,585	49.9
Car	927,980	944,857	16,877	1.8
PUJ	130,972	67,604	(63,368)	(48.4)
PUB	17,534	14,540	(2,994)	(17.1)
Truck	48,274	47,787	(487)	(1.0)
Trailer	13,938	16,108	2,170	15.6
Motorcycles	242,736	973,249	730,513	300.9
Tricycles	6,623	16,497	9,874	149.1
Other	246,837	364,825	117,988	47.8
GRAND TOTAL	2,535,078	3,634,233	1,099,155	43.4

Source: MMDA.

By Type of Vehicle. Motorcycles registered the highest traffic increase among all vehicle types tracked by the MMDA (*Table 3*). From only 443,340 in 2013, this number ballooned to more than 1.6 million in 2023. This represents an increase of 286.5% or more than 1.2 million more two-wheeled vehicles traversing Metro Manila's major thoroughfares.

This is perhaps driven by the growth in e-commerce deliveries over the past years as well as the mainstreaming of motorcycle taxis-for-hire. Additional options for transporting goods and people through the use of motorcycles, however, do not come without costs. As reported by the MMDA in its Metro Manila Accident Recording and Analysis System, road crashes involving motorcycles increased by 80.0% to 36,486 in 2023 from 20,272 in 2013.

TABLE 3. ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC BY TYPE OF VEHICLE, 2013 AND 2023

By type of vehicle	2013	2023	growth/(decline)	
			volume	%
Car	1,739,180	1,700,890	(38,290)	(2.2)
PUJ	193,221	95,659	(97,562)	(50.5)
PUB	36,551	21,107	(15,444)	(42.3)
Truck	89,740.0	87,769	(1,971)	(2.2)
Trailer	19,905.0	20,765	860	4.3
Motorcycles	433,340	1,674,646	1,241,306	286.5
Tricycles	23,141	33,397	10,256	44.3
Total	2,535,078	3,634,233	1,099,155	43.4

Source: MMDA.

By Purpose. While the average daily traffic of vehicles traditionally for public use noticeably decreased in 2023 compared to 2017 (*Table 4*), this does not account for cars and motorcycle taxis-for-hire that have proliferated over the past 10 years. Note that both Uber and Grab started their ride-hailing services in 2017 and 2013, respectively.

The pioneering motorcycle ride-hailing service Angkas meanwhile began to operate in 2016 and was then quickly followed by other providers such as Joyride, Move It, among others. There is a marked decrease in the number of PUJs in the AADT data in 2023 compared to 2013 (by 39,644 jeepneys). This can partly be attributed to the phasing-out of traditional PUJs in line with the on-going Public Utility Vehicle Modernization Program.

TABLE 4. ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC BY VEHICLE PURPOSE,* 2017 AND 2023

Vehicles by purpose	2017	2023	Growth/(decline)	
			volume	%
Total	2,699,051	3,634,233	935,182	34.6
Private	2,280,124	3,349,502	1,069,378	46.9
Public	418,927	284,731	(134,196)	-32.0
PUJ	135,303	95,659	(39,644)	-29.3
UV	90,980	28,345	(62,635)	-68.8
Taxi	142,625	106,223	(36,402)	-25.5
PUB	32,647	21,107	(11,540)	-35.3
Tricycles	17,372	33,397	16,025	92.2

Source: MMDA.

*Note: The MMDA started disaggregating figures for public UVs and taxis starting only in 2017.

AADT by Vehicle Type – Commonwealth Avenue. While total car traffic went down in 2023 compared to 2013 as shown in Table 3, this trend is not reflected in Commonwealth Avenue as there were more cars that passed through this route (*Table 5*). Motorcycle traffic likewise soared in Commonwealth Avenue for the same period by 416%. Surprisingly, tricycle presence also jumped notwithstanding the continued ban imposed by the MMDA.

TABLE 5. ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC IN COMMONWEALTH AVENUE BY VEHICLE TYPE, 2013 AND 2023

Type of Vehicle	2013	2023	growth/(decline)	
			volume	%
Car	167,583	190,881	23,298	13.9
PUJ	19,076	14,556	(4,520)	(23.7)
PUB	7,525	4,088	(3,437)	(45.7)
Truck	6,084	6,907	823	13.5
Trailer	306	391	85	27.8
Motorcycles	36,745	189,594	152,849	416.0
Tricycles	258	1,571	1,313	508.9
Total	237,577	407,988	170,411	71.7

Source: MMDA.

AADT by Vehicle Type – EDSA. There was lesser number of cars travelling Metro Manila's second busiest road in 2023 compared to 2013 (*Table 6*). PUBs in EDSA likewise dwindled by close to three-fourths as most city buses are still prohibited to ply the old routes they usually serviced prior to the 2020 pandemic. Motorcycle traffic also increased considerably by an additional 117,481 units in 2023.

TABLE 6. ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC IN EDSA BY VEHICLE TYPE, 2013 AND 2023

Type of Vehicle	2013	2023	growth/(decline)	
			volume	%
Car	272,965	234,439	(38,526)	(14.1)
PUJ	3,032	1,740	(1,292)	(42.6)
PUB	14,919	3,824	(11,095)	(74.4)
Truck	4,491	2,533	(1,958)	(43.6)
Trailer	4	110	106	2,650
Motorcycles	47,192	164,673	117,481	248.9
Tricycles	9	23	14	155.6
Total	342,612	407,342	64,730	18.9

Source: MMDA.

AADT by Vehicle Type – Quezon Avenue. Similar to Commonwealth Avenue, car traffic in Quezon Avenue went up in 2023 relative to 2013 (*Table 7*). A significant increase in AADT can be observed in the past two years which incidentally coincided with the full operations of the Quezon Avenue entry to and exit from the Skyway Stage 3. Similar to Commonwealth Avenue and EDSA, motorcycle activity in Quezon Avenue was also drastically higher in 2023 than in 2013.

TABLE 7. ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC IN QUEZON AVENUE BY VEHICLE TYPE, 2013 AND 2023

Type of Vehicle	2013	2023	growth/(decline)	
			volume	%
Car	131,076	157,701	26,625	20.3
PUJ	15,404	3,697	(11,707)	(76.0)
PUB	1,789	1,305	(484)	(27.1)
Truck	5,326	5,101	(225)	(4.2)
Trailer	316	215	(101)	(32.0)
Motorcycles	29,298	144,297	114,999	392.5
Tricycles	400	170	(230)	(57.5)
Total	183,609	312,486	128,877	70.2

Source: MMDA.