



# TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

March 2003

Travel on all roads and streets changed by -0.3 percent for March 2003 as compared to March 2002.



Estimated Vehicle-Miles of Travel by Region - March 2003 - (in Billions)

West	North Central	South Gulf	Northeast	South Atlantic
<b>49.9</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>49.0</b>

Change in Traffic as compared to the same month last year.

**-1.0%**      **+1.0%**      **+0.2%**      **-1.3%**      **-0.8%**

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 2001 Table VM-2 as a base

Complied with data on hand as of May 27, 2003.

### Traffic Volume Trends - March 2003

Based on preliminary reports from the State Highway Agencies, travel during March 2003 on all roads and streets in the nation changed by -0.3 percent as compared to March 2002 resulting in estimated travel for the month at 233.2 billion vehicle-miles. This total includes 92.1 billion vehicle-miles on rural roads and 141.1 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	March	Year to Date
1970	90,223	247,837
1971	92,974	258,429
1972	102,926	283,664
1973	107,490	296,721
1974	100,736	282,192
1975	106,070	295,715
1976	114,284	315,272
1977	119,960	324,821
1978	125,035	341,890
1979	131,406	355,410
1980	125,179	348,980
1981	127,798	353,612
1982	128,182	345,451
1983	132,814	364,078
1984	137,307	377,319
1985	144,424	387,912
1986	151,183	407,707
1987	157,573	433,488
1988	167,836	458,463
1989	174,990	481,473
1990	178,771	495,930
1991	179,076	490,316
1992	183,778	511,634
1993	187,869	522,393
1994	196,190	531,948
1995	201,227	566,118
1996	204,172	564,198
1997	211,952	586,028
1998	214,222	598,259
1999	220,763	605,830
2000	232,627	635,579
2001	231,488	640,656
2002	233,972	654,144
2003	233,210	649,276

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.

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 Office of Highway Policy Information  
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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
2002 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	20.3	19.7	23.3	22.9	25.2	25.3	27.2	27.1	22.9	23.9	22.4	23.6
Rural Other Arterial	31.5	30.8	35.4	35.8	39.0	39.0	41.2	40.9	36.2	37.6	34.5	34.4
Other Rural	30.2	28.9	33.3	33.8	36.7	36.3	38.0	37.6	34.1	35.5	32.2	31.6
Urban Interstate	31.5	30.2	33.9	34.1	36.0	35.6	35.6	36.3	33.5	35.1	33.5	34.0
Urban Other Arterial	71.9	69.3	77.5	77.1	80.6	79.0	80.4	81.7	74.4	79.9	76.0	76.5
Other Urban	<u>28.3</u>	<u>27.5</u>	<u>30.6</u>	<u>31.0</u>	<u>32.3</u>	<u>31.4</u>	<u>31.9</u>	<u>32.4</u>	<u>29.9</u>	<u>31.3</u>	<u>29.7</u>	<u>31.2</u>
All Systems	213.7	206.4	234.0	234.7	249.9	246.5	254.3	256.0	231.1	243.2	228.4	231.3
2003 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	20.8	19.1	22.9									
Rural Other Arterial	32.0	29.6	35.5									
Other Rural	30.1	27.9	33.7									
Urban Interstate	32.1	29.5	33.7									
Urban Other Arterial	72.2	67.7	77.2									
Other Urban	<u>28.5</u>	<u>26.6</u>	<u>30.2</u>									
All Systems	215.7	200.4	233.2									
Percent Change In Individual Monthly Travel 2002 vs. 2003												
Rural Interstate	2.8	-3.1	-1.8									
Rural Other Arterial	1.5	-3.8	0.2									
Other Rural	-0.4	-3.6	1.1									
Urban Interstate	1.7	-2.5	-0.5									
Urban Other Arterial	0.4	-2.3	-0.4									
Other Urban	<u>0.6</u>	<u>-3.3</u>	<u>-1.1</u>									
All Systems	0.9	-2.9	-0.3									

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
2002 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	20.3	39.9	63.3	86.2	111.4	136.6	163.9	191.0	213.9	237.8	260.2	283.8
Rural Other Arterial	31.5	62.3	97.7	133.4	172.4	211.3	252.5	293.4	329.6	367.2	401.8	436.2
Other Rural	30.2	59.2	92.5	126.3	163.0	199.3	237.3	275.0	309.1	344.6	376.8	408.5
Urban Interstate	31.5	61.8	95.7	129.8	165.8	201.4	237.0	273.4	306.9	342.0	375.5	409.5
Urban Other Arterial	71.9	141.2	218.7	295.8	376.4	455.4	535.8	617.4	691.9	771.7	847.7	924.2
Other Urban	<u>28.3</u>	<u>55.8</u>	<u>86.3</u>	<u>117.4</u>	<u>149.7</u>	<u>181.1</u>	<u>213.0</u>	<u>245.4</u>	<u>275.3</u>	<u>306.6</u>	<u>336.3</u>	<u>367.5</u>
All Systems	213.7	420.2	654.1	888.8	1138.7	1385.2	1639.5	1895.6	2126.7	2369.9	2598.3	2829.6
2003 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	20.8	39.9	62.8									
Rural Other Arterial	32.0	61.6	97.1									
Other Rural	30.1	58.0	91.7									
Urban Interstate	32.1	61.6	95.3									
Urban Other Arterial	72.2	139.9	217.1									
Other Urban	<u>28.5</u>	<u>55.1</u>	<u>85.3</u>									
All Systems	215.7	416.1	649.3									
Percent Change In Cumulative Monthly Travel 2002 vs. 2003												
Rural Interstate	2.8	-0.1	-0.7									
Rural Other Arterial	1.5	-1.1	-0.6									
Other Rural	-0.4	-1.9	-0.9									
Urban Interstate	1.7	-0.3	-0.4									
Urban Other Arterial	0.4	-0.9	-0.7									
Other Urban	<u>0.6</u>	<u>-1.3</u>	<u>-1.2</u>									
All Systems	0.9	-1.0	-0.7									

\* 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	March				February			
	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change
		2003 (Preliminary)	2002			2003 (Revised)	2002	
<b>Northeast</b>								
Connecticut	7	385	386	-0.2	7	309	334	-7.3
Maine	-	484	485	-0.1	-	414	437	-5.3
Massachusetts	8	467	469	-0.4	7	428	464	-7.8
New Hampshire	33	370	366	1.2	36	320	328	-2.6
New Jersey	19	764	755	1.2	18	564	672	-16.0
New York	-	1,495	1,504	-0.6	-	1,157	1,265	-8.6
Pennsylvania	62	2,329	2,353	-1.0	62	1,882	2,040	-7.7
Rhode Island	9	57	60	-4.4	-	50	54	-7.6
Vermont	23	238	241	-1.2	23	214	224	-4.3
		6,590	6,618	-0.4		5,339	5,819	-8.2
<b>South Atlantic</b>								
Delaware	-	156	156	0.2	-	121	137	-12.1
Dist Of Columbia	-	0	0	0.0	-	0	0	0.0
Florida	-	2,974	3,043	-2.2	175	2,516	2,516	0.0
Georgia	7	2,524	2,619	-3.6	9	2,142	2,252	-4.9
Maryland	-	931	947	-1.8	-	735	816	-10.0
North Carolina	-	2,117	2,170	-2.4	-	1,739	1,872	-7.1
South Carolina	-	1,699	1,764	-3.7	-	1,393	1,466	-5.0
Virginia	149	1,934	1,958	-1.3	148	1,521	1,698	-10.4
West Virginia	24	776	829	-6.4	20	487	587	-17.1
		13,111	13,486	-2.8		10,653	11,344	-6.1
<b>North Central</b>								
Illinois	17	1,607	1,580	1.7	20	1,437	1,366	5.2
Indiana	29	1,669	1,665	0.2	42	1,322	1,419	-6.8
Iowa	138	1,035	1,011	2.3	138	858	876	-2.0
Kansas	145	842	850	-0.9	148	702	725	-3.1
Michigan	-	1,829	1,817	0.6	150	1,578	1,594	-1.0
Minnesota	-	1,350	1,321	2.2	24	1,192	1,194	-0.1
Missouri	66	1,638	1,616	1.3	65	1,289	1,351	-4.6
Nebraska	47	679	657	3.4	50	535	549	-2.6
North Dakota	50	274	277	-1.3	54	230	239	-3.8
Ohio	84	1,862	1,871	-0.5	79	1,503	1,644	-8.5
South Dakota	44	378	361	4.7	44	312	318	-1.6
Wisconsin	132	1,645	1,613	2.0	130	1,444	1,436	0.6
		14,806	14,639	1.1		12,403	12,709	-2.4
<b>South Gulf</b>								
Alabama	86	1,481	1,490	-0.6	86	1,228	1,241	-1.0
Arkansas	-	1,005	991	1.4	-	798	826	-3.4
Kentucky	62	1,250	1,241	0.7	59	949	1,011	-6.1
Louisiana	-	983	969	1.5	-	813	834	-2.5
Mississippi	34	1,247	1,228	1.6	32	1,066	1,085	-1.8
Oklahoma	-	1,030	1,043	-1.3	-	864	893	-3.2
Tennessee	-	1,782	1,806	-1.3	-	1,461	1,544	-5.4
Texas	-	4,489	4,496	-0.1	-	3,711	3,828	-3.0
		13,267	13,263	0.0		10,892	11,263	-3.3
<b>West</b>								
Alaska	52	101	98	2.3	54	84	80	4.2
Arizona	20	1,133	1,181	-4.0	18	1,077	1,054	2.2
California	55	3,602	3,588	0.4	44	3,306	3,226	2.5
Colorado	-	1,040	1,048	-0.8	-	838	871	-3.7
Hawaii	2	128	126	1.9	7	113	110	2.5
Idaho	-	397	402	-1.2	-	342	341	0.3
Montana	118	417	414	0.7	116	353	357	-1.1
Nevada	-	328	330	-0.7	-	294	289	1.6
New Mexico	-	773	797	-3.0	-	699	692	1.1
Oregon	130	936	948	-1.2	133	818	798	2.5
Utah	92	522	551	-5.3	92	427	454	-6.0
Washington	65	890	886	0.4	68	786	769	2.2
Wyoming	-	332	333	-0.2	-	280	289	-3.0
		10,598	10,702	-1.0		9,417	9,330	0.9
TOTALS	1,809	58,372	58,708	-0.6	2,158	48,705	50,465	-3.5

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.

**Traffic Volume Trends-Rural**  
**Estimated Vehicle Miles (Millions) and Percent Change from Same Period Previous Year**  
**(Includes Preliminary Data for March 2003)**

Year - 2002														
	Rural Interstate	%	Rural Other Arterial	%	Other Rural	%	Total Rural	%	All Systems	%				
Jan	20,251	4.2	Jan	31,501	2.5	Jan	30,217	2.5	Jan	81,969	2.9	Jan	213,747	2.1
Feb	19,686	5.9	Feb	30,779	4.1	Feb	28,947	2.7	Feb	79,412	4.0	Feb	206,426	3.3
Mar	<u>23,319</u>	5.1	Mar	<u>35,388</u>	1.9	Mar	<u>33,324</u>	0.3	Mar	<u>92,031</u>	2.1	Mar	<u>233,972</u>	1.1
Q1	63,256	5.1	Q1	97,668	2.8	Q1	92,488	1.7	Q1	253,412	3.0	Q1	654,144	2.1
Apr	22,908	0.9	Apr	35,762	1.8	Apr	33,786	0.6	Apr	92,456	1.1	Apr	234,695	1.4
May	25,208	5.7	May	38,961	3.5	May	36,728	1.2	May	100,897	3.2	May	249,886	2.3
Jun	<u>25,260</u>	4.5	Jun	<u>38,957</u>	2.7	Jun	<u>36,311</u>	1.1	Jun	<u>100,528</u>	2.6	Jun	<u>246,464</u>	1.6
Q2	73,376	3.8	Q2	113,680	2.7	Q2	106,825	1.0	Q2	293,881	2.3	Q2	731,045	1.8
1st Half	136,632	4.4	1st Half	211,348	2.7	1st Half	199,313	1.3	1st Half	547,293	2.6	1st Half	1,385,190	1.9
Jul	27,232	4.4	Jul	41,179	2.2	Jul	38,024	2.0	Jul	106,435	2.7	Jul	254,345	2.2
Aug	27,109	4.1	Aug	40,882	2.6	Aug	37,643	1.6	Aug	105,634	2.6	Aug	256,042	1.7
Sep	<u>22,934</u>	2.2	Sep	<u>36,217</u>	2.7	Sep	<u>34,126</u>	1.9	Sep	<u>93,277</u>	2.3	Sep	<u>231,141</u>	2.9
Q3	77,275	3.7	Q3	118,278	2.5	Q3	109,793	1.9	Q3	305,346	2.6	Q3	741,528	2.3
3 Qs	213,907	4.1	3 Qs	329,626	2.6	3 Qs	309,106	1.5	3 Qs	852,639	2.6	3 Qs	2,126,717	2.1
Oct	23,918	2.3	Oct	37,599	1.5	Oct	35,484	0.0	Oct	97,001	1.2	Oct	243,226	1.3
Nov	22,408	-1.4	Nov	34,531	-0.5	Nov	32,243	-1.1	Nov	89,182	-0.9	Nov	228,368	-0.5
Dec	<u>23,568</u>	4.9	Dec	<u>34,420</u>	1.1	Dec	<u>31,640</u>	0.2	Dec	<u>89,628</u>	1.8	Dec	<u>231,334</u>	1.4
Q4	69,894	1.9	Q4	106,550	0.7	Q4	99,367	-0.3	Q4	275,811	0.7	Q4	702,928	0.8
2nd Half	147,169	2.8	2nd Half	224,828	1.6	2nd Half	209,160	0.8	2nd Half	581,157	1.6	2nd Half	1,444,455	1.5
Year	283,801	3.6	Year	436,176	2.2	Year	408,473	1.1	Year	1,128,450	2.1	Year	2,829,645	1.7

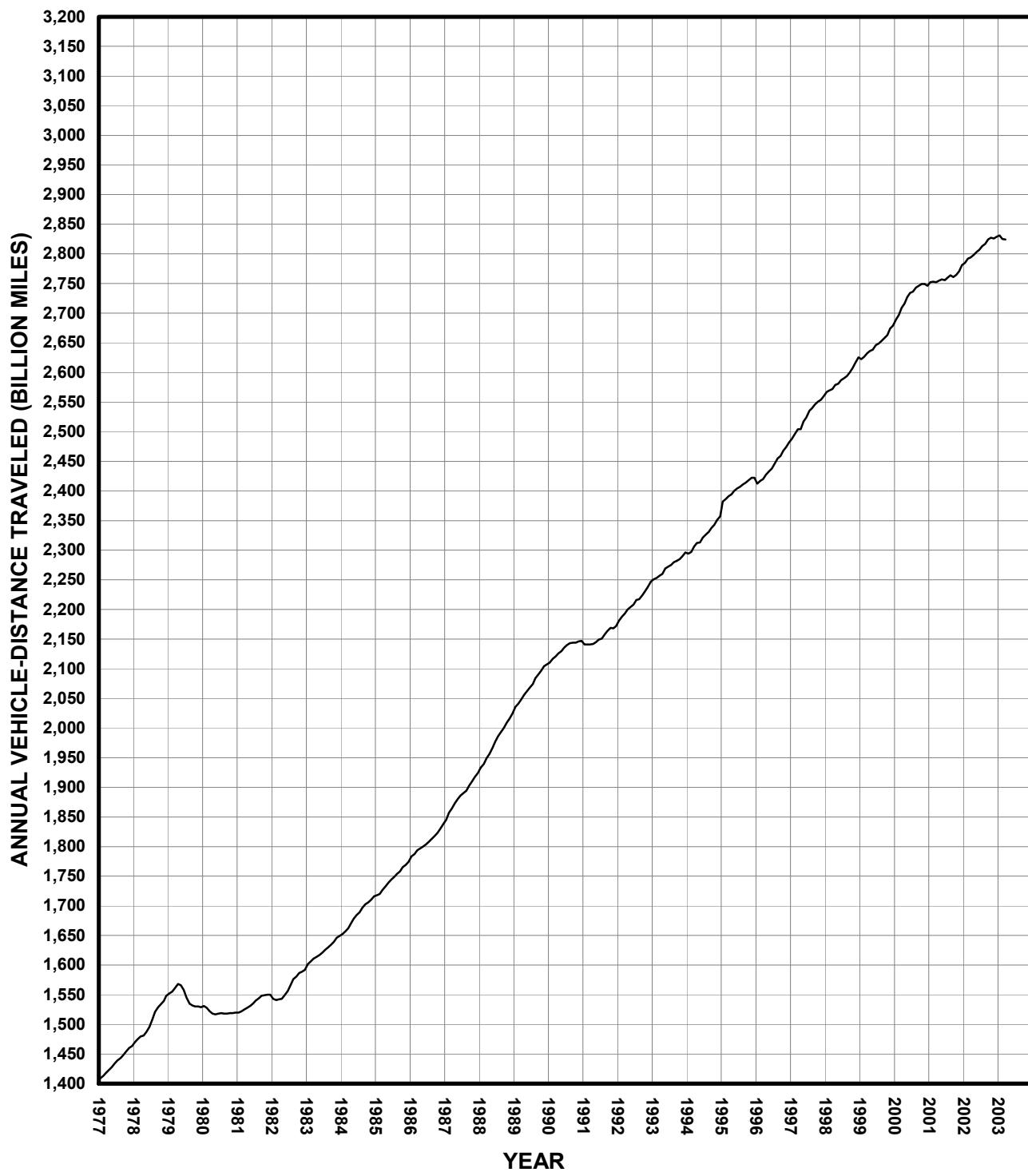
Year - 2003														
	Rural Interstate	%	Rural Other Arterial	%	Other Rural	%	Total Rural	%	All Systems	%				
Jan	20,820	2.8	Jan	31,982	1.5	Jan	30,094	-0.4	Jan	82,896	1.1	Jan	215,667	0.9
Feb	19,082	-3.1	Feb	29,622	-3.8	Feb	27,918	-3.6	Feb	76,622	-3.5	Feb	200,399	-2.9
Mar	<u>22,898</u>	-1.8	Mar	<u>35,474</u>	0.2	Mar	<u>33,676</u>	1.1	Mar	<u>92,048</u>	0.0	Mar	<u>233,210</u>	-0.3
Q1	62,800	-0.7	Q1	97,078	-0.6	Q1	91,688	-0.9	Q1	251,566	-0.7	Q1	649,276	-0.7
Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-
May	0	-	May	0	-	May	0	-	May	0	-	May	0	-
Jun	<u>0</u>	-	Jun	<u>0</u>	-	Jun	<u>0</u>	-	Jun	<u>0</u>	-	Jun	<u>0</u>	-
Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-
1st Half	62,800	-0.7	1st Half	97,078	-0.6	1st Half	91,688	-0.9	1st Half	251,566	-0.7	1st Half	649,276	-0.7
Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-
Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-
Sep	<u>0</u>	-	Sep	<u>0</u>	-	Sep	<u>0</u>	-	Sep	<u>0</u>	-	Sep	<u>0</u>	-
Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-
3 Qs	62,800	-0.7	3 Qs	97,078	-0.6	3 Qs	91,688	-0.9	3 Qs	251,566	-0.7	3 Qs	649,276	-0.7
Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-
Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-
Dec	<u>0</u>	-	Dec	<u>0</u>	-	Dec	<u>0</u>	-	Dec	<u>0</u>	-	Dec	<u>0</u>	-
Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-
2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-
Year	62,800	-0.7	Year	97,078	-0.6	Year	91,688	-0.9	Year	251,566	-0.7	Year	649,276	-0.7

**Traffic Volume Trends - Urban**  
**Estimated Vehicle Miles (Millions) and Percent Change from Same Period Previous Year**  
<sub>(Includes Preliminary Data for March 2003)</sub>

Year - 2002												
	<u>Urban Interstate</u>	%	<u>Urban Other Arterial</u>	%	<u>Other Urban</u>	%	<u>Total Urban</u>	%	<u>All Systems</u>	%		
Jan	31,536	2.7	Jan	71,918	1.2	Jan	28,324	1.7	Jan	131,778	1.7	
Feb	30,241	3.2	Feb	69,311	2.6	Feb	27,462	2.8	Feb	127,014	2.8	
Mar	<u>33,904</u>	1.6	Mar	<u>77,483</u>	-0.1	Mar	<u>30,552</u>	0.4	Mar	<u>141,939</u>	0.4	
Q1	95,681	2.5	Q1	218,712	1.2	Q1	86,338	1.6	Q1	400,731	1.6	
Apr	34,123	1.9	Apr	77,096	1.4	Apr	31,020	1.8	Apr	142,239	1.6	
May	36,027	2.4	May	80,638	1.4	May	32,324	1.8	May	148,989	1.7	
Jun	<u>35,563</u>	2.3	Jun	<u>78,990</u>	0.3	Jun	<u>31,384</u>	1.1	Jun	<u>145,937</u>	1.0	
Q2	105,713	2.2	Q2	236,724	1.1	Q2	94,728	1.5	Q2	437,165	1.4	
1st Half	201,394	2.3	1st Half	455,436	1.1	1st Half	181,066	1.6	1st Half	837,896	1.5	
Jul	35,631	2.0	Jul	80,352	1.9	Jul	31,925	1.7	Jul	147,908	1.9	
Aug	36,335	2.5	Aug	81,657	0.4	Aug	32,416	1.2	Aug	150,408	1.1	
Sep	<u>33,549</u>	4.6	Sep	<u>74,409</u>	3.0	Sep	<u>29,906</u>	2.9	Sep	<u>137,864</u>	3.4	
Q3	105,515	3.0	Q3	236,418	1.7	Q3	94,247	1.9	Q3	436,180	2.1	
3 Qs	306,909	2.6	3 Qs	691,854	1.3	3 Qs	275,313	1.7	3 Qs	1,274,076	1.7	
Oct	35,071	2.5	Oct	79,889	1.3	Oct	31,267	0.8	Oct	146,227	1.5	
Nov	33,486	0.5	Nov	75,997	-0.2	Nov	29,702	-0.9	Nov	139,185	-0.2	
Dec	<u>34,002</u>	2.9	Dec	<u>76,467</u>	0.7	Dec	<u>31,237</u>	0.7	Dec	<u>141,706</u>	1.2	
Q4	102,559	1.9	Q4	232,353	0.6	Q4	92,206	0.2	Q4	427,118	0.8	
2nd Half	208,074	2.5	2nd Half	468,771	1.2	2nd Half	186,453	1.1	2nd Half	863,298	1.5	
Year	409,468	2.4	Year	924,207	1.1	Year	367,519	1.3	Year	1,701,194	1.5	
										Year	2,829,645	1.7

Year - 2003												
	<u>Urban Interstate</u>	%	<u>Urban Other Arterial</u>	%	<u>Other Urban</u>	%	<u>Total Urban</u>	%	<u>All Systems</u>	%		
Jan	32,084	1.7	Jan	72,184	0.4	Jan	28,503	0.6	Jan	132,771	0.8	
Feb	29,484	-2.5	Feb	67,731	-2.3	Feb	26,562	-3.3	Feb	123,777	-2.5	
Mar	<u>33,738</u>	-0.5	Mar	<u>77,208</u>	-0.4	Mar	<u>30,216</u>	-1.1	Mar	<u>141,162</u>	-0.5	
Q1	95,306	-0.4	Q1	217,123	-0.7	Q1	85,281	-1.2	Q1	397,710	-0.8	
Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	
May	0	-	May	0	-	May	0	-	May	0	-	
Jun	<u>0</u>	-	Jun	<u>0</u>	-	Jun	<u>0</u>	-	Jun	<u>0</u>	-	
Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	
1st Half	95,306	-0.4	1st Half	217,123	-0.7	1st Half	85,281	-1.2	1st Half	397,710	-0.8	
Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	
Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	
Sep	<u>0</u>	-	Sep	<u>0</u>	-	Sep	<u>0</u>	-	Sep	<u>0</u>	-	
Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	
3 Qs	95,306	-0.4	3 Qs	217,123	-0.7	3 Qs	85,281	-1.2	3 Qs	397,710	-0.8	
Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	
Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	
Dec	<u>0</u>	-	Dec	<u>0</u>	-	Dec	<u>0</u>	-	Dec	<u>0</u>	-	
Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	
2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	
Year	95,306	-0.4	Year	217,123	-0.7	Year	85,281	-1.2	Year	397,710	-0.8	
										Year	649,276	-0.7

**FIGURE 1 - MOVING 12-MONTH TOTAL ON ALL HIGHWAYS**



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

