## Traffic Volume Trends Approval

The Traffic Volume Trends report for May 1999 is approved for public distribution with 31 States reporting.


Chief, Travel Monitoring Division
$8 / 10 / 98$
Date

(an
U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

## TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS may 1999



Note: All data for this month are preliminary. Revised values for the previous month are shown in Tables 1 and 2. All vehicle-miles of travel computed with 1997 Table VM-2 as a base

Compiled with data on hand as of August 16, 1999.

Based on preliminary reports from the State Highway Agencies, travel during May 1999 on all roads and streets in the nation increased by 1.0 percent as compared to May 1998 resulting in estimated travel for the month at 232.3 billion vehicle-miles. This total includes 93.3 billion vehicle-miles on rural roads and 138.9 billion vehicle-miles on urban roads and streets.

Travel for the current month as well the cumulative yearly total on all roads and streets is shown below. Similar totals for each year since 1970 are also included.

| Travel in Millions |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All Roads and | Streets |  |
| Year | May | Year to Date |
| 1970 | 97,972 | 435,765 |
| 1971 | 103,655 | 460,190 |
| 1972 | 110,945 | 497,847 |
| 1973 | 114,819 | 519,660 |
| 1974 | 11,167 | 498,938 |
| 1975 | 116,659 | 519,507 |
| 1976 | 123,278 | 555,564 |
| 1977 | 128,884 | 575,218 |
| 1978 | 134,427 | 599,057 |
| 1979 | 132,394 | 617,344 |
| 1980 | 131,269 | 605,946 |
| 1981 | 134,305 | 616,382 |
| 1982 | 140,283 | 615,579 |
| 1983 | 143,619 | 640,438 |
| 1984 | 151,046 | 669,693 |
| 1985 | 156,726 | 692,273 |
| 1986 | 160,459 | 718,443 |
| 1987 | 167,776 | 761,065 |
| 1988 | 178,042 | 803,309 |
| 1989 | 184,823 | 840,616 |
| 1990 | 189,247 | 864,210 |
| 1991 | 191,929 | 861,783 |
| 1992 | 196,725 | 894,428 |
| 1993 | 205,981 | 917,111 |
| 1994 | 206,594 | 933,949 |
| 1995 | 212,586 | 976,916 |
| 1996 | 218,676 | 988,128 |
| 1997 | 226,082 | $1,023,401$ |
| 1998 | 229,913 | $1,045,176$ |
| 1999 | 232,253 | $1,058,977$ |

Traffic Volume Trends is a monthly report based on hourly traffic count data. These data, collected at approximately 4,000 continuous traffic counting locations nationwide, are used to determine the percent change in traffic for the current month compared to the same month in the previous year. This percent change is applied to the travel for the same month of the previous year to obtain an estimate of travel for the current month.

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Table 1 - Estimated Individual Monthly Motor Vehicle Travel In The United States

|  | Month |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| System | JAN | FEB | MAR | APRIL | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
| 1998 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions * |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Interstate | 17.7 | 16.8 | 19.6 | 21.3 | 22.5 | 21.9 | 24.2 | 23.7 | 21.0 | 21.6 | 20.3 | 20.3 |
| Rural Other Arterial | 28.6 | 27.6 | 31.3 | 32.8 | 35.9 | 36.0 | 39.9 | 38.1 | 34.8 | 35.3 | 31.9 | 31.6 |
| Other Rural | 27.8 | 26.1 | 29.8 | 31.2 | 33.6 | 33.0 | 35.3 | 34.3 | 31.7 | 32.8 | 29.7 | 29.9 |
| Urban Interstate | 28.6 | 27.0 | 30.3 | 30.7 | 31.7 | 31.3 | 33.6 | 32.9 | 30.8 | 31.5 | 29.7 | 30.2 |
| Urban Other Arterial | 67.4 | 63.2 | 71.0 | 72.3 | 74.8 | 74.0 | 77.7 | 75.8 | 71.3 | 73.4 | 68.5 | 71.2 |
| Other Urban | 28.0 | 26.3 | 29.5 | 30.3 | 31.4 | 31.0 | 32.9 | 31.7 | 29.7 | 30.8 | 28.7 | 29.5 |
| All Systems | 198.2 | 187.0 | 211.5 | 218.6 | 229.9 | 227.2 | 243.6 | 236.5 | 219.3 | 225.5 | 208.8 | 212.7 |
| 1999 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions * |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Interstate | 17.9 | 17.5 | 20.3 | 21.8 | 22.8 |  |  |  | $\because$ |  |  |  |
| Rural Other Arterial | 28.6 | 28.6 | 32.5 | 33.7 | 36.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Rural | 27.2 | 26.7 | 30.9 | 31.8 | 34.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban Interstate | 28.1 | 27.3 | 31.1 | 31.1 | 32.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban Other Arterial | 66.7 | 63.9 | 72.2 | 73.4 | 75.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Urban | 27.6 | 26.8 | 30.2 | 30.8 | 31.7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All Systems | 196.1 | 190.8 | 217.2 | 222.6 | 232.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Percent Change In Individual Monthly Travel 1999 vs. 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Interstate | 1.1 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 2.5 | 1.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Other Arterial | -0.2 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 2.8 | 1.6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Rural | -2.1 | 2.2 | 3.9 | 2.0 | 1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban Interstate | -1.7 | 1.4 | 2.5 | 1.1 | 1.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban Other Arterial | -1.0 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 0.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Urban | -1.6 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 0.8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All Systems | -1.1 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 1.8 | 1.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 2 - Estimated Cumulative Monthly Motor Vehicle Travel In The United States

| System | Month |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | JAN | FEB | MAR | APRIL | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
| 1998 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions * |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Interstate | 17.7 | 34.6 | 54.2 | 75.5 | 97.9 | 119.8 | 144.0 | 167.7 | 188.7 | 210.2 | 230.6 | 250.8 |
| Rural Other Arterial | 28.6 | 56.2 | 87.5 | 120.3 | 156.2 | 192.2 | 232.2 | 270.3 | 305.1 | 340.4 | 372.3 | 403.9 |
| Other Rural | 27.8 | 53.9 | 83.6 | 114.8 | 148.4 | 181.4 | 216.7 | 251.0 | 282.8 | 315.6 | 345.3 | 375.2 |
| Urban Interstate | 28.6 | 55.6 | 85.9 | 116.7 | 148.4 | 179.7 | 213.2 | 246.2 | 277.0 | 308.5 | 338.1 | 368.4 |
| Urban Other Arterial | 67.4 | 130.6 | 201.6 | 273.9 | 348.7 | 422.7 | 500.4 | 576.2 | 647.5 | 721.0 | 789.5 | 860.6 |
| Other Urban | 28.0 | 54.3 | 83.8 | 114.1 | 145.5 | 176.5 | 209.4 | 241.1 | 270.8 | 301.6 | 330.3 | 359.8 |
| All Systems | 198.2 | 385.1 | 596.6 | 815.3 | 1045.2 | 1272.3 | 1515.9 | 1752.4 | 1971.8 | 2197.2 | 2406.0 | 2618.7 |
| 1999 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions * |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Interstate | 17.9 | 35.4 | 55.8 | 77.6 | 100.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Other Arterial | 28.6 | 57.1 | 89.6 | 123.3 | 159.8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Rural | 27.2 | 53.8 | 84.8 | 116.6 | 150.6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban Interstate | 28.1 | 55.5 | 86.6 | 117.6 | 149.8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban Other Arterial | 66.7 | 130.7 | 202.9 | 276.3 | 351.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Urban | 27.6 | 54.3 | 84.5 | 115.3 | 147.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All Systems | 196.1 | 386.9 | 604.1 | 826.7 | 1059.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Percent Change in Cumulative Monthly Travel 1999 vs. 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Interstate | 1.1 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 2.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural Other Arterial | -0.2 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Rural | -2.1 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban Interstate | -1.7 | -0.2 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban Other Arterial | -1.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Urban | -1.6 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All Systems | -1.1 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^0]Table ${ }^{3}$ - Changes On Rural Arterial Roads By Region and State

| Region and State | May |  |  |  | April |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of Stations | Vehicle-Miles <br> (Millions) |  | Percent Change | Number of Stations | Vehicle-Miles (Millions) |  | Percent Change |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1999 \\ \text { (Preliminary) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 1998 |  |  |  | 1998 |  |
| Northeast |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Connecticut | 24 | 401 | 392 | 2.5 | 22 | 369 | 362 | 2.0 |
| Maine | - | 499 | 491 | 1.6 | - | 454 | 434 | 4.7 |
| Massachusetts | - | 515 | 508 | 1.5 | - | 466 | 451 | 3.4 |
| New Hampshire | 26 | 387 | 383 | 0.9 | 51 | 355 | 340 | 4.7 |
| New Jersey | 6 | 856 | 824 | 3.9 | 6 | 758 | 679 | 11.7 |
| New York | 52 | 1,592 | 1,573 | 1.2 | 52 | 1,419 | 1,376 | 3.1 |
| Pennsylvania | - | 2,566 | 2,544 | 0.9 | - | 2,409 | 2,343 | 2.8 |
| Rhode Island | 12 | 67 | 65 | 2.1 | 12 | 61 | 59 | 2.8 |
| Vermont | 36 | $\underline{247}$ | $\underline{240}$ | 2.9 | 37 | $\underline{225}$ | 215 | 4.9 |
|  |  | 7,129 | 7,020 | 1.6 |  | 6,517 | 6,258 | 4.1 |
| South Atlantic |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Delaware | 32 | 184 | 179 | 2.4 | 32 | 159 | 153 | 3.9 |
| Dist Of Columbia | - | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | - | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Florida | - | 2,403 | 2,368 | 1.5 | 189 | 2,533 | 2,421 | 4.6 |
| Georgia | 25 | 2,198 | 2,185 | 0.6 | 27 | 2,225 | 2,168 | 2.6 |
| Maryland | - | 807 | 851 | -5.2 | - | 752 | 781 | -3.7 |
| North Carolina | 32 | 2,129 | 2,045 | 4.1 | - | 2,028 | 1,961 | 3.4 |
| South Carolina | - | 1,670 | 1,634 | 2.2 | 21 | 1,668 | 1,593 | 4.7 |
| Virginia | - | 1,922 | 1,909 | 0.7 | - | 1,788 | 1,814 | -1.4 |
| West Virginia | 15 | $\underline{709}$ | 757 | -6.4 | 23 | 684 | 720 | -4.9 |
|  |  | 12,021 | 11,928 | 0.8 |  | 11,838 | 11,611 | 2.0 |
| North Central |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Illinois | 38 | 1,851 | 1,832 | 1.0 | 32 | 1,679 | 1,660 | 1.1 |
| Indiana | - | 1,695 | 1,676 | 1.1 | - | 1,477 | 1,455 | 1.5 |
| lowa | 131 | 1,144 | 1,121 | 2.1 | 131 | 1,040 | 1,006 | 3.3 |
| Kansas | 147 | 915 | 900 | 1.6 | 145 | 813 | 790 | 2.9 |
| Michigan | - | 1,983 | 1,947 | 1.8 | - | 1,742 | 1,703 | 2.3 |
| Minnesota | - | 1,462 | 1,445 | 1.2 | - | 1,318 | 1,287 | 2.4 |
| Missouri | 10 | 1,690 | 1,654 | 2.2 | 9 | 1,585 | 1,514 | 4.7 |
| Nebraska | 31 | 722 | 722 | -0.1 | 28 | 647 | 644 | 0.5 |
| North Dakota | 44 | 288 | 294 | -2.2 | - | 292 | 290 | 0.8 |
| Ohio | 57 | 2,039 | 1,999 | 2.0 | 53 | 1,887 | 1,846 | 2.2 |
| South Dakota | 57 | 403 | 401 | 0.5 | 55 | 366 | 359 | 1.9 |
| Wisconsin | 123 | 1,896 | 1,869 | 1.4 | 125 | 1,685 | 1.649 | 2.1 |
|  |  | 16,086 | 15,859 | 1.4 |  | 14,530 | 14,203 | 2.3 |
| South Gulf |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alabama | - | 1,465 | 1,441 | 1.6 | - | 1,426 | 1,369 | 4.2 |
| Arkansas | - | 1,064 | 1,037 | 2.6 | - | 1,043 | 989 | 5.5 |
| Kentucky | 40 | 1,246 | 1,245 | 0.0 | 39 | 1,186 | 1,171 | 1.2 |
| Louisiana | - | 1,051 | 1,021 | 2.9 | - | 981 | 945 | 3.8 |
| Mississippi | 62 | 1,159 | 1,123 | 3.2 | 56 | 1,126 | 1,057 | 6.5 |
| Oklahoma | - | 1,681 | 1,650 | 1.9 | - | 1,757 | 1,705 | 3.1 |
| Tennessee | - | 1,774 | 1,742 | 1.9 | - | 1,744 | 1,692 | 3.1 |
| Texas | - | 3,940 | 3,906 | 0.9 | 119 | 3,814 | 3.696 | 3.2 |
|  |  | 13,379 | 13,166 | 1.6 |  | 13,077 | 12,624 | 3.6 |
| West |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alaska | - | 125 | - 123 | 1.9 | - | 99 | 97 | 2.6 |
| Arizona | 56 | 951 | 908 | 4.6 | 50 | 894 | 861 | 3.9 |
| California | - | 3,677 | 3,560 | 3.3 | - | 3,278 | 3,207 | 2.2 |
| Colorado | - | 896 | 884 | 1.3 | - | 766 | 757 | 1.2 |
| Hawaii | 2 | 128 | 124 | 3.0 | 2 | 125 | 120 | 4.1 |
| Idaho | 154 | 448 | 438 | 2.3 | 152 | 409 | 398 | 2.9 |
| Montana | 37 | 458 | 458 | 0.0 | 41 | 391 | 392 | -0.3 |
| Nevada | 48 | 333 | 319 | 4.2 | 50 | 298 | 300 | -0.6 |
| New Mexico | - 38 | 775 | 761 | 1.8 | 44 | 710 | 707 | 0.5 |
| Oregon | 130 | 976 | 958 | 1.9 | 133 | 899 | 880 | 2.1 |
| Utah | 88 | 548 | 532 | 3.0 | 83 | 493 | 478 | 3.1 |
| Washington | - | 1,020 | 1,000 | 2.0 | - | 907 | 887 | 2.3 |
| Wyoming | 110 | $\underline{378}$ | 377 | 0.3 | 113 | 295 | 305 | -3.2 |
|  |  | 10,711 | 10,442 | 2.6 |  | 9,565 | 9,386 | 1.9 |
| TOTALS |  | 59,328 | 58,415 | 1.6 |  | 55,525 | 54,083 | 2.7 |

Note: Where Number of Stations are shown as dashes, the values for Vehicle-Miles and Percent Change are derived from the estimated VMT based on data from surrounding States or the Nationwide average VMT.


FIGURE 1 - MOVING 12-MONTH TOTAL ON ALL HIGHWAYS


FIGURE 2 - TRAVEL ON U.S. HIGHWAYS BY MONTH


Traffic Volume Trends Rural*
Estimated Vehicle Miles (Millions) and Percent Change from Same Period Previous Year (Includes Preliminary Data for May 1999)



Traffic Volume Trends Urban*
Estimated Vehicle Miles (Millions) and Percent Change from Same Period Previous Year
(Includes Preliminary Data for May 1999)

| Year - 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Urban Interstate |  | $\begin{array}{r} \% \\ 3.3 \end{array}$ | Urban Other Arterial |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} \% \\ 3.2 \end{array}$ | Other Urban |  |  | $\%$ |  | Total Urban |  | \% |  | All Systems |  | \% |
| Jan | 28,647 |  | Jan | 67,409 |  |  | Jan | 28,013 |  | 4.5 | Jan | 124,069 |  | 3.5 | Jan | 198,157 |  | 4.2 |
| Feb | 26,959 | 1.5 | Feb | 63,222 |  | 0.8 | Feb | 26,256 |  | 1.7 | Feb | 116,437 |  | 1.1 | Feb | 186,955 |  | 1.6 |
| Mar | 30,337 | 0.3 | Mar | 70.974 |  | -0.1 | Mar | 29,522 |  | 0.0 | Mar | 130.833 |  | -0.0 | Mar | 211.519 |  | -0.2 |
| Q1 | 85,943 | 1.6 |  | 21 201,605 |  | 1.2 | Q1. | 83,791 |  | 2.0 | Q1 | 371,339 |  | 1.5 | Q1 | 596,631 |  | 1.8 |
| Apr | 30,732 | 2.7 | Apr | 72,309 |  | 2.0 | Apr | 30,323 |  | 3.2 | Apr | 133,364 |  | 2.5 | Apr | 218,629 |  | 3.5 |
| May | 31,682 | 0.8 | May | 74,769 |  | 0.6 | May | 31,428 |  | 1.3 | May | 137,879 |  | 0.8 | May | 229,914 |  | 1.7 |
| Jun | 31.311 | 1.1 | Jun | 74,032 |  | 2.2 |  | 30.955 |  | 1.8 | Jun | 136,298 |  | 1.8 | Jun | 227.173 |  | 2.2 |
|  | 93,725 | 1.5 |  | Q2 221,110 |  | 1.6 | Q2 | 92,706 |  | 2.1 | Q2 | 407,541 |  | 1.7 | Q2 | 675,716 |  | 2.4 |
|  | 1st Half 179,668 | 1.6 |  | 1st Half | 422,715 | 1.4 |  | 1st Half | 176,497 | 2.1 |  | 1st Half | 778,880 | 1.6 |  | 1st Half | 1,272,347 | 2.1 |
| Jul | 33,580 | 2.9 | Jul | 77,684 |  | 2.7 | Jul | 32,861 |  | 2.5 | Jul | 144,125 |  | 2.7 | Jul | 243,551 |  | 2.9 |
| Aug | 32,907 | 1.7 | Aug | 75,830 |  | 1.6 | Aug | 31,694 |  | 0.9 | Aug | 140,431 |  | 1.5 | Aug | 236,519 |  | 1.3 |
| Sep | 30.806 | 3.0 | Sep | 71.285 |  | 1.7 | Sep | 29,710 |  | 1.7 | Sep | 131.801 |  | 2.0 | Sep | 219,337 |  | 2.7 |
| Q3 | 97,293 | 2.5 |  | Q3 224,799 |  | 2.0 | Q3 | 94,265 |  | 1.7 |  | 416,357 |  | 2.1 | Q3 | 699,407 |  | 2.3 |
|  | 3 Qs 276,961 | 1.9 |  | 3 Qs | 647,514 | 1.6 |  | 3 Qs | 270,762 | 1.9 |  | 3 Qs | 1,195,237 | 1.8 |  | 3 Qs | 1,971,754 | 2.2 |
| Oct | 31,512 | 1.2 | Oct | 73,448 |  | 1.0 | Oct | 30,825 |  | 1.6 | Oct | 135,785 |  | 1.2 | Oct | 225,460 |  | 1.9 |
| Nov | 29,655 | 3.0 | Nov | 68,508 |  | 2.3 | Nov | 28,707 |  | 3.2 | Nov | 126,870 |  | 2.7 | Nov | 208,763 |  | 3.1 |
| Dec | 30,238 | 2.0 | Dec | 71,157 |  | 1.9 | Dec | 29,492 |  | 2.7 | Dec | 130,887 |  | 2.1 | Dec | 212.724 |  | 2.6 |
| Q4 | 91,405 | 2.0 |  | Q 213,113 |  | 1.7 |  | 89,024 |  | 2.5 | Q4 | 393,542 |  | 2.0 | Q4 | 646,947 |  | 2.5 |
|  | 2nd Half 188,698 | 2.3 |  | 2nd Half | 437,912 | 1.9 |  | 2nd Hall | 183,289 | 2.1 |  | 2nd Half | 809,899 | 2.0 |  | 2nd Half | 1,346,354 | 2.4 |
|  | Year 368,366 | 1.9 |  | Year | 860,627 | 1.7 |  | Year | 359,786 | 2.1 |  | Year | 1,588,779 | 1.8 |  | Year | 2,618,701 | 2.3 |




[^0]:    * System entries may not add to give "All Systems" total due to rounding.

