



U. S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**

Office of Highway  
Policy Information

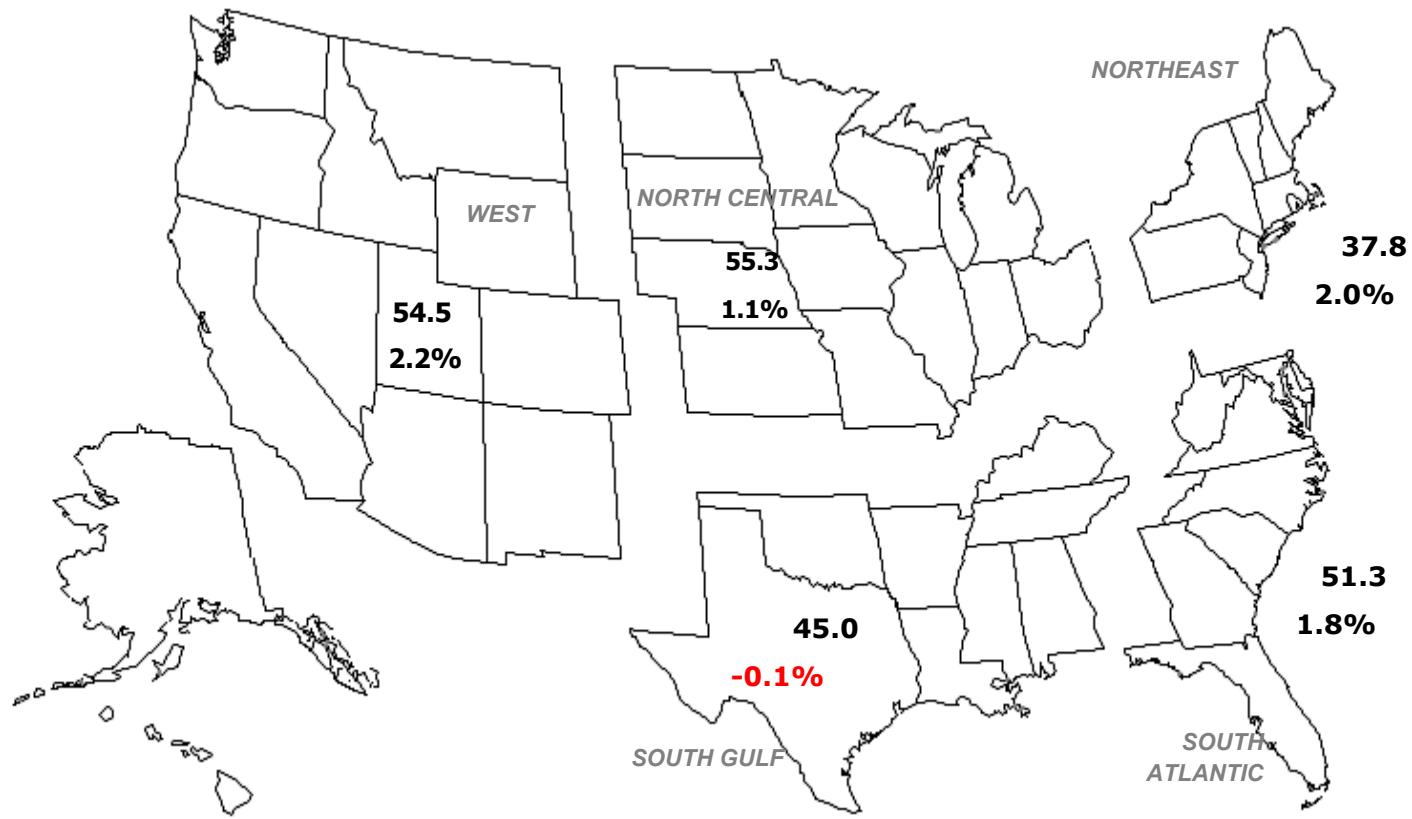
# TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

**December 2004**

Travel on all roads and streets changed by **+1.4** percent for December 2004 as compared with December 2003. Travel for the month is estimated to be 244.0 billion vehicle miles.

Cumulative Travel for 2004 changed by **1.1** percent. The Cumulative estimate for the year is 2,923.9 billion vehicle miles of travel.

Estimated Vehicle-Miles of Travel by Region - December 2004 - (in Billions)  
Change in Traffic as compared to same month last year.



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 2003 Table VM-2 as a base.

Compiled with data on hand as of February 07, 2005.

Based on preliminary reports from the State Highway Agencies, travel during December 2004 on all roads and streets in the nation changed by **+1.4** percent resulting in estimated travel for the month at **244.0\*\*** billion vehicle-miles.

This total includes **87.1** billion vehicle-miles on rural roads and **156.9** billion vehicle-miles on urban roads and streets.

Cumulative Travel changed by **1.1** percent.

Note: Annual travel has been adjusted to match the Highway Performance Monitoring System for 2003. While the adjustment to total travel was less than one percent, rural travel declined 5% and urban travel increased 4% because of this adjustment. The larger changes to rural and urban travel are primarily because of the expansion in urban boundaries reflected in the 2000 census. Travel estimates for 2004 and beyond will also reflect this adjustment.

Travel for the current month, the cumulative yearly total, as well as the moving 12-month total on all roads and streets is shown below. Similar totals for each year since 1979 are also included.

**Travel in Millions of Vehicle Miles**

**All Roads and Streets**

Year	December	Year to Date	Moving 12-Month
1979	123,226	1,529,132	1,529,132
1980	124,798	1,520,856	1,520,856
1981	124,421	1,550,269	1,550,269
1982	127,139	1,592,481	1,592,481
1983	129,776	1,649,108	1,649,108
1984	136,095	1,716,770	1,716,770
1985	141,584	1,774,763	1,774,763
1986	149,628	1,838,240	1,838,240
1987	155,580	1,924,328	1,924,328
1988	164,798	2,025,586	2,025,586
1989	167,530	2,107,040	2,107,040
1990	168,621	2,147,501	2,147,501
1991	172,782	2,172,214	2,172,214
1992	180,999	2,247,152	2,247,152
1993	186,828	2,296,705	2,296,705
1994	193,087	2,357,587	2,357,587
1995	193,341	2,422,776	2,422,776
1996	201,462	2,482,201	2,482,201
1997	207,322	2,560,373	2,560,373
1998	216,303	2,625,363	2,625,363
1999	221,465	2,679,459	2,679,459
2000	218,436	2,746,925	2,746,925
2001	230,103	2,797,287	2,797,287
2002	234,620	2,855,508	2,855,508
2003	240,609	2,890,895	2,890,895
2004	243,989	2,923,903	2,923,903

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.



Table - 3. Changes on Rural Arterial Roads by Region and State\*\*

Region and State	December				November			
	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change
		2004 (Preliminary)	2003			2004 (Revised)	2003	
<b>Northeast</b>								
Connecticut	5	158	149	5.5	5	158	159	-0.9
Maine	-	503	494	2.0	-	503	492	2.1
Massachusetts	-	116	112	3.9	-	110	109	1.8
New Hampshire	-	402	393	2.2	-	403	395	2.0
New Jersey	6	349	332	5.2	3	341	329	3.7
New York	-	1,632	1,588	2.8	-	1,534	1,517	1.2
Pennsylvania	31	2,013	1,961	2.7	31	2,125	2,110	0.7
Rhode Island	1	44	42	4.9	-	44	44	-0.1
Vermont	22	252	248	1.8	22	236	231	2.1
		<b>5,469</b>	<b>5,319</b>	<b>2.8</b>		<b>5,454</b>	<b>5,386</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>South Atlantic</b>								
Delaware	19	172	159	7.9	21	178	170	4.5
District of Columbia	-	0	0	0.0	-	0	0	0.0
Florida	82	3,086	2,954	4.5	81	3,006	2,822	6.5
Georgia	9	2,535	2,438	4.0	12	2,401	2,302	4.3
Maryland	16	490	479	2.3	16	507	497	1.8
North Carolina	15	2,136	2,107	1.4	22	2,066	2,084	-0.9
South Carolina	-	1,685	1,641	2.7	-	1,645	1,623	1.3
Virginia	82	1,730	1,674	3.4	89	1,828	1,794	1.9
West Virginia	15	760	746	2.0	16	793	793	0.0
		<b>12,594</b>	<b>12,198</b>	<b>3.2</b>		<b>12,424</b>	<b>12,085</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>North Central</b>								
Illinois	10	1,645	1,564	5.2	10	1,482	1,442	2.8
Indiana	-	1,580	1,574	0.4	20	1,584	1,590	-0.4
Iowa	69	1,094	1,054	3.7	69	1,100	1,071	2.7
Kansas	56	843	804	4.9	57	827	847	-2.3
Michigan	51	1,466	1,492	-1.7	51	1,443	1,446	-0.2
Minnesota	-	1,580	1,533	3.1	11	1,351	1,274	6.0
Missouri	72	1,710	1,647	3.8	72	1,618	1,625	-0.4
Nebraska	32	706	659	7.1	32	699	663	5.5
North Dakota	33	268	262	2.0	33	271	256	5.8
Ohio	44	1,599	1,624	-1.5	42	1,663	1,644	1.2
South Dakota	32	350	343	2.2	31	364	351	3.5
Wisconsin	-	1,575	1,539	2.3	-	1,652	1,610	2.6
		<b>14,416</b>	<b>14,095</b>	<b>2.3</b>		<b>14,054</b>	<b>13,819</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>South Gulf</b>								
Alabama	-	1,359	1,317	3.2	45	1,328	1,305	1.7
Arkansas	-	1,045	1,030	1.4	-	1,012	1,015	-0.2
Kentucky	47	1,259	1,267	-0.7	47	1,314	1,308	0.4
Louisiana	16	1,055	1,068	-1.2	21	1,087	1,076	1.0
Mississippi	11	1,034	1,052	-1.7	11	1,050	1,054	-0.4
Oklahoma	-	907	864	5.0	-	1,035	1,047	-1.2
Tennessee	6	1,447	1,411	2.5	7	1,368	1,360	0.6
Texas	-	4,161	4,191	-0.7	60	4,190	4,221	-0.7
		<b>12,267</b>	<b>12,200</b>	<b>0.5</b>		<b>12,384</b>	<b>12,386</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>West</b>								
Alaska	-	77	74	3.3	-	78	77	2.2
Arizona	-	1,023	987	3.7	16	901	890	1.1
California	25	4,710	4,574	3.0	28	4,630	4,524	2.3
Colorado	30	753	726	3.7	31	744	730	1.9
Hawaii	5	163	153	6.4	2	149	142	4.6
Idaho	82	390	375	3.9	82	407	389	4.8
Montana	66	466	446	4.6	67	480	452	6.3
Nevada	-	364	352	3.6	21	323	314	2.7
New Mexico	-	780	752	3.7	-	731	733	-0.2
Oregon	66	917	884	3.8	66	932	901	3.4
Utah	41	510	473	7.9	42	497	468	6.1
Washington	-	895	862	3.8	-	923	889	3.8
Wyoming	-	338	323	4.7	-	345	331	4.3
		<b>11,386</b>	<b>10,981</b>	<b>3.7</b>		<b>11,140</b>	<b>10,840</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>56,132</b>	<b>54,793</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1,292</b>	<b>55,456</b>	<b>54,516</b>	<b>1.7</b>

Note: Where Number of Stations are shown as dashes, the values for the Vehicle-Miles and Percent Change are derived from the estimated VMT based on data from surrounding States or the nationwide average VMT.

Table - 4. Changes on Urban Arterial Roads by Region and State\*\*

Region and State	December				November			
	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change
		2004 (Preliminary)	2003			2004 (Revised)	2003	
<b>Northeast</b>								
Connecticut	19	1,889	1,788	5.6	15	1,848	1,816	1.8
Maine	-	238	237	0.6	-	224	223	0.4
Massachusetts	-	3,476	3,369	3.2	-	3,284	3,229	1.7
New Hampshire	-	353	351	0.8	-	333	329	1.2
New Jersey	33	4,366	4,276	2.1	25	4,270	4,343	-1.7
New York	-	6,269	6,195	1.2	-	5,800	5,906	-1.8
Pennsylvania	17	4,156	4,139	0.4	17	4,012	4,087	-1.8
Rhode Island	3	491	509	-3.6	-	507	498	1.9
Vermont	6	105	104	0.6	6	104	104	0.6
	<b>21,343</b>	<b>20,968</b>	<b>1.8</b>		<b>20,382</b>	<b>20,535</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	
<b>South Atlantic</b>								
Delaware	16	306	305	0.4	17	306	312	-2.0
District of Columbia	-	212	210	1.1	-	224	221	1.7
Florida	61	7,439	7,272	2.3	59	7,345	7,038	4.4
Georgia	17	3,772	3,748	0.6	18	3,541	3,505	1.0
Maryland	18	3,397	3,366	0.9	20	3,386	3,330	1.7
North Carolina	13	2,494	2,464	1.2	9	2,545	2,476	2.8
South Carolina	-	1,084	1,079	0.5	-	1,056	1,038	1.7
Virginia	107	3,176	3,143	1.0	106	3,161	3,121	1.3
West Virginia	8	380	372	2.0	5	380	365	4.2
	<b>22,260</b>	<b>21,959</b>	<b>1.4</b>		<b>21,944</b>	<b>21,406</b>	<b>2.5</b>	
<b>North Central</b>								
Illinois	9	4,818	4,662	3.3	10	4,627	4,560	1.5
Indiana	-	2,352	2,366	-0.6	17	2,041	2,091	-2.4
Iowa	29	755	738	2.3	29	749	730	2.6
Kansas	8	940	899	4.5	8	904	893	1.1
Michigan	39	4,751	4,808	-1.2	37	4,473	4,451	0.5
Minnesota	-	1,891	1,846	2.4	4	1,852	1,762	5.1
Missouri	52	2,439	2,415	1.0	52	2,176	2,185	-0.4
Nebraska	10	495	484	2.2	10	478	471	1.4
North Dakota	9	115	111	3.7	10	114	107	6.5
Ohio	76	4,360	4,451	-2.1	76	4,345	4,315	0.7
South Dakota	7	132	126	4.8	7	125	121	3.3
Wisconsin	-	1,830	1,809	1.1	-	1,733	1,705	1.6
	<b>24,878</b>	<b>24,715</b>	<b>0.7</b>		<b>23,617</b>	<b>23,391</b>	<b>1.0</b>	
<b>South Gulf</b>								
Alabama	-	1,576	1,560	1.0	25	1,541	1,508	2.2
Arkansas	-	844	847	-0.4	-	769	761	1.1
Kentucky	27	1,297	1,349	-3.8	20	1,285	1,287	-0.2
Louisiana	10	1,459	1,471	-0.9	10	1,424	1,429	-0.4
Mississippi	7	864	874	-1.2	7	845	850	-0.6
Oklahoma	-	1,524	1,459	4.5	-	1,541	1,517	1.6
Tennessee	3	2,745	2,772	-1.0	4	2,564	2,544	0.8
Texas	-	9,849	9,932	-0.8	31	9,912	9,724	1.9
	<b>20,158</b>	<b>20,264</b>	<b>-0.5</b>		<b>19,881</b>	<b>19,620</b>	<b>1.3</b>	
<b>West</b>								
Alaska	-	140	139	0.7	-	140	138	1.3
Arizona	-	2,597	2,574	0.9	1	2,288	2,234	2.4
California	29	19,800	19,672	0.6	33	20,893	20,623	1.3
Colorado	5	2,270	2,129	6.6	6	1,913	1,983	-3.5
Hawaii	2	447	452	-1.2	1	367	356	3.2
Idaho	50	329	322	2.1	48	331	319	3.8
Montana	-	179	169	5.6	-	170	160	6.2
Nevada	-	877	869	0.9	14	886	834	6.2
New Mexico	-	691	644	7.3	-	586	578	1.4
Oregon	16	1,163	1,149	1.2	16	1,116	1,101	1.3
Utah	29	894	860	3.9	28	883	844	4.7
Washington	-	2,353	2,307	2.0	-	2,331	2,281	2.2
Wyoming	-	109	103	5.3	-	96	97	-0.8
	<b>31,849</b>	<b>31,389</b>	<b>1.5</b>		<b>32,000</b>	<b>31,548</b>	<b>1.4</b>	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>120,488</b>	<b>119,295</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>117,824</b>	<b>116,500</b>	<b>1.1</b>

Note: Where Number of Stations are shown as dashes, the values for the Vehicle-Miles and Percent Change are derived from the estimated VMT based on data from surrounding States or the nationwide average VMT.

Table - 5. Changes on ALL\* Estimated Roads by Region and State\*\*

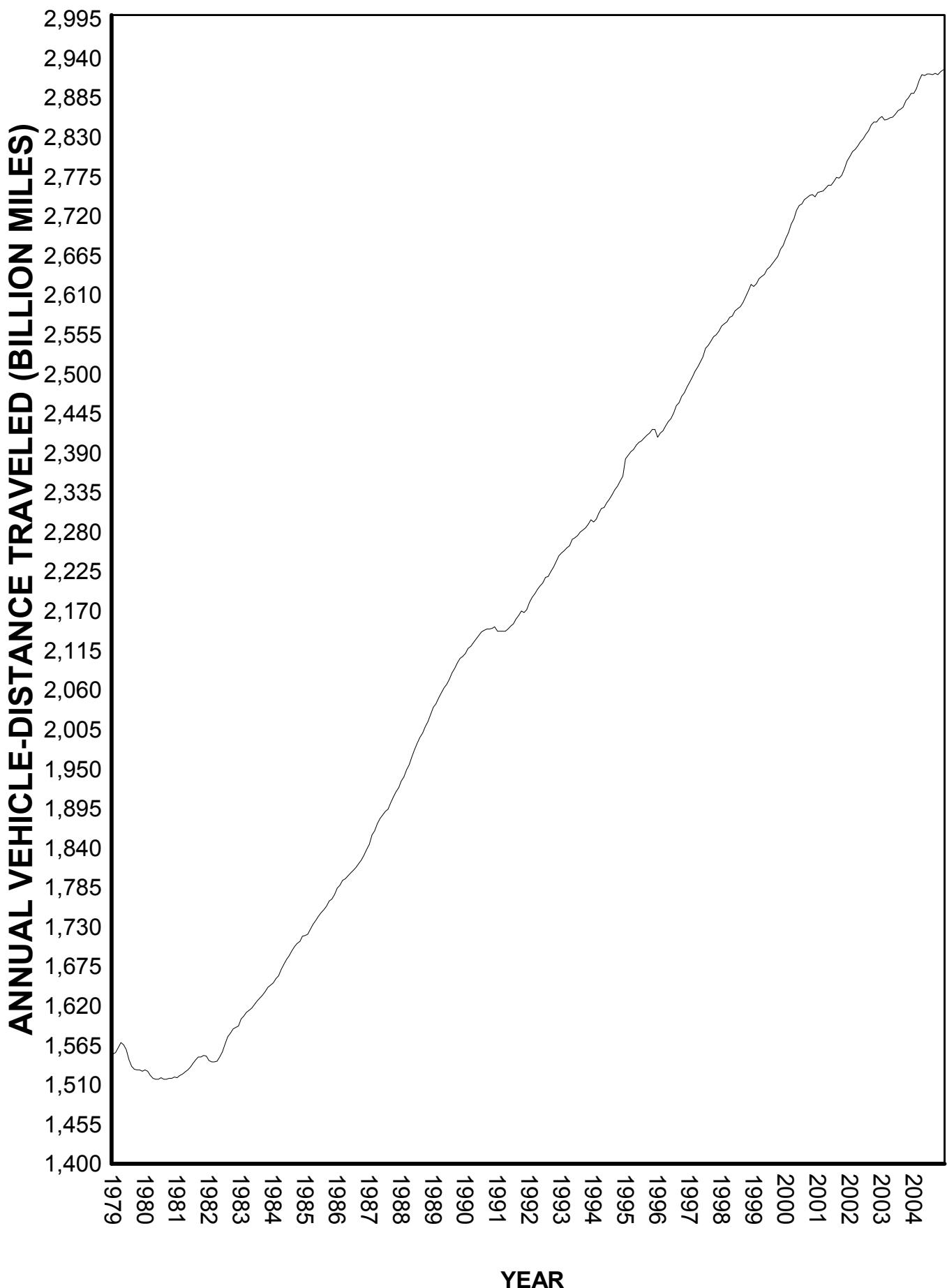
Region and State	December				November			
	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change
		2004 (Preliminary)	2003			2004 (Revised)	2003	
<b>Northeast</b>								
Connecticut	26	2,667	2,528	5.5	22	2,593	2,555	1.5
Maine	-	1,205	1,188	1.4	-	1,173	1,152	1.9
Massachusetts	-	4,663	4,513	3.3	-	4,336	4,265	1.7
New Hampshire	-	1,038	1,023	1.5	-	1,025	1,006	1.8
New Jersey	41	6,068	5,940	2.1	31	5,943	6,012	-1.1
New York	-	11,149	10,986	1.5	-	10,511	10,587	-0.7
Pennsylvania	63	9,790	9,666	1.3	63	8,445	8,486	-0.5
Rhode Island	5	640	659	-2.9	-	660	649	1.7
Vermont	33	611	603	1.4	33	865	849	1.9
	<b>37,831</b>	<b>37,106</b>	<b>2.0</b>			<b>35,551</b>	<b>35,561</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>South Atlantic</b>								
Delaware	54	693	670	3.5	57	711	705	0.8
District of Columbia	-	432	424	1.9	-	440	431	2.0
Florida	147	16,661	16,195	2.9	143	16,226	15,466	4.9
Georgia	37	9,168	9,177	-0.1	43	8,765	8,718	0.5
Maryland	36	4,782	4,726	1.2	38	4,781	4,697	1.8
North Carolina	51	7,647	7,583	0.9	53	7,519	7,504	0.2
South Carolina	-	3,849	3,804	1.2	-	3,730	3,714	0.4
Virginia	205	6,467	6,246	3.5	212	6,513	6,333	2.8
West Virginia	32	1,643	1,614	1.9	31	1,729	1,712	1.0
	<b>51,342</b>	<b>50,439</b>	<b>1.8</b>			<b>50,414</b>	<b>49,280</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>North Central</b>								
Illinois	19	8,692	8,371	3.8	20	8,290	8,143	1.8
Indiana	-	5,888	5,911	-0.4	51	5,657	5,665	-0.1
Iowa	125	2,506	2,438	2.8	125	2,549	2,493	2.3
Kansas	73	2,379	2,273	4.7	74	2,345	2,315	1.3
Michigan	95	8,601	8,766	-1.9	93	8,105	8,122	-0.2
Minnesota	-	4,702	4,583	2.6	17	4,568	4,327	5.6
Missouri	130	6,042	5,915	2.1	130	5,488	5,517	-0.5
Nebraska	51	1,578	1,506	4.8	52	1,542	1,494	3.3
North Dakota	46	577	564	2.5	47	579	543	6.5
Ohio	132	8,940	9,034	-1.0	132	9,032	8,922	1.2
South Dakota	47	625	607	3.0	45	636	613	3.7
Wisconsin	-	4,761	4,700	1.3	-	4,764	4,669	2.0
	<b>55,291</b>	<b>54,668</b>	<b>1.1</b>			<b>53,555</b>	<b>52,823</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<b>South Gulf</b>								
Alabama	-	4,757	4,696	1.3	76	4,794	4,611	4.0
Arkansas	-	2,775	2,756	0.7	-	2,496	2,488	0.4
Kentucky	102	3,624	3,719	-2.5	95	3,739	3,755	-0.4
Louisiana	30	3,569	3,591	-0.6	37	3,586	3,578	0.2
Mississippi	19	3,147	3,185	-1.2	19	3,086	3,073	0.4
Oklahoma	-	3,584	3,427	4.6	-	3,749	3,711	1.0
Tennessee	12	5,578	5,590	-0.2	14	5,244	5,224	0.4
Texas	-	17,990	18,093	-0.6	109	18,165	17,930	1.3
	<b>45,024</b>	<b>45,057</b>	<b>-0.1</b>			<b>44,859</b>	<b>44,370</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>West</b>								
Alaska	-	343	338	1.5	-	346	340	1.8
Arizona	-	5,233	5,148	1.6	22	4,624	4,533	2.0
California	54	28,887	28,576	1.1	61	29,981	29,540	1.5
Colorado	35	3,794	3,582	5.9	37	3,314	3,381	-2.0
Hawaii	7	980	972	0.8	3	826	797	3.6
Idaho	144	1,087	1,048	3.7	143	1,142	1,091	4.7
Montana	77	945	896	5.6	77	900	848	6.2
Nevada	-	1,643	1,615	1.7	39	1,886	1,788	5.4
New Mexico	-	1,897	1,799	5.5	-	1,733	1,722	0.7
Oregon	87	2,746	2,678	2.5	87	2,751	2,672	3.0
Utah	74	1,968	1,867	5.4	75	1,924	1,830	5.2
Washington	-	4,277	4,160	2.8	-	4,326	4,190	3.3
Wyoming	-	697	663	5.1	-	649	631	2.9
	<b>54,497</b>	<b>53,342</b>	<b>2.2</b>			<b>54,402</b>	<b>53,363</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,089</b>	<b>243,989</b>	<b>240,609</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2,406</b>	<b>238,785</b>	<b>235,393</b>	<b>1.4</b>

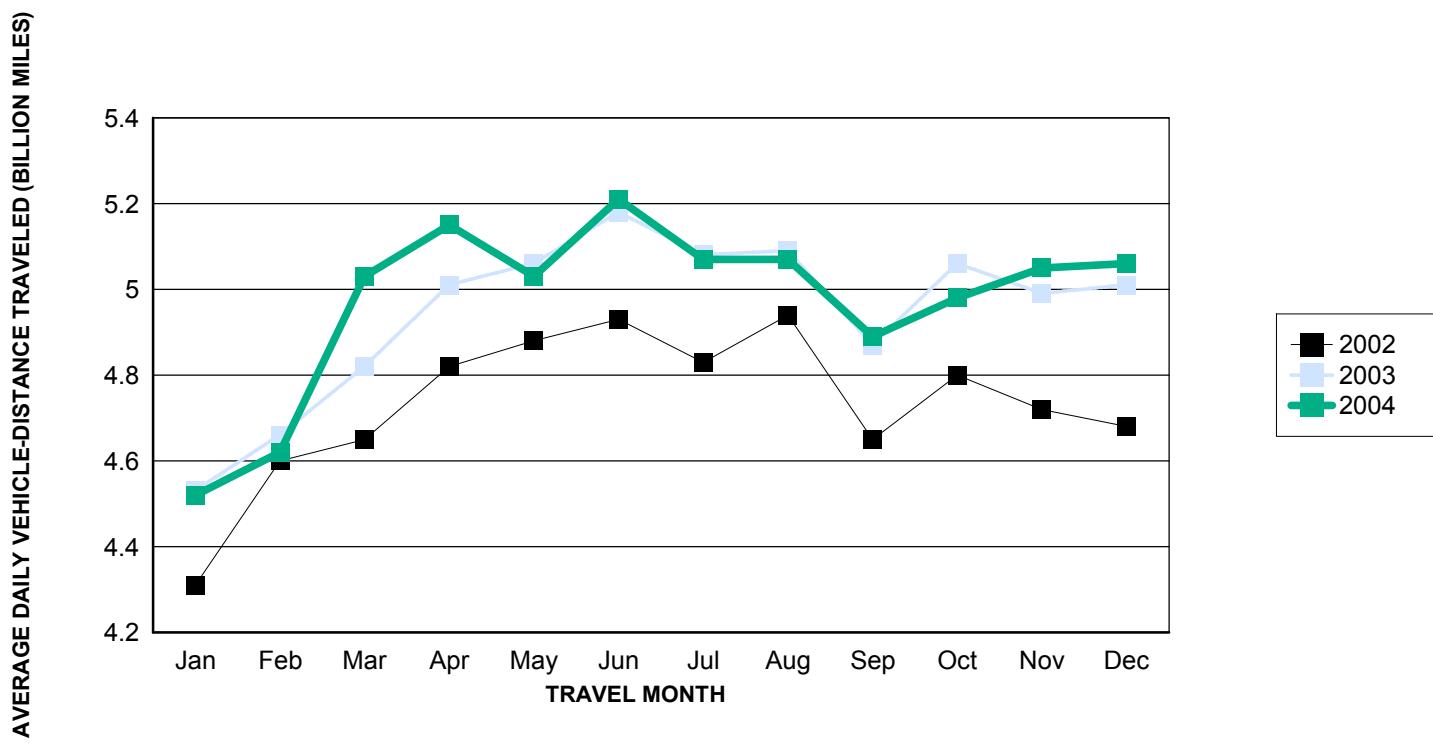
Note: Where Number of Stations are shown as dashes, the values for the Vehicle-Miles and Percent Change are derived from the estimated VMT based on data from surrounding States or the nationwide average VMT.

\* All Estimated roads include travel from Table 3 and 4 plus remaining roads and streets.





**Figure - 1. Moving 12-Month Total on ALL Roads**

**Figure - 2. Travel on U.S. Highways by Month****Urban Highways****Rural Highways**