

CalTRACS Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Where can I access CalTRACS online?

You can explore Calgary's transportation data by visiting trafficcountracs.calgary.ca. The site is open to everyone and free to use.

What is a traffic count?

A traffic count shows how many vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians pass through a specific street or intersection over a set period of time, usually six hours or a full day.

What is a speed study?

A speed study measures how fast individual vehicles are travelling on a street or through an intersection.

What does the data mean?

Traffic counts and speed studies offer a snapshot of what was happening on the road at a specific moment. Things like weather, time of year or special events can affect the numbers. CalTRACS provides the raw data, but it doesn't include analysis, so anyone using the information should interpret it using transportation best practices to understand what the results really show.

How does The City collect the data?

The City gathers transportation data in two main ways: manual counts and automatic collection.

Manual counts happen between April and October, when trained data collectors go into the field to observe and record activity. Automatic counts use tools like road tubes, video cameras or permanent sensors built into the roadway.

Why does The City collect transportation data?

The City collects this information to understand how people move around Calgary and how those patterns change over time. The data supports programs like the Central Business District Cordon Count and helps guide decisions about road improvements, safety measures and long-term planning. It also helps the City track our progress towards mobility goals, ensuring our transportation network grows in a way that supports a safe, connected and thriving city.