

Appendix B

Level of Service (LOS) Description Unsignalized Intersections with Two-Way Stop Control (TWSC)

TWSC intersections are widely used and stop signs are used to control vehicle movements at such intersections. At TWSC intersections, the stop-controlled approaches are referred to as the minor street approaches; they can be either public streets or private driveways. The intersection approaches that are not controlled by stop signs are referred to as the major street approaches. A three-leg intersection is considered to be a standard type of TWSC intersection if the single minor street approach (i.e., the stem of the T configuration) is controlled by a stop sign. Three-leg intersections where two of the three approaches are controlled by stop signs are a special form of unsignalized intersection control.

At TWSC intersections, drivers on the controlled approaches are required to select gaps in the major street flow through which to execute crossing or turning maneuvers on the basis of judgment. In the presence of a queue, each driver on the controlled approach must use some time to move into the front-of-queue position and prepare to evaluate gaps in the major street flow. Capacity analysis at TWSC intersections depends on a clear description and understanding of the interaction of drivers on the minor or stop-controlled approach with drivers on the major street. Both gap acceptance and empirical models have been developed to describe this interaction.

Thus, the capacity of the controlled legs is based on three factors:

- the distribution of gaps in the major street traffic stream;
- driver judgment in selecting gaps through which to execute the desired maneuvers; and
- the follow-up time required by each driver in a queue.

The delay experienced by a motorist is made up of a number of factors that relate to control, geometrics, traffic and incidents. Total delay is the difference between the travel time actually experienced and the reference travel time that would result during base conditions, in the absence of incident, control, traffic or geometric delay. Average control delay for any particular minor movement is a function of the capacity of the approach and the degree of saturation and referred to as level of service.

If the volume-to-capacity (v/c) ratio at the intersection is larger than 1.0, the intersection operates at LOS F, regardless of the actual control delay.

LEVEL OF SERVICE (LOS) CRITERIA FOR TWSC INTERSECTIONS
(Reference 2010 Highway Capacity Manual)

Level of Service	Control Delay (seconds / vehicle)
A	0 - 10
B	>10 - 15
C	>15 - 25
D	>25 - 35
E	>35 - 50
F	>50; $v/c > 1.0$