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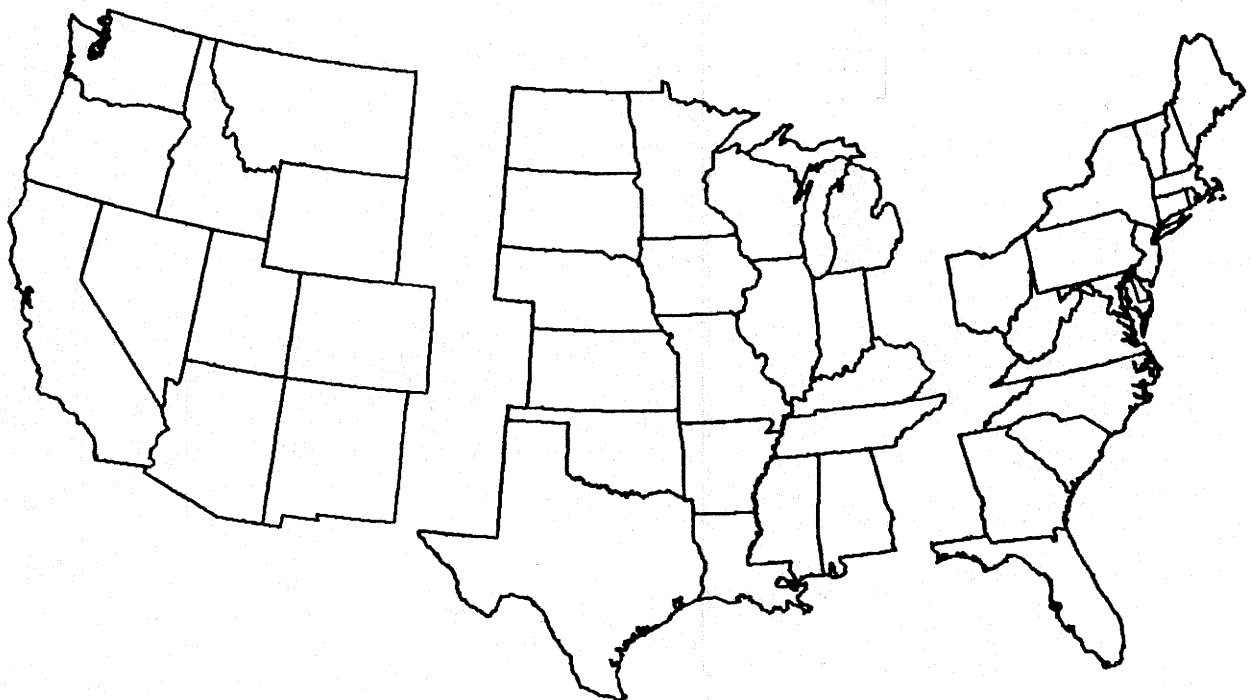


U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
Federal Highway  
Administration

# TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

OCTOBER 1988

**TRAVEL ON ALL ROADS AND STREETS IS UP BY 3.6 PERCENT  
FOR OCTOBER 1988 AS COMPARED TO OCTOBER 1987.**



**WESTERN**

**CENTRAL**

**EASTERN**

**ESTIMATED VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL BY REGION - OCTOBER 1988.**

**35.5 BILLION**

**73.9 BILLION**

**61.2 BILLION**

**PERCENT CHANGE IN TRAFFIC COMPARED TO SAME MONTH LAST YEAR**

**+5.3**

**+2.8**

**+3.6**

**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 1986 TABLE VM-2 AS A BASE.**

**COMPILED WITH DATA ON HAND AS OF DECEMBER 14, 1988.**

TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS - OCTOBER 1988

BASED ON PRELIMINARY REPORTS FROM THE STATE HIGHWAY AGENCIES, TRAVEL DURING OCTOBER 1988 ON ALL ROADS AND STREETS IN THE NATION INCREASED BY 3.6 PERCENT AS COMPARED TO OCTOBER 1987, RESULTING IN ESTIMATED TRAVEL FOR THE MONTH AT 171496 MILLION VEHICLE-MILES. THIS TOTAL INCLUDES 70613 MILLION VEHICLE-MILES ON RURAL ROADS AND 100883 MILLION VEHICLE-MILES ON URBAN ROADS AND STREETS.

TRAVEL FOR THE CURRENT MONTH AS WELL AS 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 | OCTOBER | YEAR TO DATE |
|------|---------|--------------|
| 1970 | 96317   | 940733       |
| 1971 | 102525  | 994545       |
| 1972 | 108841  | 1066531      |
| 1973 | 113089  | 1105051      |
| 1974 | 112572  | 1079483      |
| 1975 | 115250  | 1115140      |
| 1976 | 121210  | 1183137      |
| 1977 | 127388  | 1228666      |
| 1978 | 132930  | 1299927      |
| 1979 | 131619  | 1282525      |
| 1980 | 132615  | 1272638      |
| 1981 | 133216  | 1301045      |
| 1982 | 138780  | 1338281      |
| 1983 | 144044  | 1385630      |
| 1984 | 147610  | 1443401      |
| 1985 | 154587  | 1492306      |
| 1986 | 159434  | 1540800      |
| 1987 | 165592  | 1601444      |
| 1988 | 171496  | 1657907      |

"TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS" IS A MONTHLY REPORT 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 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, FOR EXTRA COPIES, OR TO BE PUT ON THE MONTHLY MAILING LIST, CONTACT:

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FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
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PHONE 202-366-5055

FIGURE 1 - MOVING 12-MONTH TOTAL ON ALL HIGHWAYS

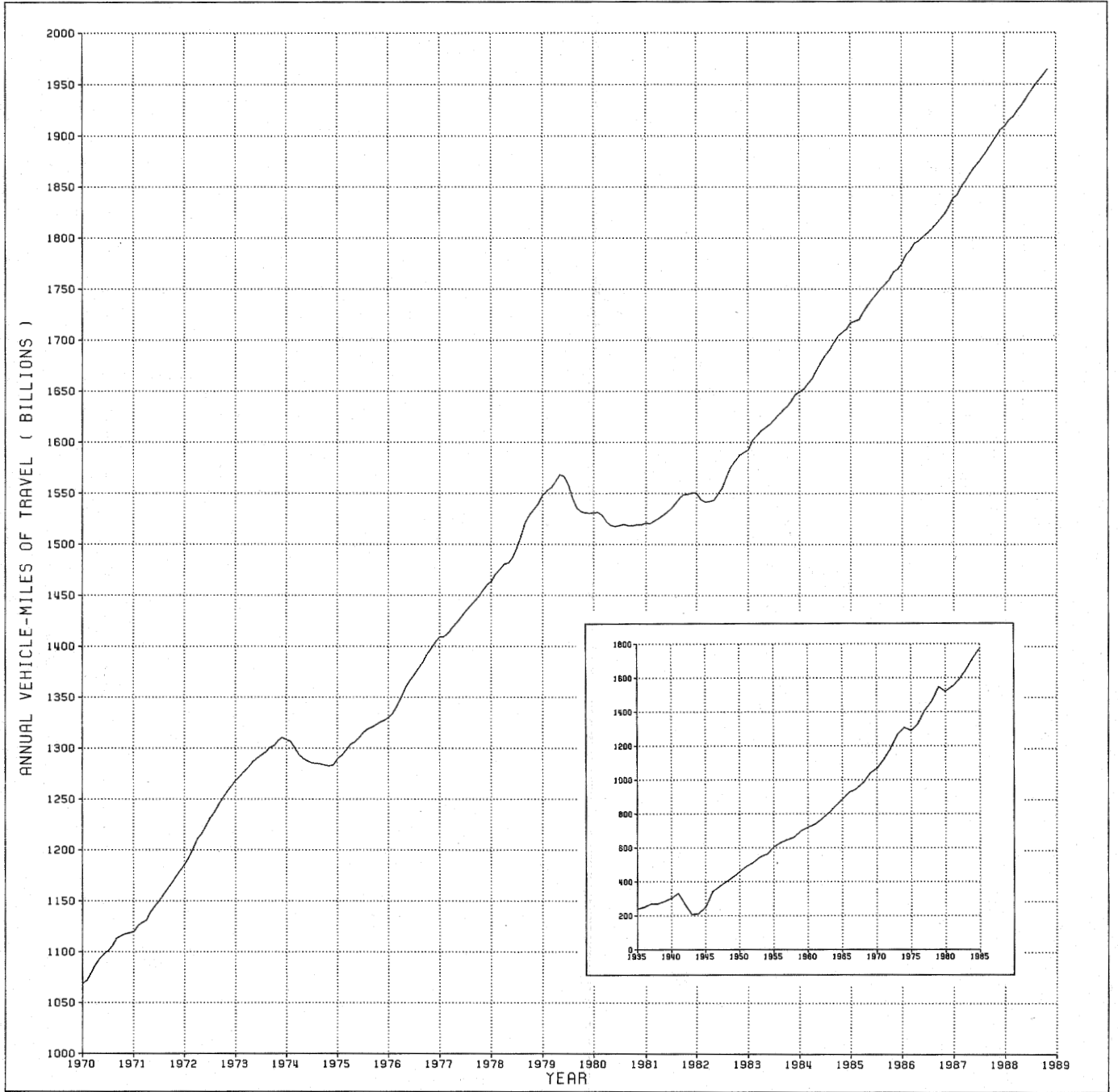
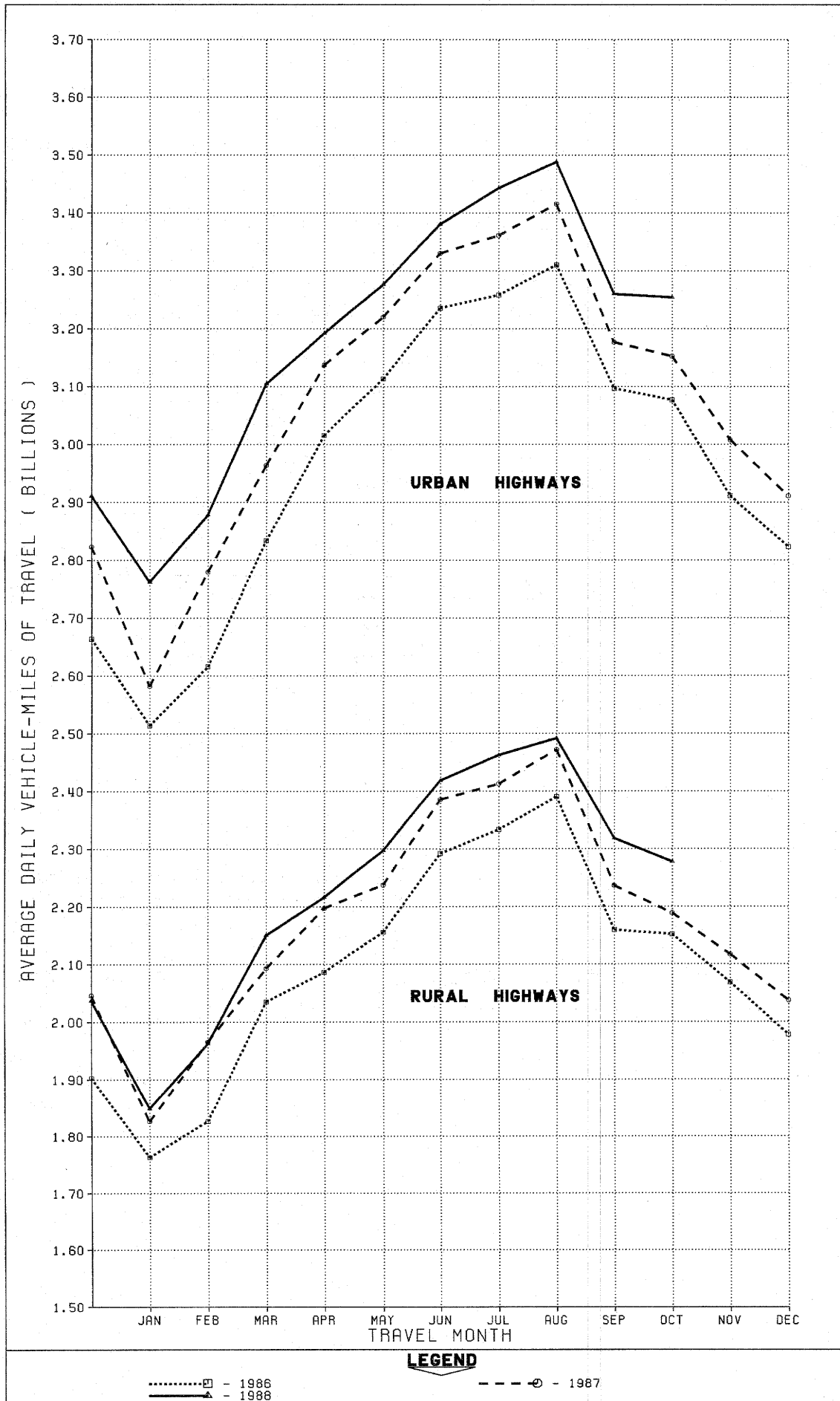


FIGURE 2 - TRAVEL ON U S HIGHWAYS BY MONTH



**LEGEND**

- ..... □ - 1986
- ..... △ - 1988
- ○ - 1987

TABLE 1.

ESTIMATED INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY MOTOR VEHICLE TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES \*

| SYSTEM   | MONTH |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|  | JAN   | FEB   | MAR   | APR   | MAY   | JUNE  | JULY  | AUG   | SEPT  | OCT   | NOV   | DEC   |
| 1987 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS**  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| RURAL ARTERIAL   | 31.3  | 30.6  | 37.5  | 37.9  | 40.9  | 42.8  | 46.1  | 46.7  | 40.6  | 40.8  | 38.4  | 37.7  |
| OTHER RURAL  | 23.4  | 22.6  | 25.9  | 26.1  | 27.0  | 26.8  | 27.1  | 27.8  | 26.5  | 27.1  | 25.1  | 25.5  |
| URBAN  | 82.2  | 78.8  | 93.4  | 93.1  | 98.3  | 98.2  | 103.6 | 105.2 | 95.3  | 97.7  | 90.2  | 90.2  |
| ALL SYSTEMS  | 136.9 | 132.1 | 156.8 | 157.1 | 166.2 | 167.7 | 176.8 | 179.7 | 162.4 | 165.6 | 153.8 | 153.4 |
| 1988 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS*** |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| RURAL ARTERIAL   | 33.0  | 31.8  | 39.9  | 39.7  | 43.2  | 44.8  | 48.3  | 48.6  | 42.3  | 42.9  |       |       |
| OTHER RURAL  | 24.3  | 23.1  | 26.8  | 26.8  | 28.0  | 27.8  | 28.0  | 28.7  | 27.3  | 27.7  |       |       |
| URBAN  | 85.6  | 80.6  | 96.3  | 95.8  | 101.6 | 101.4 | 106.7 | 108.2 | 97.8  | 100.9 |       |       |
| ALL SYSTEMS  | 143.0 | 135.6 | 162.9 | 162.3 | 172.8 | 174.0 | 183.1 | 185.4 | 167.4 | 171.5 |       |       |
| PERCENT CHANGE IN INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY TRAVEL 1988 VS. 1987      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| RURAL ARTERIAL   | 5.7   | 3.9   | 6.3   | 4.8   | 5.5   | 4.7   | 4.8   | 4.0   | 4.1   | 5.2   |       |       |
| OTHER RURAL  | 3.7   | 2.3   | 3.6   | 2.6   | 4.0   | 3.7   | 3.3   | 3.1   | 3.0   | 2.3   |       |       |
| URBAN  | 4.2   | 2.2   | 3.0   | 2.8   | 3.3   | 3.3   | 3.1   | 2.8   | 2.6   | 3.2   |       |       |
| ALL SYSTEMS  | 4.4   | 2.6   | 3.9   | 3.3   | 3.9   | 3.7   | 3.6   | 3.1   | 3.0   | 3.6   |       |       |

TABLE 2.

ESTIMATED CUMULATIVE MONTHLY MOTOR VEHICLE TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES \*

| SYSTEM   | MONTH |       |       |       |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|  | JAN   | FEB   | MAR   | APR   | MAY   | JUNE  | JULY   | AUG    | SEPT   | OCT    | NOV    | DEC    |
| 1987 CUMULATIVE MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS**  |       |       |       |       |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| RURAL ARTERIAL   | 31.3  | 61.9  | 99.4  | 137.3 | 178.3 | 221.0 | 267.2  | 313.9  | 354.5  | 395.3  | 433.6  | 471.3  |
| OTHER RURAL  | 23.4  | 46.0  | 71.9  | 98.0  | 125.0 | 151.8 | 178.9  | 206.7  | 233.2  | 260.3  | 285.4  | 310.9  |
| URBAN  | 82.2  | 161.1 | 254.5 | 347.6 | 446.0 | 544.1 | 647.7  | 752.9  | 848.2  | 945.9  | 1036.2 | 1126.4 |
| ALL SYSTEMS  | 136.9 | 269.0 | 425.8 | 583.0 | 749.2 | 916.9 | 1093.7 | 1273.4 | 1435.9 | 1601.4 | 1755.2 | 1908.6 |
| 1988 CUMULATIVE MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS*** |       |       |       |       |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| RURAL ARTERIAL   | 33.0  | 64.9  | 104.8 | 144.5 | 187.7 | 232.5 | 280.8  | 329.4  | 371.7  | 414.5  |        |        |
| OTHER RURAL  | 24.3  | 47.4  | 74.2  | 101.0 | 129.0 | 156.8 | 184.8  | 213.5  | 240.8  | 268.5  |        |        |
| URBAN  | 85.6  | 166.2 | 262.5 | 358.3 | 459.8 | 561.3 | 668.0  | 776.2  | 874.0  | 974.9  |        |        |
| ALL SYSTEMS  | 143.0 | 278.5 | 441.5 | 603.8 | 776.6 | 950.6 | 1133.7 | 1319.1 | 1486.4 | 1657.9 |        |        |
| PERCENT CHANGE IN CUMULATIVE MONTHLY TRAVEL 1988 VS. 1987      |       |       |       |       |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| RURAL ARTERIAL   | 5.7   | 4.8   | 5.4   | 5.2   | 5.3   | 5.2   | 5.1    | 4.9    | 4.8    | 4.9    |        |        |
| OTHER RURAL  | 3.7   | 3.0   | 3.2   | 3.0   | 3.2   | 3.3   | 3.3    | 3.3    | 3.3    | 3.2    |        |        |
| URBAN  | 4.2   | 3.2   | 3.2   | 3.1   | 3.1   | 3.2   | 3.1    | 3.1    | 3.0    | 3.1    |        |        |
| ALL SYSTEMS  | 4.4   | 3.5   | 3.7   | 3.6   | 3.7   | 3.7   | 3.7    | 3.6    | 3.5    | 3.5    |        |        |

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

\*\* THESE ARE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES WHICH WILL BE REVISED TO AGREE WITH FINAL ESTIMATES OF 1987 ANNUAL TRAVEL PROVIDED BY STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS.

\*\*\* TO BE REVISED BASED ON 1988 FINAL TRAVEL ESTIMATES.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT KENNETH WELTY, OFFICE OF HIGHWAY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, PHONE 202-366-5055.

TABLE 3.-SUMMARY BY ROAD CLASS AND BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

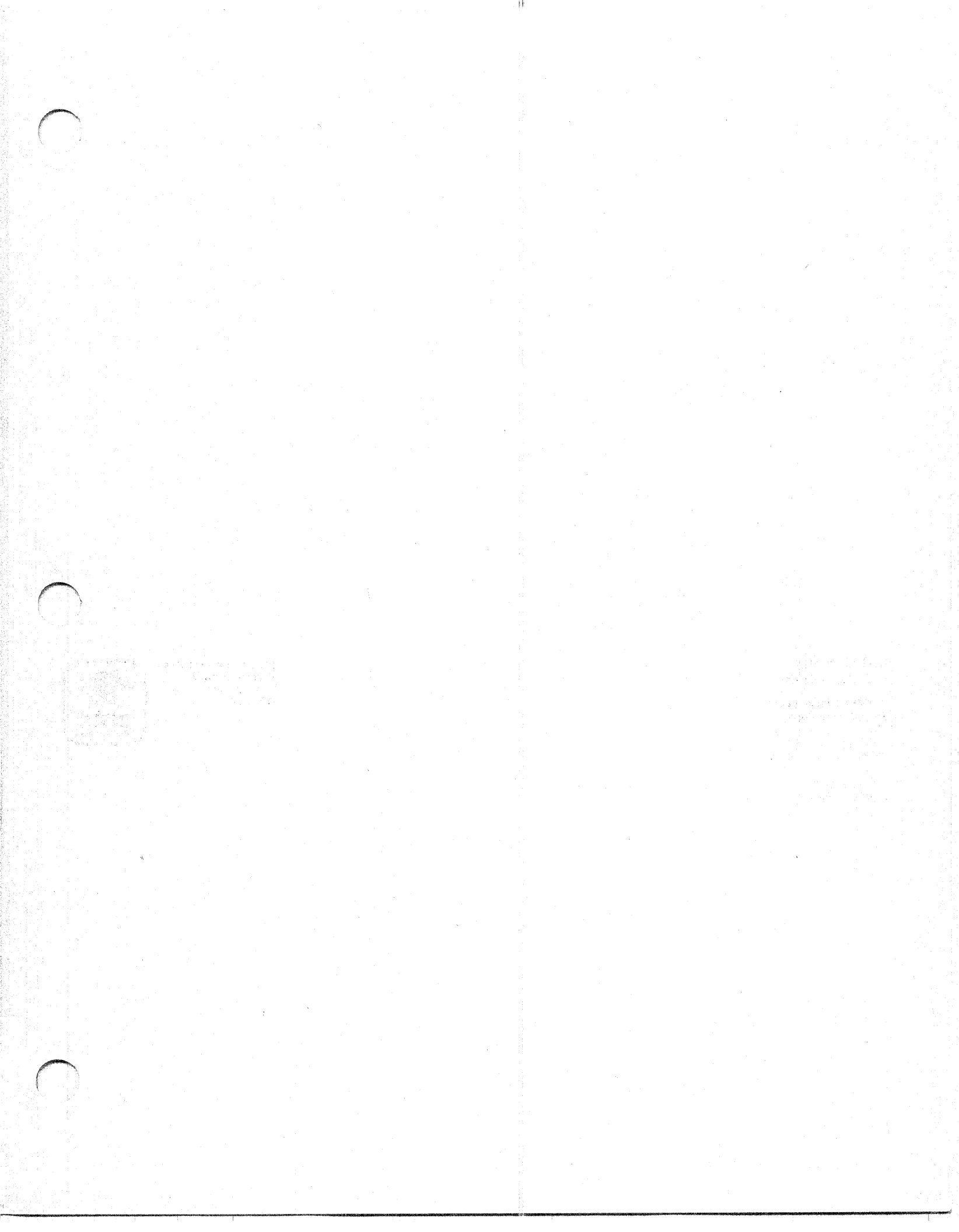
|                             | PRELIMINARY DATA FOR OCTOBER |         |                   | REVISED DATA FOR SEPTEMBER |         |                   |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------|
|                             | VEHICLE-MILES (MILLIONS)     |         | PERCENTAGE CHANGE | VEHICLE-MILES (MILLIONS)   |         | PERCENTAGE CHANGE |
|                             | 1988                         | 1987    |                   | 1988                       | 1987    |                   |
| CLASS OF ROAD, ALL STATES:  |                              |         |                   |                            |         |                   |
| RURAL ARTERIAL ROADS.....   | 42,879                       | 40,755  | 5.2               | 42,275                     | 40,615  | 4.1               |
| OTHER RURAL ROADS.....      | 27,734                       | 27,105  | 2.3               | 27,283                     | 26,489  | 3.0               |
| ALL RURAL ROADS.....        | 70,613                       | 67,860  | 4.1               | 69,557                     | 67,104  | 3.7               |
| CITY STREETS.....           | 100,883                      | 97,733  | 3.2               | 97,799                     | 95,306  | 2.6               |
| ALL ROADS AND STREETS.....  | 171,496                      | 165,592 | 3.6               | 167,356                    | 162,409 | 3.0               |
| 48 STATES (RURAL ARTERIAL): |                              |         |                   |                            |         |                   |
| EASTERN REGION.....         | 14,390                       | 13,679  | 5.2               | 13,913                     | 13,281  | 4.8               |
| CENTRAL REGION.....         | 20,695                       | 19,740  | 4.8               | 20,312                     | 19,577  | 3.8               |
| WESTERN REGION.....         | 7,591                        | 7,134   | 6.4               | 7,849                      | 7,559   | 3.8               |
| TOTAL.....                  | 42,676                       | 40,553  | 5.2               | 42,074                     | 40,417  | 4.1               |

TABLE 4.-CHANGES ON RURAL ARTERIAL ROADS BY STATES

| DIVISION AND STATE      | OCTOBER (PRELIMINARY) |                    | SEPTEMBER (REVISED) |                    | DIVISION AND STATE  | OCTOBER (PRELIMINARY) |                    | SEPTEMBER (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                     | 3.2                | 10                  | 4.8                | ALABAMA.....        | 48                    | 4.9                | 48                  | 3.6                |
| MAINE.....              | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  | KENTUCKY.....       | 27                    | 4.6                | 29                  | 4.0                |
| MASSACHUSETTS.....      | 8                     | - 0.5              | 10                  | 6.1                | MISSISSIPPI.....    | 8                     | 9.3                | 9                   | 7.1                |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE.....      | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  | TENNESSEE.....      | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  |
| RHODE ISLAND.....       | -                     | -                  | 7                   | 11.4               | WEST NORTH CENTRAL: |                       |                    |                     |                    |
| VERMONT.....            | 27                    | 6.6                | 28                  | 4.1                | IOWA.....           | 54                    | 5.5                | 56                  | 4.2                |
| MIDDLE ATLANTIC:        |                       |                    |                     |                    | KANSAS.....         | 61                    | 3.7                | 60                  | 2.8                |
| NEW JERSEY.....         | 9                     | 2.5                | 7                   | 1.2                | MINNESOTA.....      | 39                    | 6.7                | 34                  | 3.3                |
| NEW YORK.....           | -                     | -                  | 14                  | 7.2                | MISSOURI.....       | 44                    | 5.0                | 43                  | 3.0                |
| PENNSYLVANIA.....       | -                     | -                  | 33                  | 3.1                | NEBRASKA.....       | 25                    | 5.6                | 24                  | 2.1                |
| SOUTH ATLANTIC (NORTH): |                       |                    |                     |                    | NORTH DAKOTA.....   | 29                    | 3.8                | 28                  | - 1.5              |
| DELAWARE.....           | -                     | -                  | 19                  | 3.6                | SOUTH DAKOTA.....   | 25                    | 5.1                | 27                  | 4.4                |
| MARYLAND.....           | -                     | -                  | 29                  | 2.9                | WEST SOUTH CENTRAL: |                       |                    |                     |                    |
| VIRGINIA.....           | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  | ARKANSAS.....       | 15                    | 5.0                | 15                  | 4.4                |
| WEST VIRGINIA.....      | -                     | -                  | 8                   | 2.2                | LOUISIANA.....      | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  |
| SOUTH ATLANTIC (SOUTH): |                       |                    |                     |                    | OKLAHOMA.....       | 34                    | 1.7                | 32                  | 1.8                |
| FLORIDA.....            | 32                    | 11.0               | 31                  | 7.7                | TEXAS.....          | -                     | -                  | 81                  | 1.8                |
| GEORGIA.....            | 17                    | 6.0                | 4                   | 4.7                | MOUNTAIN:           |                       |                    |                     |                    |
| NORTH CAROLINA.....     | 19                    | 6.9                | 16                  | 4.5                | ARIZONA.....        | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  |
| SOUTH CAROLINA.....     | 12                    | 8.5                | 8                   | 5.7                | COLORADO.....       | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  |
| EAST NORTH CENTRAL:     |                       |                    |                     |                    | IDAHO.....          | 55                    | 5.9                | 53                  | 2.3                |
| ILLINOIS.....           | 22                    | 5.3                | 22                  | 4.6                | MONTANA.....        | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  |
| INDIANA.....            | 26                    | 3.1                | 26                  | 1.3                | NEVADA.....         | 15                    | 5.8                | 15                  | 3.3                |
| MICHIGAN.....           | 36                    | 6.8                | 33                  | 7.6                | NEW MEXICO.....     | -                     | -                  | 44                  | 4.3                |
| OHIO.....               | 18                    | 3.8                | 18                  | 3.1                | UTAH.....           | 47                    | 8.4                | -                   | -                  |
| WISCONSIN.....          | 48                    | 3.7                | 49                  | 5.3                | WYOMING.....        | 39                    | 4.1                | 39                  | 0.2                |
| ALASKA.....             | 21                    | - 3.5              | 17                  | - 1.1              | PACIFIC:            |                       |                    |                     |                    |
| HAWAII.....             | 2                     | 4.6                | 3                   | 4.0                | CALIFORNIA.....     | -                     | 6.0                | -                   | 4.8                |
|                         |                       |                    |                     |                    | OREGON.....         | -                     | -                  | -                   | -                  |
|                         |                       |                    |                     |                    | WASHINGTON.....     | 38                    | 5.1                | -                   | -                  |

NOTE: 1-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 AS DETERMINED FROM EXTENSIVE TRAFFIC SAMPLING SURVEYS.

2-WHERE THE NUMBER OF STATIONS AND THE PERCENTAGE CHANGE ARE SHOWN AS DASHES, INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE TO DETERMINE AN ESTIMATE.



U.S. Department  
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**Federal Highway  
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