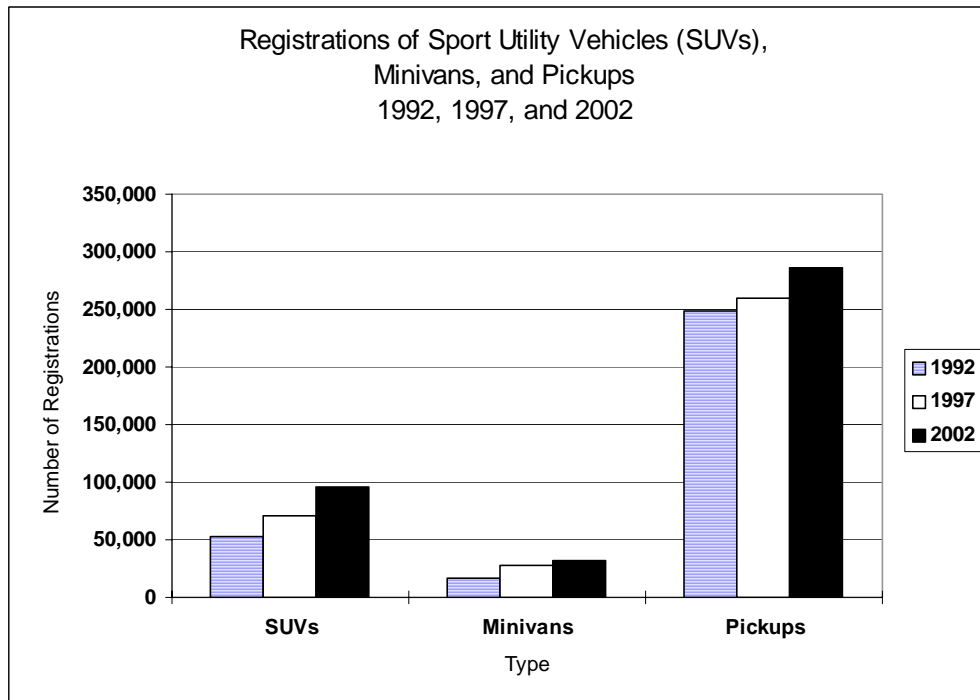


2002 Fast Facts for Montana

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2002 Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) are now available for Montana. The VIUS produces state and U.S. level statistics on the physical and operational characteristics of the Nation's truck population.

There were 474 thousand private and commercial trucks registered in Montana during 2002, up approximately 14 percent from 417 thousand trucks in 1997.

The report includes these highlights for Montana:



The number of sport utility vehicles (SUVs) registered in Montana during 2002 increased 34 percent from 1997. The number of pickups in Montana increased 10 percent during this same period.

- Total truck registrations in 2002 included 60 percent pickups, 20 percent SUVs, and 7 percent minivans.
- Montana has approximately one pickup for every 3 people and about one SUV for every 10 people. It also has approximately one pickup for every 2 licensed drivers and about one SUV for every 7 licensed drivers. Estimates are taken from this report and statistics from the U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Statistics 2002.
- In 2002, an estimated 3 percent of all large trucks carried hazardous materials.

- About 70 percent of all trucks were used for personal transportation, while 25 percent were operated for business, including for-hire use.

The report also includes information on fuel efficiency, annual mileage, primary range of operation, permanent equipment, and other physical and operational characteristics.

The U.S. Summary will be issued in late 2004, followed by a microdata CD-ROM.

The Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey is conducted every five years as part of the Economic Census and data are used by government agencies, businesses, academia, and the general public. Estimates in this report are based on data from the 2002 Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey. They contain sampling and nonsampling errors. To keep the identity of an individual respondent confidential, some estimates may be suppressed. Users making their own estimates, based on survey estimates, should cite the U.S. Census Bureau as the source of the original estimates only. See www.census.gov/svsd/www/02vehinv.html for measures of sampling variability and other survey information.