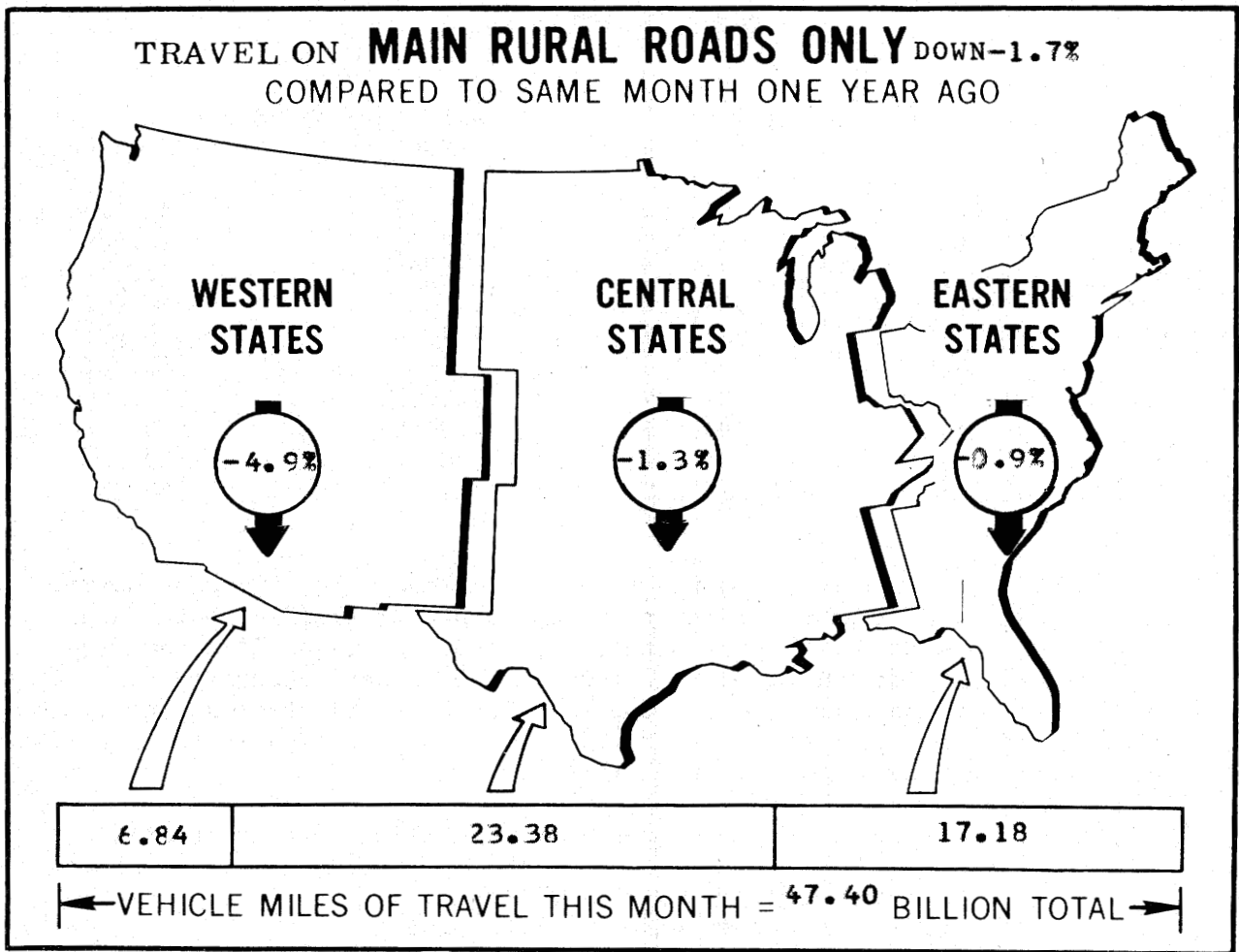


TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

MAY 1979 1/

TRAVEL ON **ALL ROADS AND STREETS** DOWN-1.9%
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 - MAY 1979

Based on preliminary reports from the state highway agencies, travel during May 1979 on all roads and streets in the nation decreased by -1.9 percent as compared to May 1978, resulting in estimated travel for the month at 131,334 million vehicle miles. This total includes 47,680 million vehicle miles on main rural roads, 13,495 million vehicle miles on other rural roads, and 70,159 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	
	May	Year to Date	May	Year to Date
1970	36,062	153,259	97,972	435,766
1971	37,880	162,386	103,655	460,189
1972	39,338	168,493	110,945	497,846
1973	41,034	177,900	114,819	519,660
1974	38,901	166,118	112,167	498,938
1975	40,890	176,149	116,659	519,507
1976	43,793	191,974	123,278	555,564
1977	46,252	199,125	128,884	575,218
1978	48,497	206,589	133,877	589,015
1979	47,680	211,020	131,334	600,196

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) 426-0677.

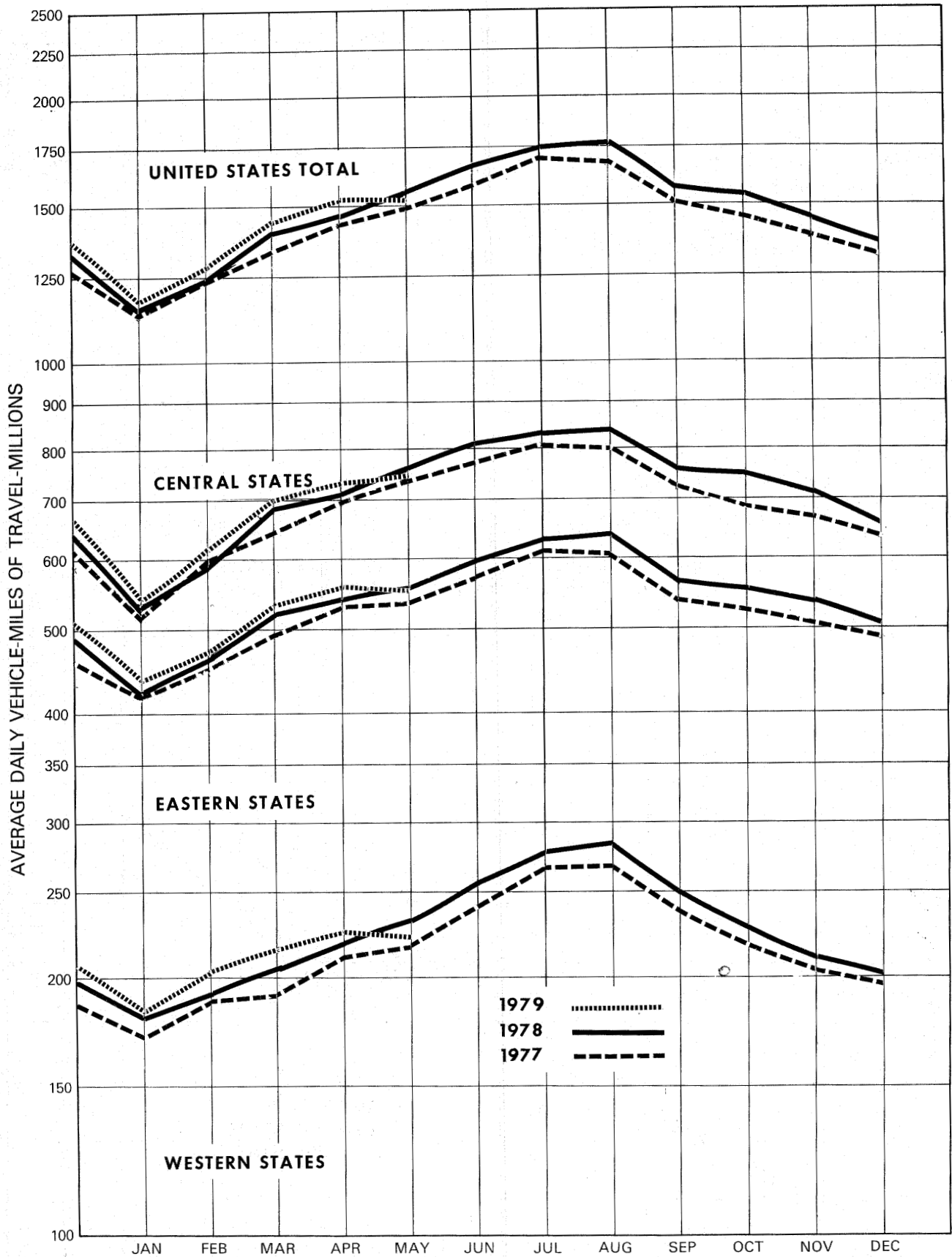


FIGURE 1 - TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS, BY MONTHS

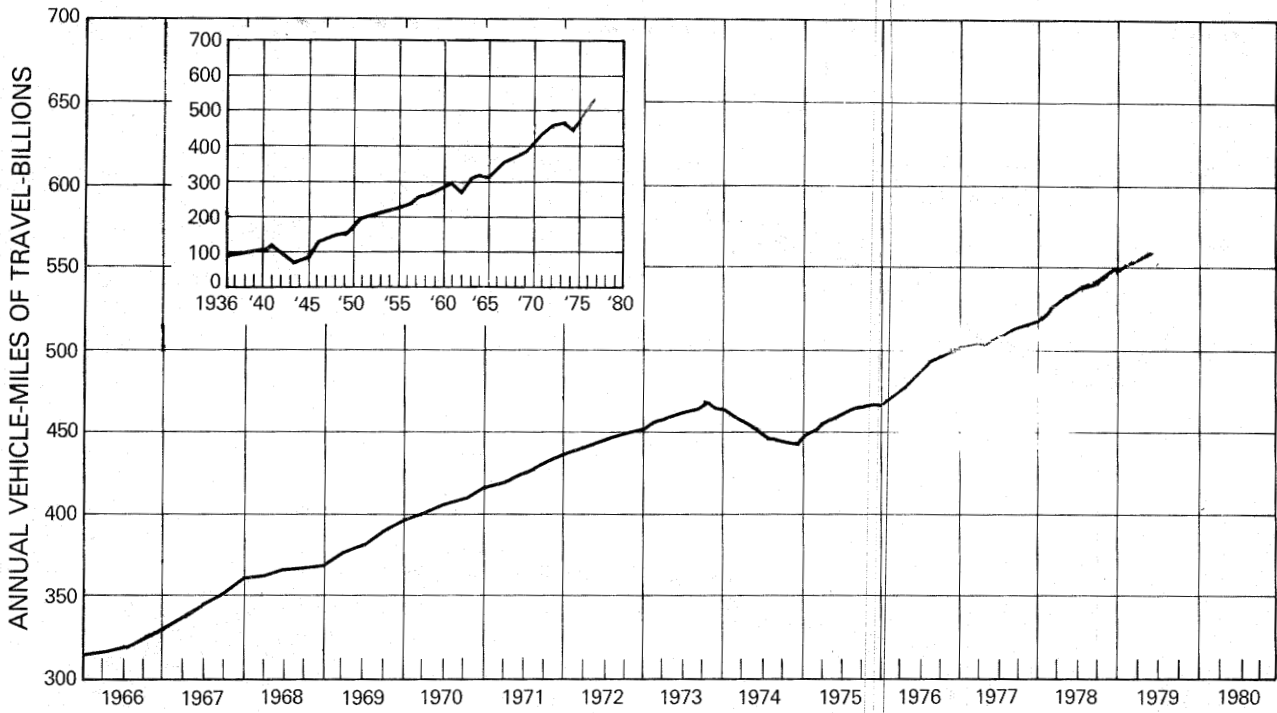


FIGURE 2 - ANNUAL TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS FOR 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING IN MONTH SHOWN

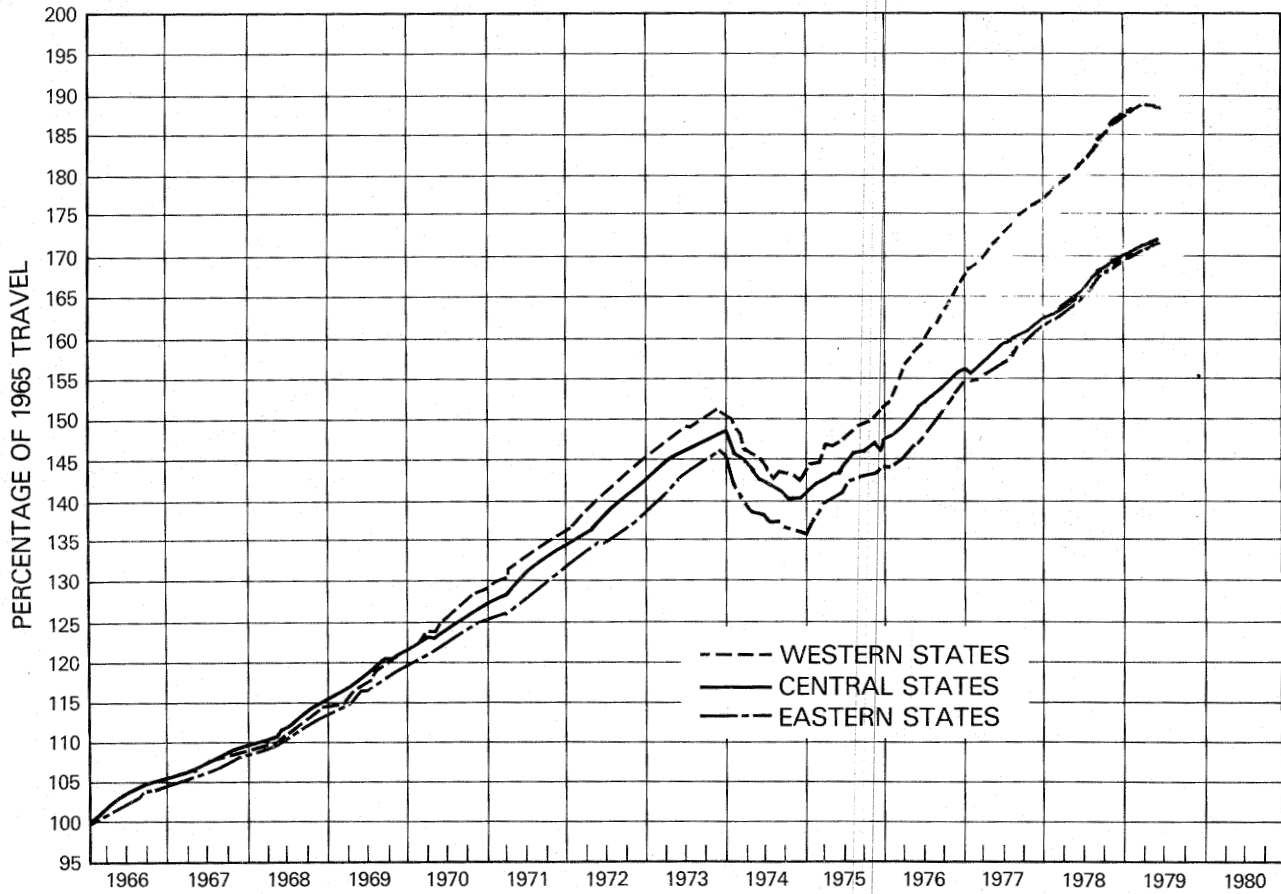


FIGURE 3 - ANNUAL TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS AS PERCENTAGE OF YEAR 1965

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

CLASS OF ROAD, ALL STATES:	PRELIMINARY DATA FOR MAY			REVISED DATA FOR APRIL		
	VEHICLE-MILES (MILLIONS)		PERCENTAGE CHANGE	VEHICLE-MILES (MILLIONS)		PERCENTAGE CHANGE
	1979	1978		1979	1978	
MAIN RURAL ROADS.....	47,680	48,497	-1.7	45,797	44,274	3.4
LOCAL RURAL ROADS.....	13,495	13,610	-0.8	12,533	12,260	2.2
ALL RURAL ROADS.....	61,175	62,108	-1.5	58,330	56,534	3.2
CITY STREETS.....	70,159	71,769	-2.2	69,073	68,495	0.8
ALL ROADS AND STREETS.....	131,334	133,877	-1.9	127,403	125,029	1.9
48 STATES (MAIN RURAL ONLY):						
EASTERN REGION.....	17,182	17,341	-0.9	16,794	16,221	3.5
CENTRAL REGION.....	23,375	23,680	-1.3	21,956	21,395	2.6
WESTERN REGION.....	6,839	7,189	-4.9	6,777	6,393	6.0
TOTAL.....	47,396	48,210	-1.7	45,527	44,009	3.4

TABLE 2.-CHANGES ON MAIN RURAL ROADS BY STATES

DIVISION AND STATE	MAY (PRELIMINARY)		APRIL (REVISED)		DIVISION AND STATE	MAY (PRELIMINARY)		APRIL (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.....	9	- 3.8	8	- 1.7	ALABAMA.....	53	- 0.1	53	2.7
MAINE.....	21	- 3.7	21	1.5	KENTUCKY.....	38	- 1.9	36	3.0
MASSACHUSETTS.....	6	- 9.2	6	- 1.3	MISSISSIPPI.....	43	2.8	40	4.1
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	-	-	63	0.1	TENNESSEE.....	-	-	33	3.6
RHODE ISLAND.....	-	-	-	-	WEST NORTH CENTRAL:				
VERMONT.....	40	- 0.6	39	3.6	IOWA.....	32	- 2.9	31	3.7
MIDDLE ATLANTIC:					KANSAS.....	68	- 3.9	69	0.6
NEW JERSEY.....	-	-	-	-	MINNESOTA.....	37	- 2.3	37	2.8
NEW YORK.....	1	- 5.0	23	2.1	MISSOURI.....	68	- 1.0	73	1.7
PENNSYLVANIA.....	53	- 1.7	52	- 0.1	NEBRASKA.....	19	- 5.1	22	0.8
SOUTH ATLANTIC (NORTH):					NORTH DAKOTA.....	-	- 3.7	-	- 4.7
DELAWARE.....	13	- 2.8	13	- 0.6	SOUTH DAKOTA.....	-	-	35	3.7
MARYLAND.....	-	-	34	0.5	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:				
VIRGINIA.....	-	3.3	-	4.3	ARKANSAS.....	23	- 0.7	27	2.3
WEST VIRGINIA.....	27	- 0.1	25	4.3	LOUISIANA.....	-	-	43	3.6
SOUTH ATLANTIC (SOUTH):					OKLAHOMA.....	-	-	-	-
FLORIDA.....	27	0.0	29	5.5	TEXAS.....	117	- 0.2	116	4.4
GEORGIA.....	-	-	-	-	MOUNTAIN:				
NORTH CAROLINA.....	45	1.5	44	6.1	ARIZONA.....	9	- 6.2	8	8.7
SOUTH CAROLINA.....	13	0.0	12	8.6	COLORADO.....	42	- 1.7	42	2.7
EAST NORTH CENTRAL:					IDAHO.....	-	-	64	1.5
ILLINOIS.....	28	- 3.2	25	- 2.2	MONTANA.....	-	-	15	1.4
INDIANA.....	22	- 1.3	22	2.2	NEVADA.....	27	- 7.1	28	7.2
MICHIGAN.....	67	- 1.4	66	2.6	NEW MEXICO.....	30	- 2.1	30	4.1
OHIO.....	23	- 2.3	22	2.2	UTAH.....	-	- 3.1	42	0.7
WISCONSIN.....	48	- 2.0	48	3.9	WYOMING.....	-	4.6	-	3.8
ALASKA.....	-	-	48	- 1.7	PACIFIC:				
HAWAII.....	3	0.5	3	5.4	CALIFORNIA.....	16	- 5.9	13	9.9
					OREGON.....	-	-	74	2.2
					WASHINGTON.....	24	- 6.1	22	3.5

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
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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							
LOCAL RURAL	9.6	9.6	11.6	12.5	13.5							
URBAN	61.9	60.0	71.2	69.1	70.2							
ALL SYSTEMS	107.8	105.7	127.9	127.4	131.3							
PERCENT CHANGE IN INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY TRAVEL 1979 VS. 1978												
MAIN RURAL	4.8	3.3	2.1	3.4	-1.7							
LOCAL RURAL	1.7	2.0	3.1	2.2	-0.8							
URBAN	4.3	3.6	3.4	0.8	-2.2							
ALL SYSTEMS	4.2	3.3	2.9	1.9	-1.9							

* 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 MELTY, HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, 202-426-0160.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION
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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	211.0							
LOCAL RURAL	9.6	19.2	30.8	43.3	56.8							
URBAN	61.9	121.9	193.1	262.2	332.3							
ALL SYSTEMS	107.8	213.5	341.5	468.9	600.2							
PERCENT CHANGE IN CUMULATIVE MONTHLY TRAVEL 1979 VS. 1978												
MAIN RURAL	4.8	4.0	3.3	3.3	2.1							
LOCAL RURAL	1.7	1.8	2.3	2.3	1.5							
URBAN	4.3	3.9	3.7	2.9	1.8							
ALL SYSTEMS	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.0	1.9							

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

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