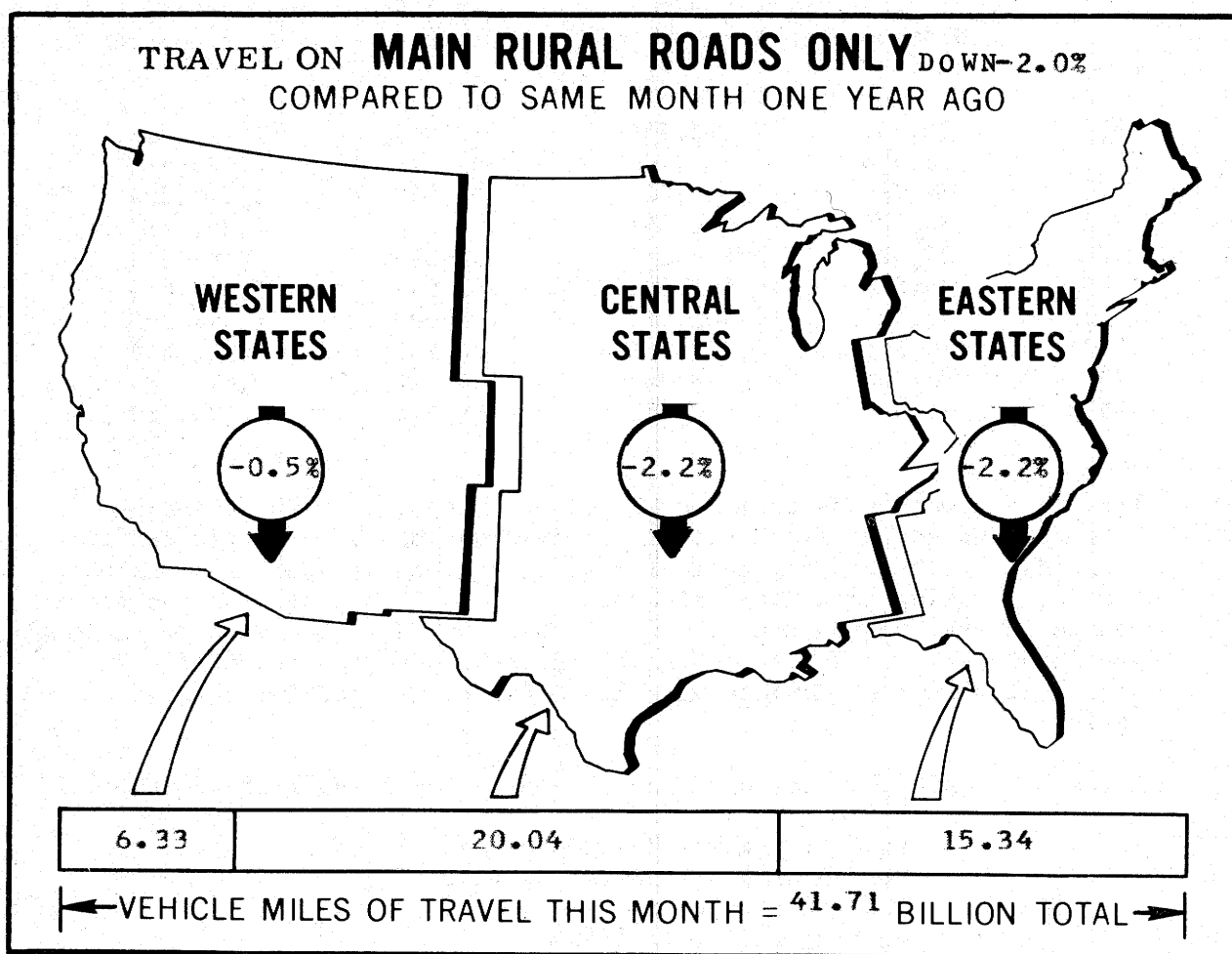


TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

DECEMBER 1979 \downarrow

TRAVEL ON **ALL ROADS AND STREETS** DOWN-1.6%
COMPARED TO SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO



^{1/} ALL DATA FOR THIS MONTH ARE PRELIMINARY, REVISED VALUES FOR PREVIOUS MONTH ARE SHOWN IN TABLES 1 and 2.

NOTE: ALL VEHICLE MILES OF TRAVEL HAVE BEEN COMPUTED WITH 1976 VM-2 DATA AS A BASE.

FOR OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION

TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS - DECEMBER 1979

Based on preliminary reports from the State highway agencies, travel during December 1979 on all roads and streets in the nation decreased by -1.6 percent as compared to December 1978, resulting in estimated travel for the month at 119,575 million vehicle miles. This total includes 41,933 million vehicle miles on main rural roads, 10,958 million vehicle miles on other rural roads, and 66,684 million vehicle miles on city streets.

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

TRAVEL IN MILLIONS

	Main Rural Roads		All Roads and Streets	
	December	Year to Date	December	Year to Date
1970	31,751	412,734	89,911	1,120,328
1971	33,555	434,734	95,515	1,185,615
1972	34,296	449,026	101,040	1,268,362
1973	32,905	462,451	98,856	1,308,288
1974	35,525	446,213	105,083	1,289,645
1975	36,888	465,635	107,945	1,330,075
1976	39,194	500,970	113,030	1,409,163
1977	40,686	523,436	116,257	1,463,409
1978	42,794	548,352	121,574	1,516,084
1979	41,933	536,645	119,575	1,493,280

Traffic Volume Trends is a monthly report prepared by the Planning Services Branch, Highway Statistics Division, 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 period in the previous year to obtain travel for the current period.

For extra copies, or to be put on the monthly mailing list, contact:

Federal Highway Administration
 Office of Public Affairs, Room 4208
 400 7th Street, SW.
 Washington, D.C. 20590
 Phone (202) 426-0177.

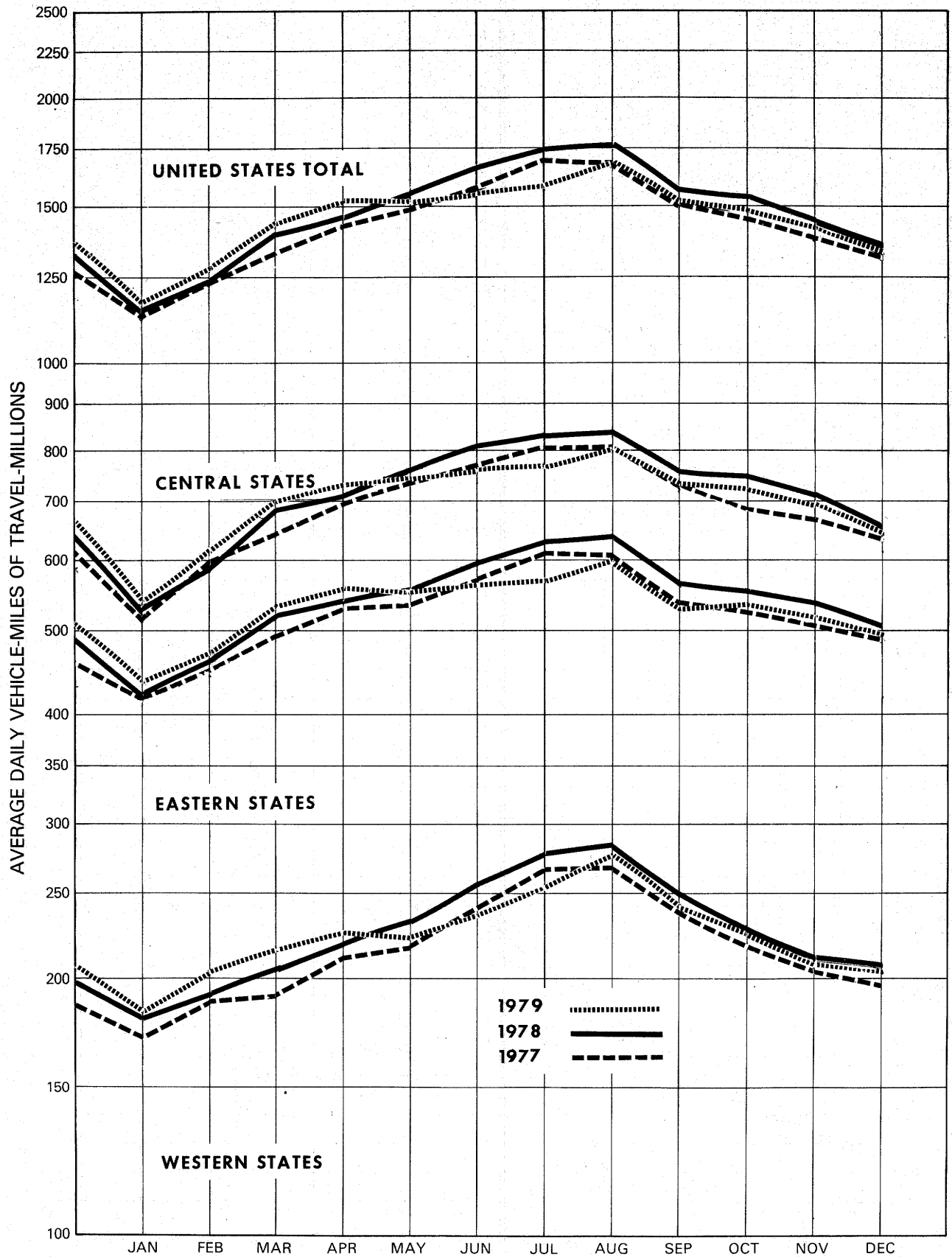


FIGURE 1 - TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS, BY MONTHS

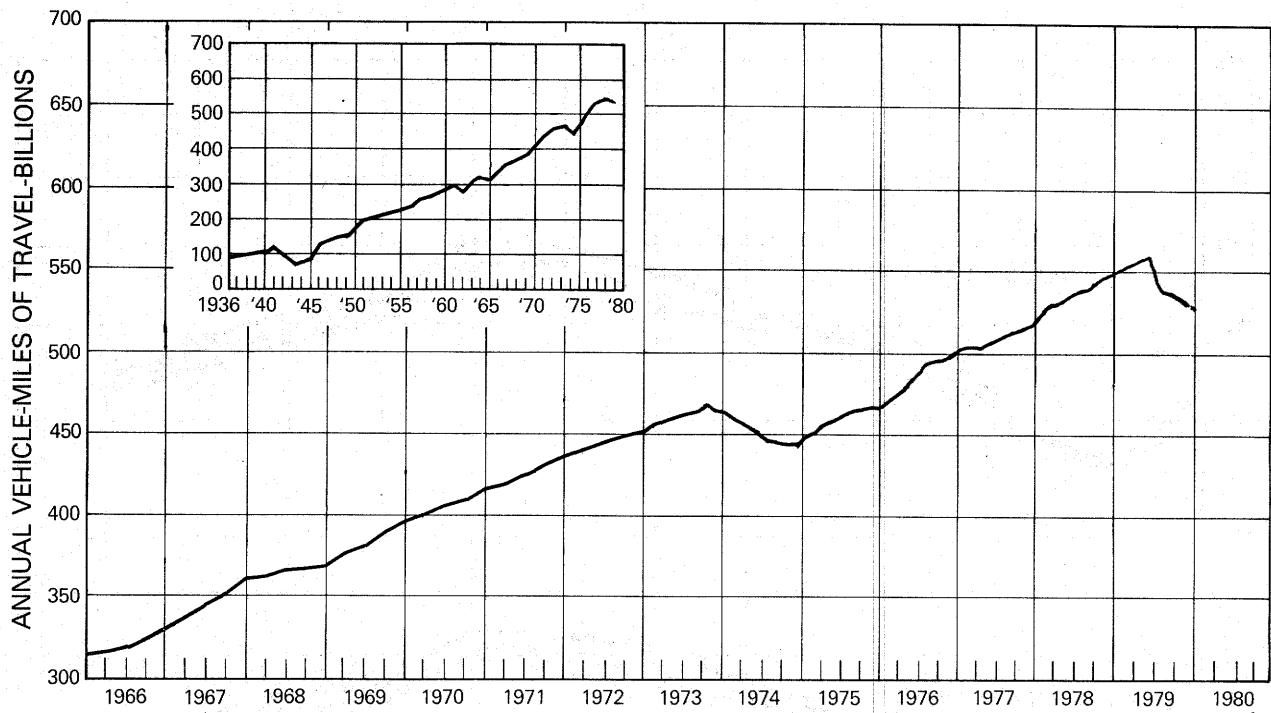


FIGURE 2 - ANNUAL TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS FOR 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING IN MONTH SHOWN

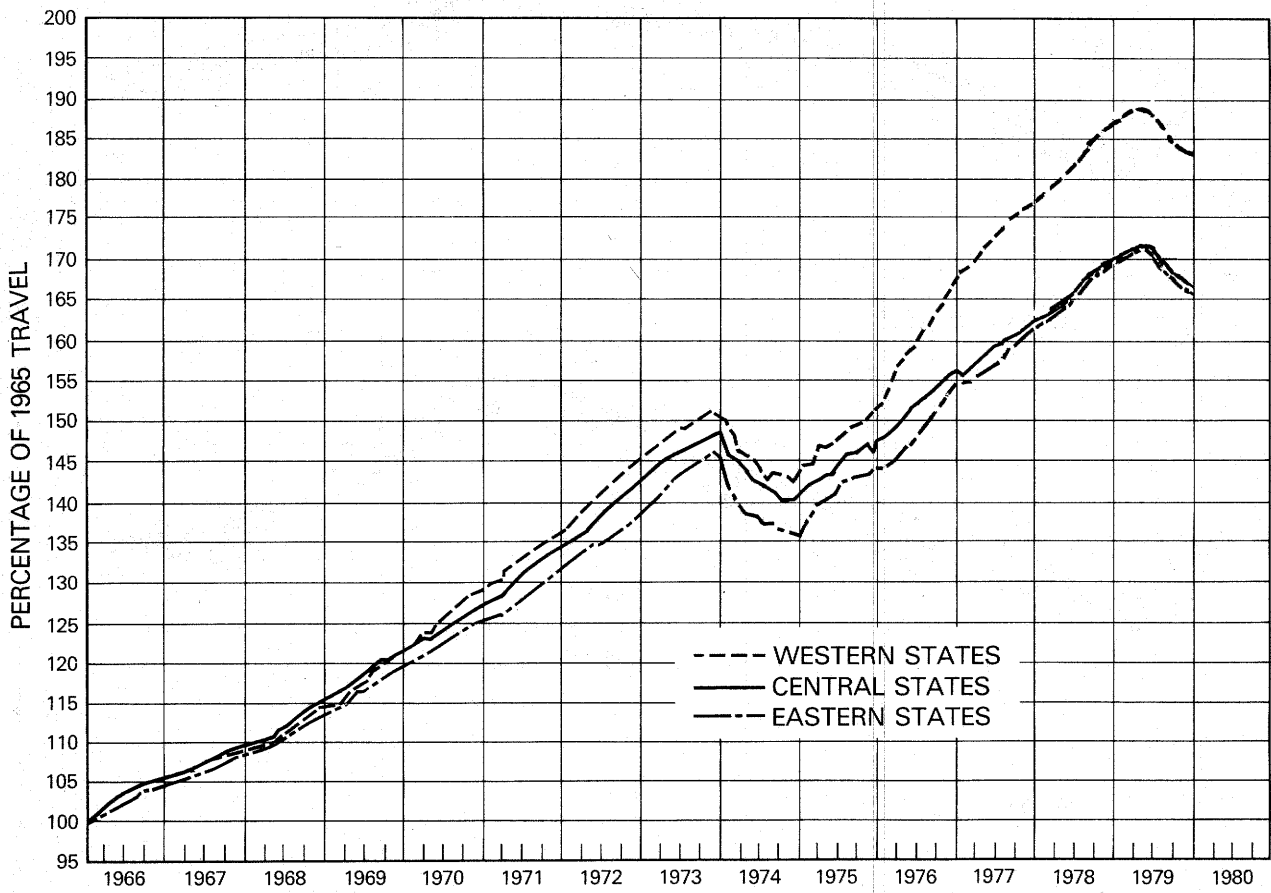


FIGURE 3 - ANNUAL TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS AS PERCENTAGE OF YEAR 1965

TABLE 1.-SUMMARY BY ROAD CLASS AND BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

CLASS OF ROAD, ALL STATES:	PRELIMINARY DATA FOR DECEMBER			REVISED DATA FOR NOVEMBER		
	VEHICLE-MILES (MILLIONS)		PERCENTAGE CHANGE	VEHICLE-MILES (MILLIONS)		PERCENTAGE CHANGE
	1979	1978		1979	1978	
MAIN RURAL ROADS.....	41,933	42,794	-2.0	42,702	43,989	-2.9
LOCAL RURAL ROADS.....	10,958	11,109	-1.4	11,652	11,967	-2.6
ALL RURAL ROADS.....	52,891	53,903	-1.9	54,354	55,956	-2.9
CITY STREETS.....	66,684	67,671	-1.5	65,469	66,873	-2.1
ALL ROADS AND STREETS.....	119,575	121,574	-1.6	119,822	122,829	-2.4
48 STATES (MAIN RURAL ONLY):						
EASTERN REGION.....	15,336	15,688	-2.2	15,490	16,041	-3.4
CENTRAL REGION.....	20,046	20,505	-2.2	20,677	21,377	-3.3
WESTERN REGION.....	6,328	6,359	-0.5	6,308	6,333	-0.4
TOTAL.....	41,710	42,552	-2.0	42,475	43,751	-2.9

TABLE 2.-CHANGES ON MAIN RURAL ROADS BY STATES

DIVISION AND STATE	DECEMBER (PRELIMINARY)		NOVEMBER (REVISED)		DIVISION AND STATE	DECEMBER (PRELIMINARY)		NOVEMBER (REVISED)	
	NUMBER OF STATIONS	PER-CENTAGE CHANGE	NUMBER OF STATIONS	PER-CENTAGE CHANGE		NUMBER OF STATIONS	PER-CENTAGE CHANGE	NUMBER OF STATIONS	PER-CENTAGE CHANGE
NEW ENGLAND:					EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:				
CONNECTICUT.....	6	-4.8	11	-4.4	ALABAMA.....	54	-2.5	53	-3.2
MAINE.....	-	-	22	-2.9	KENTUCKY.....	34	-5.8	36	-5.8
MASSACHUSETTS.....	7	-2.9	7	-6.0	MISSISSIPPI.....	36	-2.4	37	-2.8
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	-	-	63	-2.6	TENNESSEE.....	-	-	34	-4.3
RHODE ISLAND.....	-	-	-	-	WEST NORTH CENTRAL:				
VERMONT.....	39	-0.1	40	-1.7	IOWA.....	37	+0.2	36	-4.4
MIDDLE ATLANTIC:					KANSAS.....	69	+0.1	69	-1.0
NEW JERSEY.....	-	-	17	-1.4	MINNESOTA.....	34	-3.4	35	-4.8
NEW YORK.....	1	-4.6	29	-4.1	MISSOURI.....	72	-0.4	73	-5.3
PENNSYLVANIA.....	54	-1.1	48	-4.9	NEBRASKA.....	19	+3.5	19	-4.5
SOUTH ATLANTIC (NORTH):					NORTH DAKOTA.....	-	+1.8	-	+4.0
DELAWARE.....	14	-5.4	14	-4.0	SOUTH DAKOTA.....	34	+3.6	35	+0.2
MARYLAND.....	31	-2.2	30	-1.5	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:				
VIRGINIA.....	-	-1.3	-	-2.1	ARKANSAS.....	19	-4.7	19	-0.5
WEST VIRGINIA.....	18	-1.1	25	-2.4	LOUISIANA.....	-	-	43	-0.7
SOUTH ATLANTIC (SOUTH):					OKLAHOMA.....	34	-1.6	35	-1.5
FLORIDA.....	35	-1.5	37	-1.7	TEXAS.....	119	-0.5	118	+0.3
GEORGIA.....	24	-1.8	25	-0.8	MOUNTAIN:				
NORTH CAROLINA.....	44	-3.7	45	-5.3	ARIZONA.....	18	-4.3	17	-1.7
SOUTH CAROLINA.....	8	-2.2	10	-4.4	COLORADO.....	43	+4.5	43	-5.1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL:					IDAHO.....	-	-	63	-0.6
ILLINOIS.....	38	-0.5	37	-5.1	MONTANA.....	24	+7.4	23	+7.4
INDIANA.....	22	-3.6	22	-4.7	NEVADA.....	-	-	28	+0.1
MICHIGAN.....	60	-5.6	62	-8.0	NEW MEXICO.....	30	-0.4	30	-1.9
OHIO.....	21	-4.6	21	-4.2	UTAH.....	-	-	41	-1.9
WISCONSIN.....	46	-0.1	45	-2.8	WYOMING.....	-	-	37	-1.7
ALASKA.....	-	-	-	-	PACIFIC:				
HAWAII.....	3	-9.6	3	-5.6	CALIFORNIA.....	15	-0.5	15	+0.6
					OREGON.....	-	-	-	-
					WASHINGTON.....	8	-1.7	24	+0.2

NOTE: 1-RURAL MILEAGE OF EACH MAJOR TOLL ROUTE IS CONSIDERED AS ONE OR MORE STATIONS, DEPENDING ON STATES' METHOD OF REPORTING.

2-WHERE THE NUMBER OF STATIONS IS SHOWN AS A DASH AND A VALUE FOR PERCENTAGE CHANGE IS INDICATED, THE LATTER VALUE IS BASED ON A STATEWIDE ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY THE HIGHWAY AGENCY DETERMINED FROM EXTENSIVE TRAFFIC SAMPLING SURVEYS.

3-WHERE THE NUMBER OF STATIONS AND THE PERCENTAGE CHANGE ARE SHOWN AS DASHES, SUFFICIENT INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE TO DETERMINE AN ESTIMATE.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION
400 - 7TH STREET, S.W.
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TABLE 3.

ESTIMATED INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY MOTOR VEHICLE TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES ***

SYSTEM	MONTH											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
1978 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS*												
MAIN RURAL	34.6	35.0	44.2	44.3	48.5	50.3	54.3	55.0	47.4	48.0	44.0	42.8
LOCAL RURAL	9.5	9.4	11.2	12.3	13.6	13.6	14.4	14.4	13.2	13.4	12.0	11.1
URBAN	59.4	57.9	68.9	68.5	71.8	71.6	72.4	73.3	69.3	72.0	66.9	67.7
ALL SYSTEMS	103.5	102.3	124.4	125.0	133.9	135.4	141.2	142.7	129.9	133.4	122.8	121.6
1979 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS**												
MAIN RURAL	36.3	36.1	45.1	45.8	47.7	47.2	49.7	52.3	45.3	46.4	42.7	41.9
LOCAL RURAL	9.6	9.6	11.6	12.5	13.5	13.2	14.0	14.1	12.9	13.1	11.7	11.0
URBAN	61.9	60.0	71.2	69.1	70.0	68.5	68.5	71.1	67.7	69.5	65.5	66.7
ALL SYSTEMS	107.8	105.7	127.9	127.4	131.1	128.9	132.2	137.5	125.9	129.4	119.8	119.6
PERCENT CHANGE IN INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY TRAVEL 1979 VS. 1978												
MAIN RURAL	4.8	3.3	2.1	3.4	-1.6	-6.1	-8.5	-4.8	-4.3	-3.4	-2.9	-2.0
LOCAL RURAL	1.7	2.0	3.1	2.2	-1.1	-2.7	-3.0	-2.5	-2.6	-2.6	-2.6	-1.4
URBAN	4.3	3.6	3.4	0.8	-2.5	-4.4	-5.4	-3.0	-2.4	-2.9	-2.1	-1.5
ALL SYSTEMS	4.2	3.3	2.9	1.9	-2.0	-4.8	-6.3	-3.6	-3.1	-3.0	-2.4	-1.6

* THESE ARE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES WHICH WILL BE REVISED TO AGREE WITH FINAL ESTIMATES OF 1978 ANNUAL TRAVEL PROVIDED BY STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS.

** TO BE REVISED BASED ON 1978 FINAL TRAVEL ESTIMATES.

*** SYSTEM ENTRIES MAY NOT ADD TO TOTAL "ALL SYSTEMS" DUE TO ROUNDING.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT KENNETH WELTY, HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION. 202-426-0160.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION
400 - 7TH STREET, S.W.
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TABLE 4.

ESTIMATED CUMULATIVE MONTHLY MOTOR VEHICLE TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES ***

SYSTEM	MONTH											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
1978 CUMULATIVE MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS*												
MAIN RURAL	34.6	69.6	113.8	158.1	206.6	256.9	311.2	366.2	413.5	461.6	505.6	548.4
LOCAL RURAL	9.5	18.9	30.1	42.4	56.0	69.5	84.0	98.4	111.6	125.0	137.0	148.1
URBAN	59.4	117.3	186.2	254.7	326.5	398.1	470.5	543.8	613.1	685.1	752.0	819.6
ALL SYSTEMS	103.5	205.8	330.1	455.1	589.0	724.5	865.6	1008.3	1138.2	1271.7	1394.5	1516.1
1979 CUMULATIVE MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS**												
MAIN RURAL	36.3	72.4	117.5	163.3	211.1	258.3	308.0	360.3	405.6	452.0	494.7	536.6
LOCAL RURAL	9.6	19.2	30.8	43.3	56.8	70.0	84.0	98.1	110.9	124.0	135.6	146.6
URBAN	61.9	121.9	193.1	262.2	332.1	400.6	469.2	540.3	608.0	677.9	743.4	810.0
ALL SYSTEMS	107.8	213.5	341.5	468.9	600.0	728.9	861.1	998.6	1124.5	1253.9	1373.7	1493.3
PERCENT CHANGE IN CUMULATIVE MONTHLY TRAVEL 1979 VS. 1978												
MAIN RURAL	4.8	4.0	3.3	3.3	2.2	0.5	-1.0	-1.6	-1.9	-2.1	-2.1	-2.1
LOCAL RURAL	1.7	1.8	2.3	2.3	1.5	0.6	0.0	-0.3	-0.6	-0.8	-1.0	-1.0
URBAN	4.3	3.9	3.7	2.9	1.7	0.6	-0.3	-0.6	-0.8	-1.1	-1.1	-1.2
ALL SYSTEMS	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.0	1.9	0.6	-0.5	-1.0	-1.2	-1.4	-1.5	-1.5

* THESE ARE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES WHICH WILL BE REVISED TO AGREE WITH FINAL ESTIMATES OF 1978 ANNUAL TRAVEL PROVIDED BY STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS.

** TO BE REVISED BASED ON 1978 FINAL TRAVEL ESTIMATES.

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