

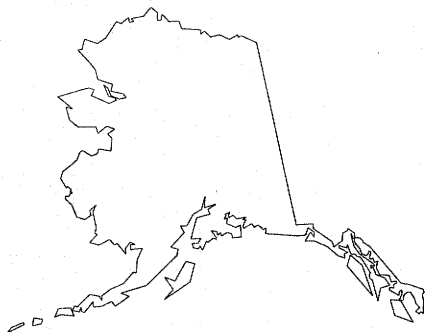


U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

September 1997

Travel on all roads and streets is up by 1.0 percent for September 1997 as compared to September 1996.



Estimated Vehicle-Miles of Travel by Region - September 1997 - (in Billions)

West	North Central	South Gulf	Northeast	South Atlantic
43.7	51.3	39.9	34.0	40.8
Change in Traffic as compared to the same month last year.				
-2.6%	+1.2%	+2.4%	+1.8%	+2.7%

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 1996 Table VM-2 as a base

Compiled with data on hand as of November 20, 1997.

Traffic Volume Trends - September 1997

Based on preliminary reports from the State Highway Agencies, travel during September 1997 on all roads and streets in the nation increased by 1.0 percent as compared to September 1996 resulting in estimated travel for the month at 209.7 billion vehicle-miles. This total includes 82.7 billion vehicle-miles on rural roads and 127.0 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	September	Year to Date
1970	95,254	844,416
1971	101,290	892,021
1972	108,072	957,692
1973	110,332	991,961
1974	109,125	966,911
1975	111,399	999,889
1976	119,431	1,061,926
1977	124,203	1,101,277
1978	131,385	1,166,996
1979	127,576	1,150,907
1980	127,482	1,140,023
1981	131,185	1,167,829
1982	136,311	1,199,501
1983	139,938	1,241,588
1984	146,074	1,295,792
1985	150,424	1,337,720
1986	155,462	1,381,366
1987	164,184	1,446,236
1988	171,072	1,522,352
1989	177,326	1,587,193
1990	178,415	1,624,682
1991	183,594	1,641,294
1992	190,908	1,693,936
1993	193,765	1,729,762
1994	200,511	1,771,563
1995	203,866	1,828,558
1996	205,516	1,857,613
1997	209,679	1,902,423

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.

For additional information, for extra copies, or to be put on the monthly mailing list, write:

Kenneth H. Welty
Federal Highway Administration
Office of Highway Information Management
400 7th Street, S.W., Room 3300, HPM-30
Washington, DC 20590

Phone (202) 366-5055
FAX (202) 366-7742

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

System	Month											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1996 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.1	15.6	18.7	18.9	20.3	20.9	22.5	22.9	19.4	19.9	18.5	18.7
Rural Other Arterial	26.0	25.6	30.2	30.8	33.8	34.0	36.3	36.9	32.5	33.3	29.9	29.6
Other Rural	25.1	23.8	28.2	28.8	31.3	31.2	32.5	32.8	29.6	30.7	27.5	27.4
Urban Interstate	26.5	25.6	29.8	29.1	30.6	30.0	31.1	32.0	29.2	30.3	28.4	29.3
Urban Other Arterial	64.0	61.3	69.3	69.7	73.0	70.8	72.9	74.4	69.3	72.4	67.5	68.9
Other Urban	25.7	24.5	28.0	28.1	29.7	28.8	29.7	30.1	27.7	29.0	27.8	27.5
All Systems	183.5	176.6	204.2	205.3	218.7	215.6	225.1	229.1	207.6	215.7	199.6	201.5
1997 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.7	16.5	19.6	18.8	20.8	21.2	23.2	23.5	19.6			
Rural Other Arterial	26.9	26.8	31.4	31.2	34.6	34.7	37.6	37.7	33.2			
Other Rural	25.7	24.6	29.3	29.2	31.8	31.7	33.1	33.1	29.9			
Urban Interstate	27.3	26.4	30.5	29.6	31.1	30.7	31.9	32.2	29.7			
Urban Other Arterial	65.7	63.0	71.1	71.0	73.5	72.2	74.0	74.0	69.1			
Other Urban	26.2	25.1	28.8	28.4	29.9	29.2	30.5	30.6	28.2			
All Systems	188.5	182.4	210.8	208.2	221.6	219.8	230.3	231.1	209.7			
Percent Change In Individual Monthly Travel 1997 vs. 1996												
Rural Interstate	3.7	5.5	4.7	-0.1	2.1	1.7	2.9	2.6	1.2			
Rural Other Arterial	3.3	4.6	4.1	1.4	2.4	2.2	3.7	2.2	2.3			
Other Rural	2.5	3.4	4.0	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.0	1.1			
Urban Interstate	2.9	2.8	2.4	1.8	1.6	2.5	2.6	0.6	1.7			
Urban Other Arterial	2.6	2.7	2.6	1.8	0.6	2.0	1.5	-0.6	-0.3			
Other Urban	2.0	2.4	2.9	1.0	0.7	1.4	2.5	1.9	1.8			
All Systems	2.7	3.3	3.2	1.5	1.4	2.0	2.3	0.9	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
1996 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.1	31.7	50.5	69.3	89.6	110.5	133.0	156.0	175.4	195.3	213.8	232.4
Rural Other Arterial	26.0	51.6	81.8	112.6	146.4	180.4	216.7	253.5	286.0	319.3	349.2	378.8
Other Rural	25.1	48.9	77.1	105.8	137.1	168.3	200.8	233.6	263.2	293.9	321.4	348.8
Urban Interstate	26.5	52.2	82.0	111.1	141.7	171.7	202.8	234.8	263.9	294.3	322.6	351.9
Urban Other Arterial	64.0	125.3	194.6	264.3	337.3	408.0	481.0	555.4	624.7	697.2	764.7	833.6
Other Urban	25.7	50.3	78.3	106.4	136.0	164.8	194.5	224.6	252.2	281.2	309.0	336.6
All Systems	183.5	360.0	564.2	769.5	988.1	1203.7	1428.8	1657.8	1865.4	2081.1	2280.7	2482.2
1997 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.7	33.2	52.8	71.6	92.4	113.6	136.8	160.3	179.9			
Rural Other Arterial	26.9	53.6	85.1	116.3	150.9	185.6	223.2	260.9	294.2			
Other Rural	25.7	50.3	79.7	108.9	140.7	172.5	205.6	238.7	268.6			
Urban Interstate	27.3	53.7	84.2	113.8	144.9	175.6	207.6	239.7	269.4			
Urban Other Arterial	65.7	128.7	199.8	270.7	344.2	416.4	490.4	564.3	633.4			
Other Urban	26.2	51.4	80.2	108.6	138.5	167.6	198.1	228.7	256.9			
All Systems	188.5	370.9	581.7	789.9	1011.6	1231.3	1461.6	1692.7	1902.4			
Percent Change In Cumulative Monthly Travel 1997 vs. 1996												
Rural Interstate	3.7	4.6	4.6	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.6			
Rural Other Arterial	3.3	3.9	4.0	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9			
Other Rural	2.5	3.0	3.3	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.0			
Urban Interstate	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.1			
Urban Other Arterial	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.4			
Other Urban	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9			
All Systems	2.7	3.0	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.0			

* System entries may not add to give "All Systems" total due to rounding.

Table 3 - Changes On Rural Arterial Roads By Region and State

Region and State	September				August			
	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change
		1997 (Preliminary)	1996			1997 (Revised)	1996	
Northeast								
Connecticut	13	373	360	3.5	14	423	415	2.0
Maine	35	492	487	1.0	34	639	623	2.5
Massachusetts	19	513	475	8.0	19	653	618	5.8
New Hampshire	-	373	359	3.9	57	453	448	1.3
New Jersey	10	742	724	2.5	8	906	898	0.9
New York	42	1,473	1,462	0.7	41	1,836	1,837	-0.1
Pennsylvania	-	2,367	2,325	1.8	-	2,740	2,733	0.3
Rhode Island	-	56	55	2.9	7	68	64	6.0
Vermont	32	238	233	2.2	32	290	287	1.2
		6,627	6,481	2.3		8,008	7,921	1.1
South Atlantic								
Delaware	36	166	158	4.6	36	217	209	3.9
Dist Of Columbia	-	0	0	0.0	-	0	0	0.0
Florida	190	2,065	1,983	4.1	177	2,306	2,218	4.0
Georgia	44	1,875	1,828	2.6	37	2,080	2,046	1.7
Maryland	-	779	757	2.9	-	873	862	1.3
North Carolina	-	1,927	1,884	2.3	-	2,099	2,047	2.5
South Carolina	-	1,410	1,375	2.6	-	1,605	1,578	1.7
Virginia	-	1,839	1,805	1.9	-	2,156	2,112	2.1
West Virginia	19	720	700	2.9	24	821	814	1.0
		10,780	10,490	2.8		12,157	11,884	2.3
North Central								
Illinois	33	1,634	1,621	0.9	37	1,820	1,842	-1.2
Indiana	-	1,526	1,505	1.4	44	1,987	1,911	4.0
Iowa	129	1,025	1,003	2.2	128	1,160	1,137	2.0
Kansas	23	805	785	2.5	24	915	890	2.8
Michigan	-	1,843	1,807	2.0	-	2,221	2,186	1.6
Minnesota	-	1,252	1,234	1.5	92	1,474	1,399	5.4
Missouri	51	1,471	1,466	0.4	56	1,713	1,681	1.9
Nebraska	29	648	619	4.8	30	727	688	5.8
North Dakota	5	282	289	-2.4	4	326	327	-0.5
Ohio	45	1,866	1,830	2.0	43	2,083	2,073	0.5
South Dakota	54	386	385	0.2	51	483	467	3.4
Wisconsin	131	1,711	1,682	1.8	131	2,008	1,999	0.4
		14,450	14,225	1.6		16,917	16,599	1.9
South Gulf								
Alabama	-	1,244	1,210	2.8	57	1,411	1,393	1.3
Arkansas	4	989	953	3.7	4	1,014	1,043	-2.8
Kentucky	-	1,119	1,099	1.8	37	1,246	1,240	0.5
Louisiana	-	942	909	3.7	-	1,098	1,063	3.3
Mississippi	70	1,031	999	3.3	70	1,126	1,103	2.0
Oklahoma	-	951	920	3.3	-	1,059	1,023	3.5
Tennessee	11	1,568	1,552	1.0	6	1,811	1,748	3.6
Texas	-	3,361	3,238	3.8	118	3,743	3,547	5.5
		11,205	10,880	3.0		12,509	12,161	2.9
West								
Alaska	49	109	106	2.7	48	141	138	1.7
Arizona	-	826	853	-3.2	4	1,081	1,002	7.9
California	19	3,090	3,135	-1.4	18	3,515	3,399	3.4
Colorado	20	965	950	1.6	22	1,135	1,139	-0.3
Hawaii	-	117	117	0.5	-	132	129	2.4
Idaho	144	433	422	2.7	146	512	500	2.3
Montana	41	468	474	-1.4	42	610	595	2.5
Nevada	40	317	315	0.4	40	384	368	4.4
New Mexico	-	702	685	2.5	-	802	766	4.7
Oregon	133	957	938	2.1	138	1,113	1,077	3.3
Utah	68	493	486	1.3	70	606	577	5.1
Washington	39	945	939	0.6	44	1,126	1,090	3.3
Wyoming	121	370	368	0.4	125	463	456	1.5
		9,791	9,788	0.0		11,619	11,235	3.4
TOTALS		52,855	51,865	1.9		61,212	59,801	2.4

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

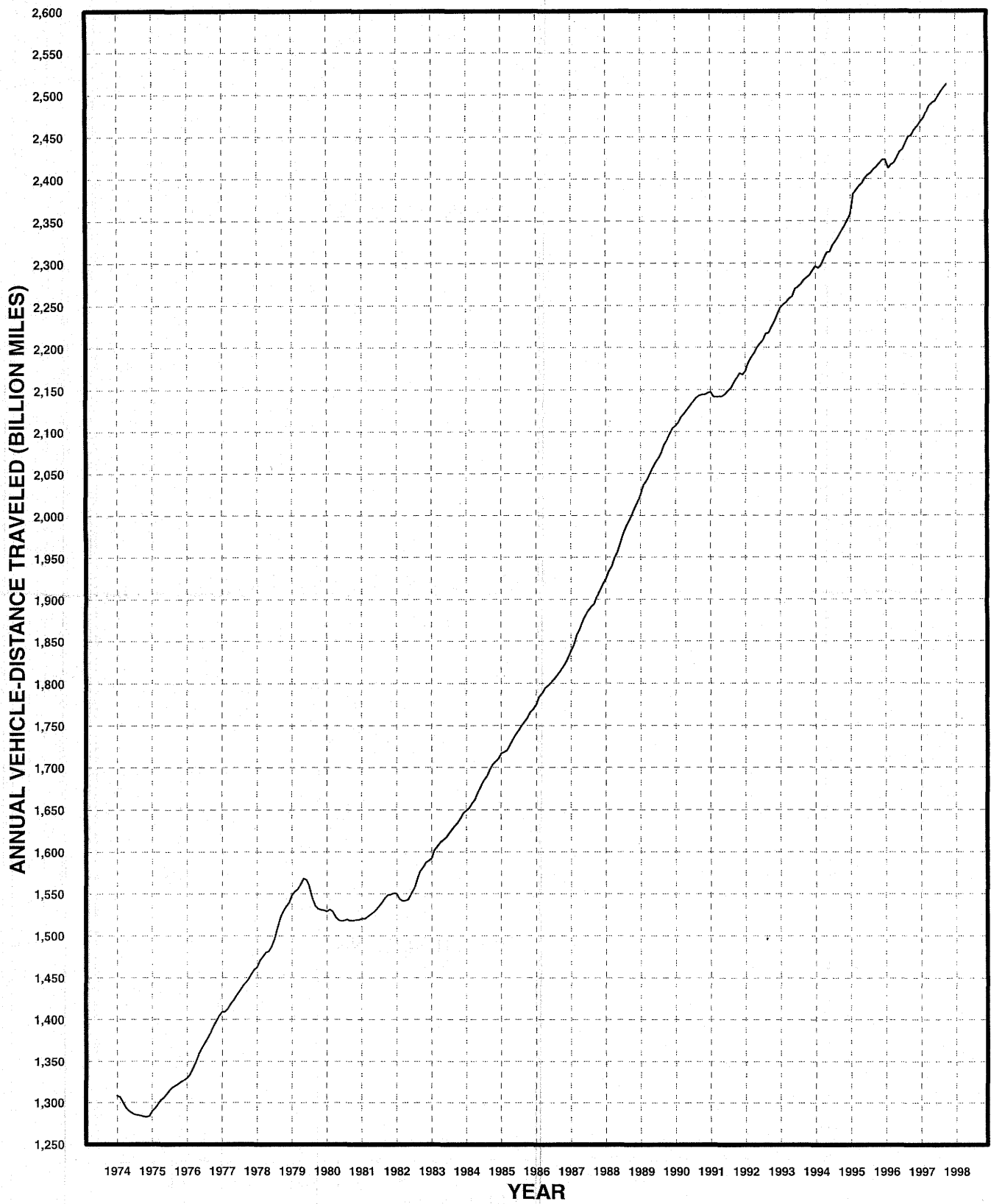
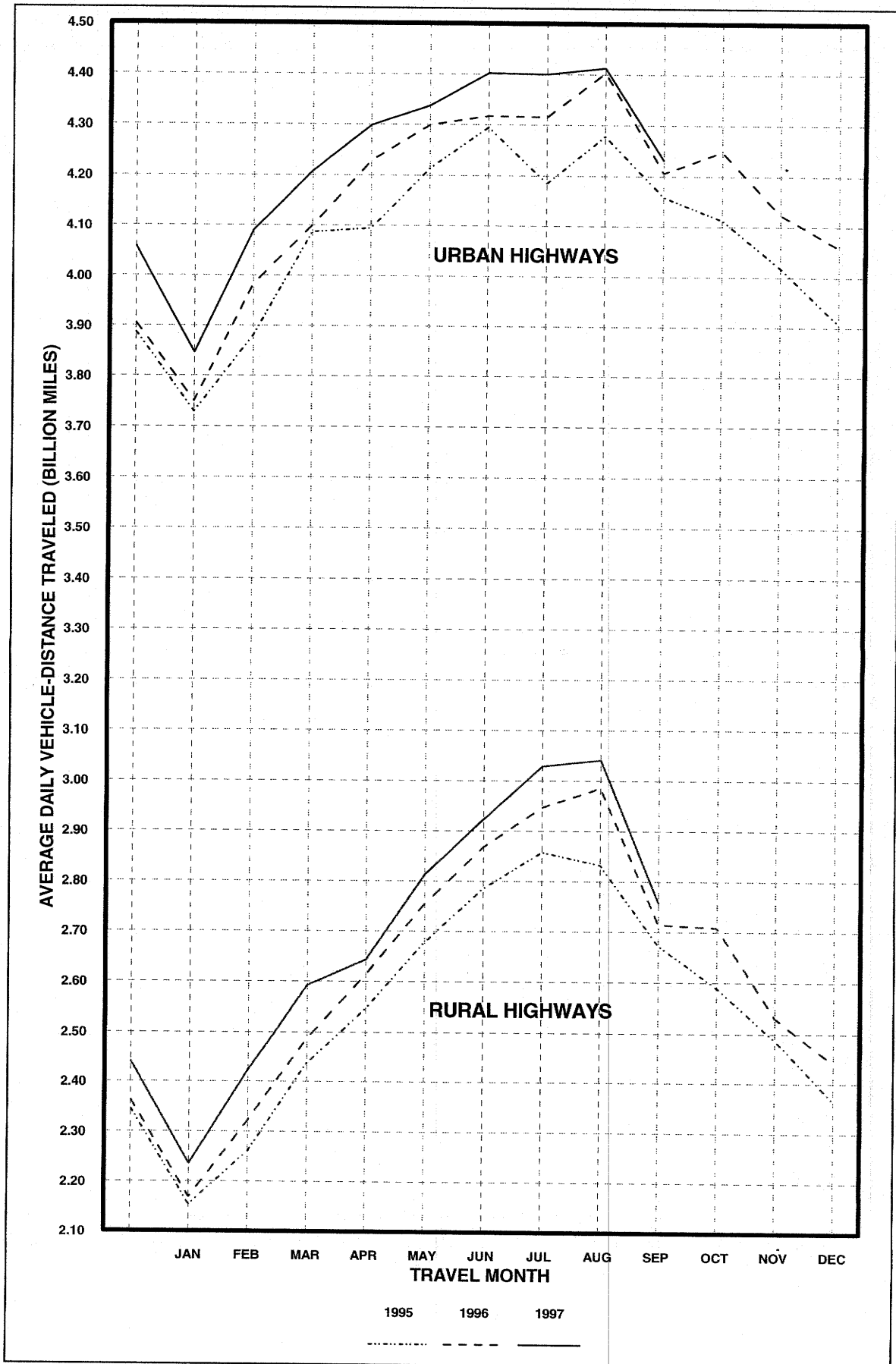


FIGURE 2 - TRAVEL ON U.S. HIGHWAYS BY MONTH



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