



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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# NEWS

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 28, 1976

DOT 46-76  
Phone: (202) 426-4321

At an all-day Minority Business Conference held today at Department of Transportation Headquarters in Washington, Secretary William T. Coleman, Jr., discussed DOT's progress and the outlook for increasing both minority employment and minority contracting.

Secretary Coleman reported that DOT's minority employment level is now 13.49 percent, an increase of approximately 3 percent over the 10.5 percent level that existed when he took office in March 1975.

The Secretary told the group the Government's present method of compiling minority employment statistics does not reflect a complete picture. If minorities employed outside the Continental United States in such locations as Hawaii, Guam and Puerto Rico and all part time employees are counted, he said, the DOT minority employment level is 14.83 percent.

DOT funds directed to minority contractors increased over 2½ times last year, rising from \$54 million to \$138 million, the Secretary said.

"I do not suggest today that we have accomplished all that could or should be done to assure that minority enterprises reap a fair share of our transportation dollars," Secretary Coleman said. "In fact, I readily state we must do much more but I am encouraged by the dramatic upward directions and what I know is now the commitment of all of DOT's administrations. I would hope that as one product of this meeting you will tell us what more we can do to improve minority hiring and contracting."

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FOR RELEASE THURSDAY  
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A report to help predict the impact of transportation on air quality has been released by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Entitled, "Assessing Transportation-Related Air Quality Impacts," the report is a compilation of scientific papers presented at the Conference on the State of the Art of Assessing Transportation-Related Air Quality Impacts held October 23-25, 1975, at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C.

The conference was sponsored by the DOT's Office of Environmental Affairs and Federal Highway Administration and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Experts in the areas of chemistry, meteorology, and transportation were brought together and discussed the use of scientific modeling to determine the impact of transportation and transportation-related activities on air quality.

Discussion subjects included oxidant modeling; photochemical diffusion models for air quality simulations; ambient air monitoring for highway environmental analysis; and estimating the air quality impact of vehicular emissions.

Copies of the conference report may be obtained at a per copy cost of \$8.40 by ordering:

Special Report 167  
Transportation Research Board  
National Academy of Sciences  
2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20418

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