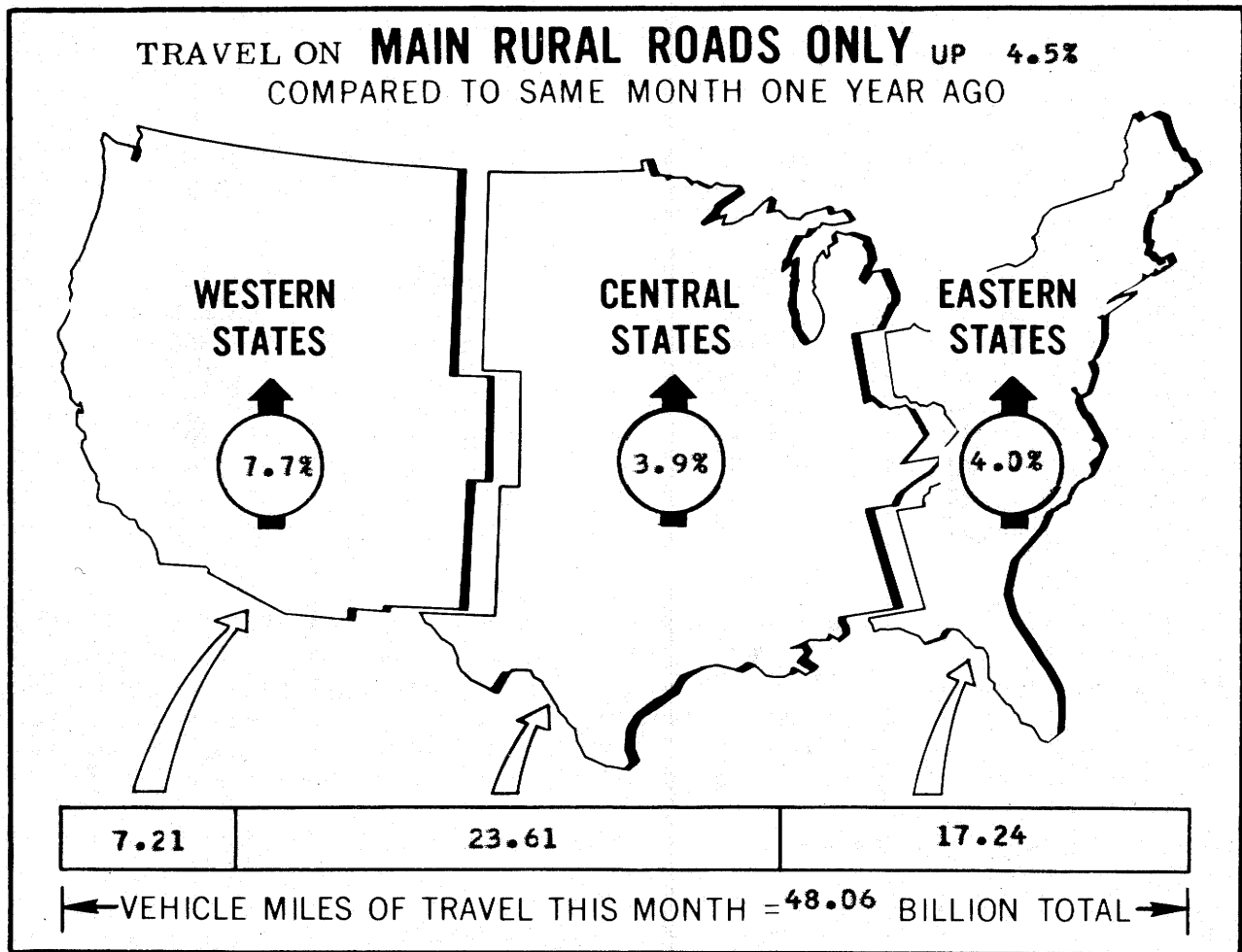


TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

MAY 1978 1/

TRAVEL ON **ALL ROADS AND STREETS** UP 3.7%
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 1978

Based on preliminary reports from the State highway agencies, travel during May 1978 on all roads and streets in the nation increased by 3.7 percent as compared to May 1977, resulting in estimated travel for the month at 133,632 million vehicle miles. This total includes 48,345 million vehicle miles on main rural roads, 13,594 million vehicle miles on other rural roads, and 71,694 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 | 48,345 | 206,437 | 133,632 | 588,770 |

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 4000 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.

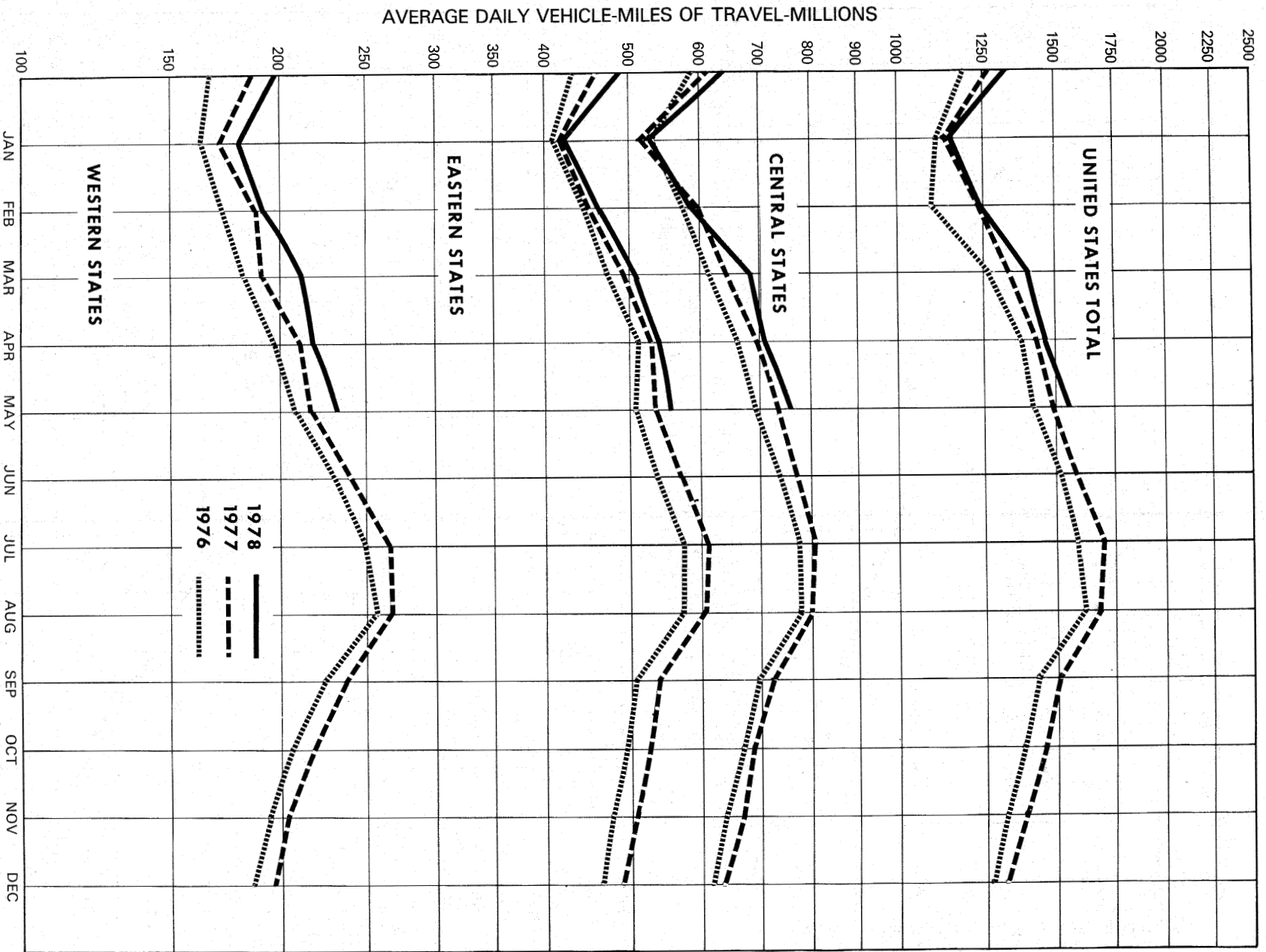


FIGURE 1 - TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS, BY MONTHS

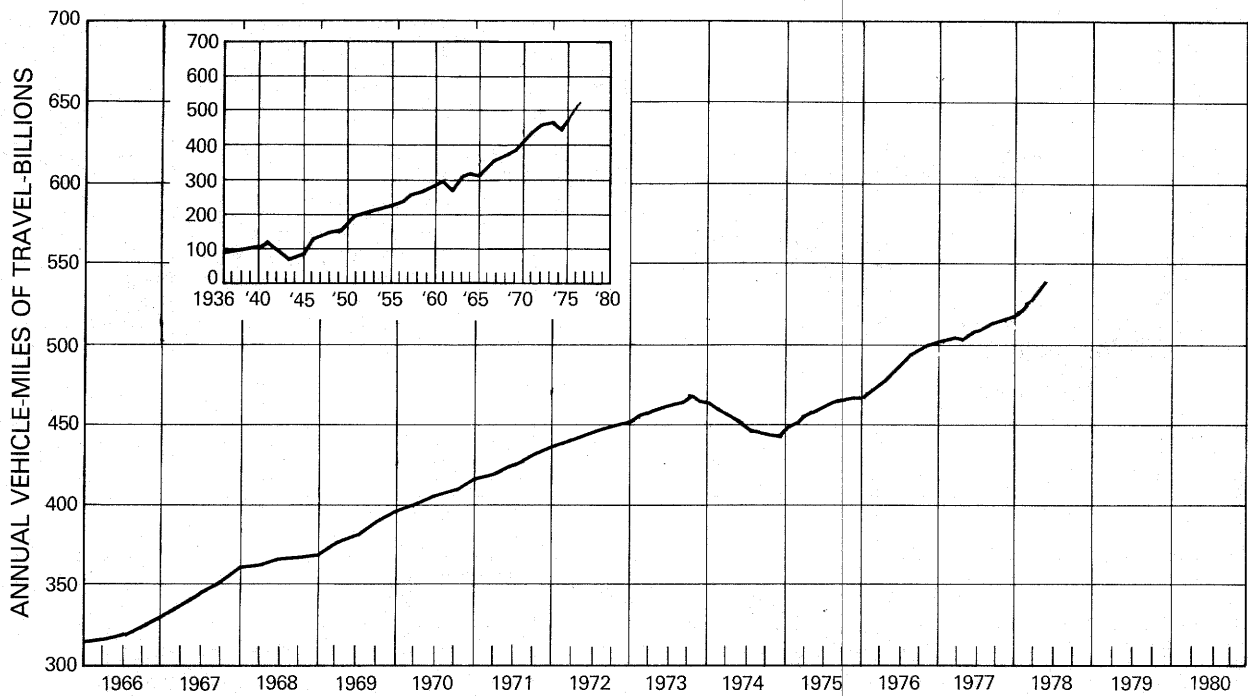


FIGURE 2 - ANNUAL TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS FOR 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING IN MONTH SHOWN

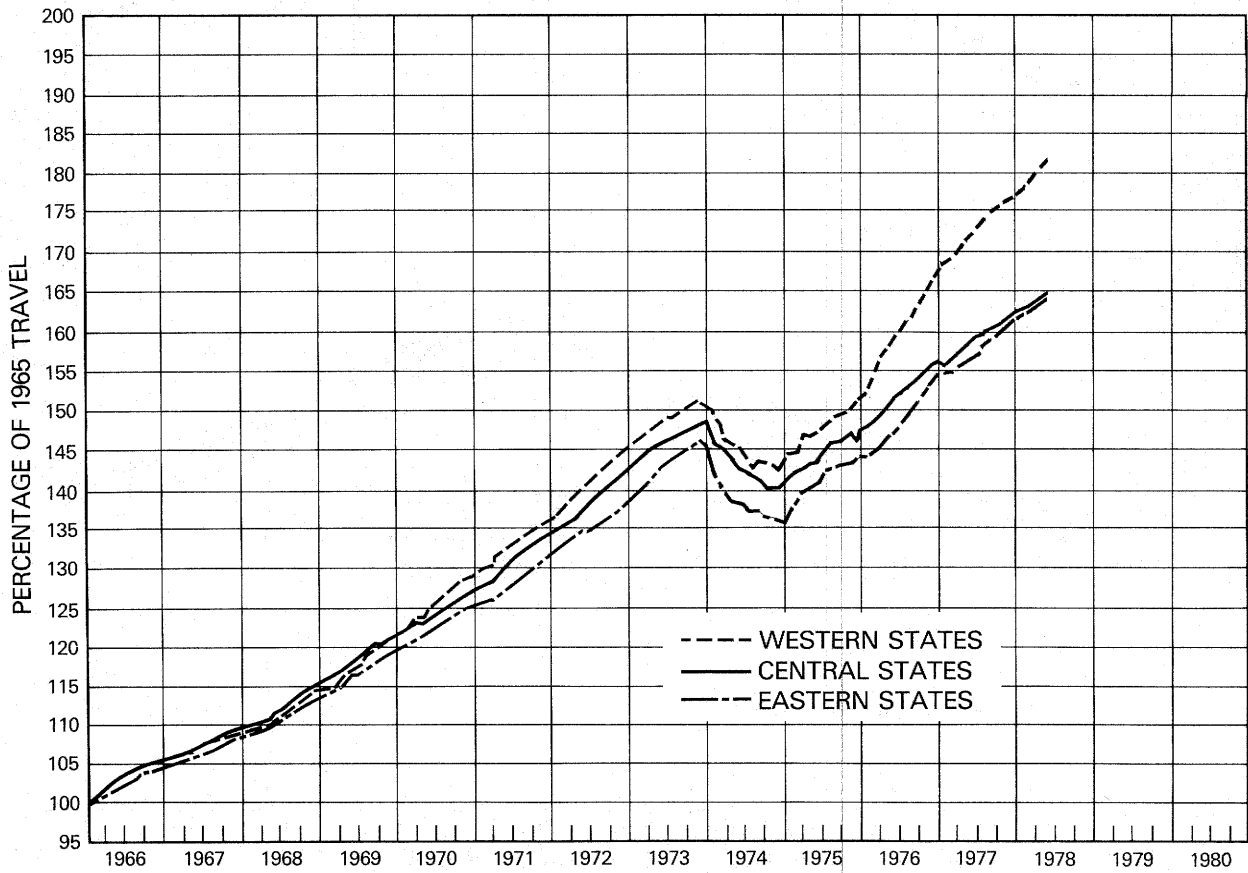


FIGURE 3 - ANNUAL TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS AS PERCENTAGE OF YEAR 1965

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 |
| | 1978 | 1977 | | 1978 | 1977 | |
| MAIN RURAL ROADS..... | 48,345 | 46,252 | 4.5 | 44,274 | 43,112 | 2.7 |
| LOCAL RURAL ROADS..... | 13,594 | 13,359 | 1.8 | 12,260 | 12,219 | 0.3 |
| ALL RURAL ROADS..... | 61,938 | 59,610 | 3.9 | 56,534 | 55,331 | 2.2 |
| CITY STREETS..... | 71,694 | 69,273 | 3.5 | 68,495 | 66,182 | 3.5 |
| ALL ROADS AND STREETS..... | 133,632 | 128,884 | 3.7 | 125,029 | 121,513 | 2.9 |
| 48 STATES (MAIN RURAL ONLY): | | | | | | |
| EASTERN REGION..... | 17,239 | 16,574 | 4.0 | 16,221 | 15,839 | 2.4 |
| CENTRAL REGION..... | 23,608 | 22,719 | 3.9 | 21,395 | 20,734 | 3.2 |
| WESTERN REGION..... | 7,213 | 6,695 | 7.7 | 6,393 | 6,293 | 1.6 |
| TOTAL..... | 48,060 | 45,988 | 4.5 | 44,009 | 42,866 | 2.7 |

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..... | - | - | - | - | ALABAMA..... | - | - | 52 | 5.1 |
| MAINE..... | 20 | 5.3 | 21 | 5.7 | KENTUCKY..... | 3 | 5.2 | 4 | 3.9 |
| MASSACHUSETTS..... | - | - | - | - | MISSISSIPPI..... | 42 | 4.1 | 37 | 4.8 |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE..... | - | - | 58 | 7.8 | TENNESSEE..... | 22 | 2.5 | 22 | 7.4 |
| RHODE ISLAND..... | - | - | 5 | 2.0 | | | | | |
| VERMONT..... | 40 | 5.0 | 38 | 2.8 | WEST NORTH CENTRAL: | | | | |
| MIDDLE ATLANTIC: | | | | | IOWA..... | 33 | 3.6 | 33 | - 0.3 |
| NEW JERSEY..... | - | - | 23 | 4.7 | KANSAS..... | 69 | 1.9 | 64 | 0.2 |
| NEW YORK..... | 21 | 2.9 | 26 | 1.0 | MINNESOTA..... | - | - | 38 | 0.8 |
| PENNSYLVANIA..... | 49 | - 1.1 | 45 | 2.1 | MISSOURI..... | 63 | 4.5 | 61 | 1.8 |
| | | | | | NEBRASKA..... | 21 | 6.2 | 21 | 2.3 |
| SOUTH ATLANTIC (NORTH): | | | | | NORTH DAKOTA..... | 39 | 5.9 | 39 | - 0.6 |
| DELAWARE..... | 13 | 0.6 | 14 | 1.5 | SOUTH DAKOTA..... | 36 | 1.9 | 36 | - 5.5 |
| MARYLAND..... | 35 | 1.7 | 31 | 2.0 | WEST SOUTH CENTRAL: | | | | |
| VIRGINIA..... | - | 5.4 | - | 4.2 | ARKANSAS..... | 30 | 1.5 | 28 | 6.9 |
| WEST VIRGINIA..... | - | - | 28 | 4.7 | LOUISIANA..... | - | - | 44 | 6.2 |
| | | | | | OKLAHOMA..... | 20 | 2.0 | 27 | 4.3 |
| SOUTH ATLANTIC (SOUTH): | | | | | TEXAS..... | 118 | 6.7 | 118 | 4.0 |
| FLORIDA..... | 30 | 5.4 | 34 | 2.4 | MOUNTAIN: | | | | |
| GEORGIA..... | 25 | 7.7 | 25 | 3.0 | ARIZONA..... | 27 | 9.1 | 26 | 2.7 |
| NORTH CAROLINA..... | 44 | 2.7 | 45 | - 0.4 | COLORADO..... | 43 | 2.2 | 43 | 6.1 |
| SOUTH CAROLINA..... | 13 | 12.9 | 12 | 1.8 | IDAHO..... | 63 | 6.2 | 63 | 3.0 |
| | | | | | MONTANA..... | 24 | 6.1 | 23 | 5.4 |
| EAST NORTH CENTRAL: | | | | | NEVADA..... | 36 | 15.4 | 26 | 2.7 |
| ILLINOIS..... | 31 | 7.3 | 27 | 8.9 | NEW MEXICO..... | 29 | 7.4 | 29 | 6.5 |
| INDIANA..... | 24 | 2.6 | 23 | 0.6 | UTAH..... | - | - | 45 | 1.7 |
| MICHIGAN..... | 60 | 2.7 | 59 | 1.3 | WYOMING..... | 37 | - 1.6 | 34 | 4.0 |
| OHIO..... | 21 | 0.6 | 22 | - 0.6 | PACIFIC: | | | | |
| WISCONSIN..... | 47 | 4.9 | 44 | 1.9 | CALIFORNIA..... | 9 | 10.0 | 11 | - 1.8 |
| | | | | | OREGON..... | - | - | - | - |
| ALASKA..... | - | - | 10 | 8.8 | WASHINGTON..... | 7 | 9.4 | 12 | 3.5 |
| HAWAII..... | 3 | 7.6 | 3 | 6.3 | | | | | |

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 DASH AND THE PERCENTAGE CHANGE IS SHOWN, THE STATES PREPARED TRAFFIC ESTIMATES, GENERALLY BASED ON EXTENSIVE TRAFFIC SAMPLING SURVEYS.

3-WHERE THE NUMBER OF STATIONS AND THE PERCENTAGE CHANGE FOR A STATE ARE DASHES, THE STATE REPORT HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT TIME OF PRINTING, OR NO COMPARABLE DATA WERE AVAILABLE.

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HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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 |
| 1977 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS* | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAIN RURAL | 33.9 | 34.6 | 41.3 | 43.1 | 46.3 | 47.5 | 52.4 | 52.0 | 45.0 | 45.2 | 41.6 | 40.7 |
| LOCAL RURAL | 9.4 | 9.5 | 11.1 | 12.2 | 13.4 | 13.2 | 14.0 | 13.9 | 12.8 | 12.9 | 11.6 | 10.7 |
| URBAN | 59.2 | 58.4 | 67.6 | 66.2 | 69.3 | 68.7 | 69.9 | 70.4 | 66.4 | 69.3 | 65.3 | 64.8 |
| ALL SYSTEMS | 102.4 | 102.4 | 120.0 | 121.5 | 128.9 | 129.3 | 136.2 | 136.3 | 124.2 | 127.4 | 118.5 | 116.3 |
| 1978 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAIN RURAL | 34.6 | 35.0 | 44.2 | 44.3 | 48.3 | | | | | | | |
| LOCAL RURAL | 9.5 | 9.4 | 11.2 | 12.3 | 13.6 | | | | | | | |
| URBAN | 59.4 | 57.9 | 68.9 | 68.5 | 71.7 | | | | | | | |
| ALL SYSTEMS | 103.5 | 102.3 | 124.4 | 125.0 | 133.6 | | | | | | | |
| PERCENT CHANGE IN INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY TRAVEL 1978 VS. 1977 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAIN RURAL | 2.2 | 1.1 | 7.1 | 2.7 | 4.5 | | | | | | | |
| LOCAL RURAL | 1.4 | -0.9 | 1.3 | 0.3 | 1.8 | | | | | | | |
| URBAN | 0.2 | -0.7 | 2.0 | 3.5 | 3.5 | | | | | | | |
| ALL SYSTEMS | 1.0 | -0.1 | 3.7 | 2.9 | 3.7 | | | | | | | |

* THESE ARE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES WHICH WILL BE REVISED TO AGREE WITH FINAL ESTIMATES OF 1977 ANNUAL TRAVEL PROVIDED BY STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS.

** TO BE REVISED BASED ON 1977 FINAL TRAVEL ESTIMATES.

*** SYSTEM ENTRIES MAY NOT ADD TO TOTAL "ALL SYSTEMS" DUE TO ROUNDING.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT KENNETH WELLY, HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION. 202-426-0160.

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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 |
| 1977 CUMULATIVE MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS* | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAIN RURAL | 33.9 | 68.5 | 109.8 | 152.9 | 199.1 | 246.6 | 299.0 | 351.0 | 396.0 | 441.1 | 482.8 | 523.4 |
| LOCAL RURAL | 9.4 | 18.8 | 29.9 | 42.1 | 55.5 | 68.7 | 82.6 | 96.6 | 109.4 | 122.3 | 133.9 | 144.6 |
| URBAN | 59.2 | 117.6 | 185.2 | 251.3 | 320.6 | 389.3 | 459.1 | 529.5 | 595.9 | 665.2 | 730.5 | 795.3 |
| ALL SYSTEMS | 102.4 | 204.9 | 324.8 | 446.3 | 575.2 | 704.5 | 840.7 | 977.1 | 1101.3 | 1228.7 | 1347.2 | 1463.4 |
| 1978 CUMULATIVE MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAIN RURAL | 34.6 | 69.6 | 113.8 | 158.1 | 206.4 | | | | | | | |
| LOCAL RURAL | 9.5 | 18.9 | 30.1 | 42.4 | 56.0 | | | | | | | |
| URBAN | 59.4 | 117.3 | 186.2 | 254.7 | 326.4 | | | | | | | |
| ALL SYSTEMS | 103.5 | 205.8 | 330.1 | 455.1 | 588.8 | | | | | | | |
| PERCENT CHANGE IN CUMULATIVE MONTHLY TRAVEL 1978 VS. 1977 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAIN RURAL | 2.2 | 1.6 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.7 | | | | | | | |
| LOCAL RURAL | 1.4 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 | | | | | | | |
| URBAN | 0.2 | -0.2 | 0.6 | 1.3 | 1.8 | | | | | | | |
| ALL SYSTEMS | 1.0 | 0.4 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 2.4 | | | | | | | |

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