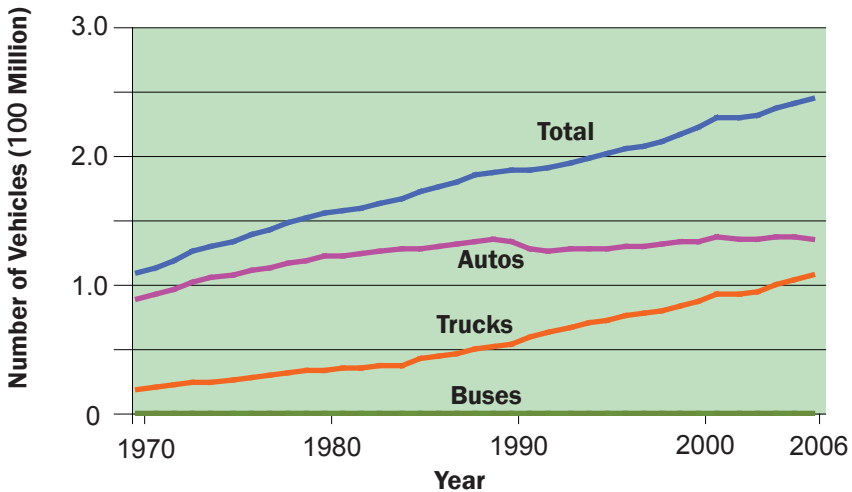


# 3 VEHICLES

While vehicle ownership is one of many indicators related to income and wealth, it also has strong implications for energy use and for the environment. The following figures show the status of vehicle ownership in 2006 as well as historical trends.

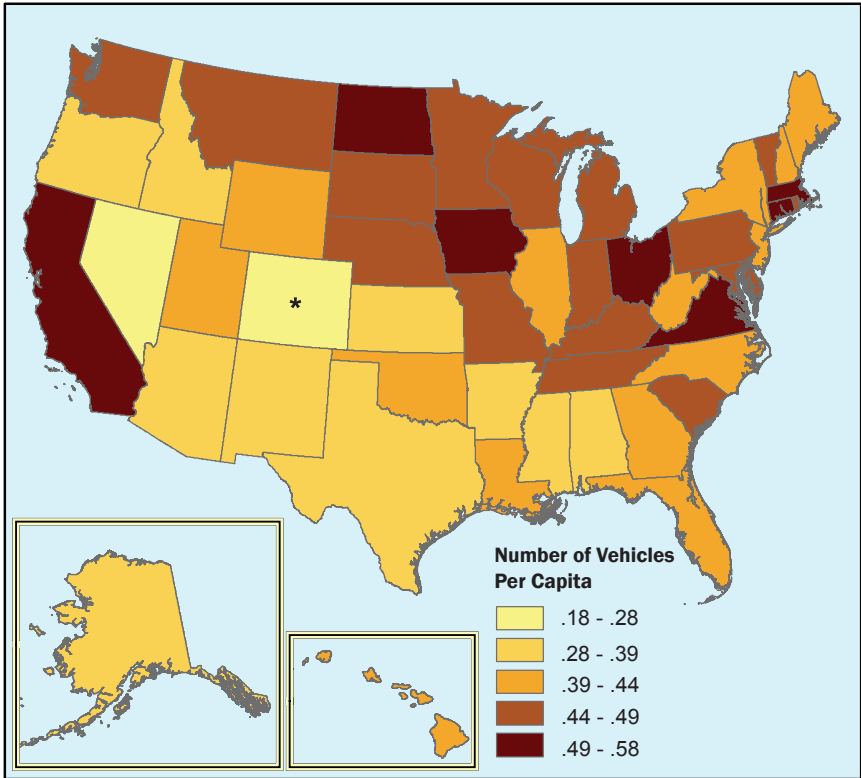
**Figure 3-1. Numbers of Registered Vehicles—Automobiles, Trucks, and Buses, 1970–2006**



THE NUMBER OF registered vehicles in the country has been growing since recordkeeping started, and the number of registered vehicles as compared to the number of licensed drivers has also been growing. Before 1975, the country had roughly 1.0 vehicle per licensed driver. Since then, the ownership of vehicles on a licensed driver basis has been increasing at an accelerating rate, reaching 1.2 at the end of 2006.

Data Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Highway Policy Information, Highway Statistics

**Figure 3-2. Rate of Vehicle Ownership by State, 2006**



THE RATE OF vehicle ownership per capita varies markedly from State to State. We see in these maps that a State's rate of vehicle ownership ranges from 0.27 vehicles per capita in Nevada to 0.58 vehicles per capita in Iowa.

**\*Note:** Colorado did not submit the 2006 vehicle registration data.