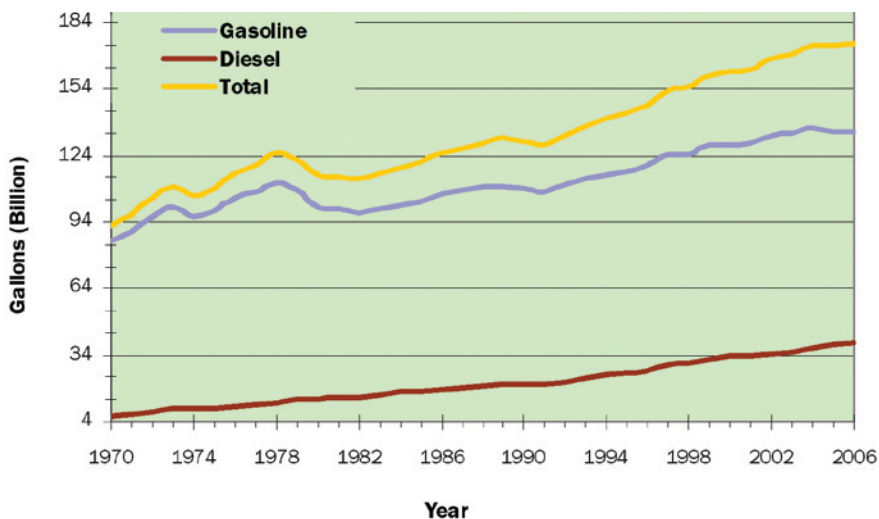


5 MOTOR FUEL

The number of registered vehicles has increased each year of the last four decades, and the number of licensed drivers is also climbing. The result is more travel on the Nation's highways—the number of vehicle miles traveled has been increasing. One key ingredient which made the VMT growth possible is fuel—gasoline, diesel, and other less common fuels.

Figure 5-1. Highway Fuel Usage, 1970–2006



FROM 1970 TO 2006, total highway fuel consumption increased from 92 billion gallons to nearly 175 billion gallons.

Data Source for Figures 5-1 and 5-2: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Highway Policy Information, Highway Statistics

Figure 5-2. Fuel Consumption by State, 2006

