



U. S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Office of Highway
Policy Information

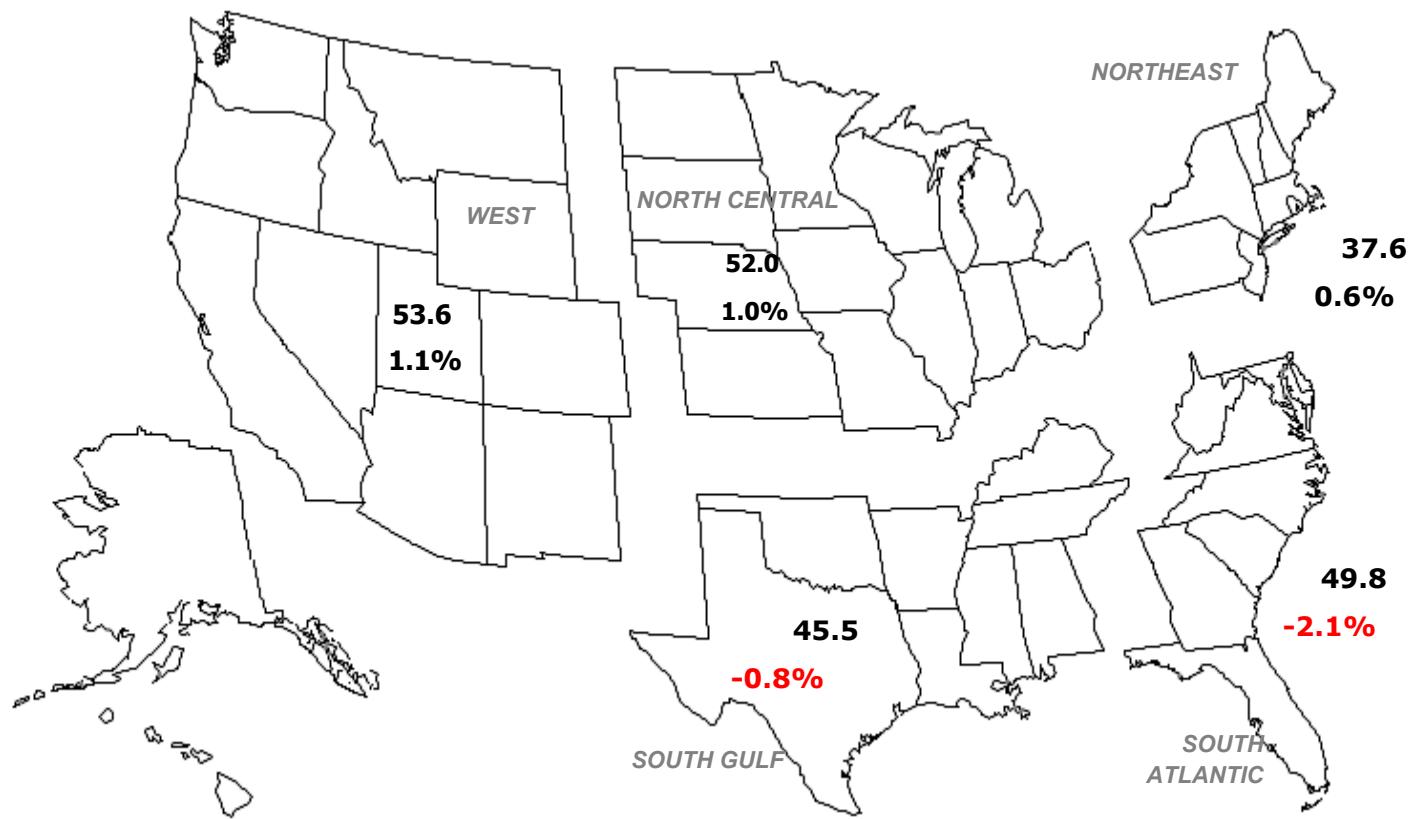
TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

December 2009

Travel on all roads and streets changed by **0.0%** (-0.1 billion vehicle miles) for December 2009 as compared with December 2008. Travel for the month is estimated to be 238.5 billion vehicle miles.

Cumulative Travel for 2009 changed by **+0.2%** (6.6 billion vehicle miles). The Cumulative estimate for the year is 2,932.4 billion vehicle miles of travel.

Estimated Vehicle-Miles of Travel by Region - December 2009 - (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 2007 Table VM-2 as a base.

Compiled with data on hand as of February 03, 2010.

Some historical data were revised based on HPMS and amended TVT data as of December 2008.

For information on total licensed drivers in the U.S. visit <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policy/ohpi/hss/hsspubs.htm>.

Select the year of interest then Section III (Driver Licensing).

For information on total registered motor vehicles in the U.S., visit <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policy/ohpi/hss/hsspubs.htm>

Select the year of interest and Section II (Motor Vehicles).

Based on preliminary reports from the State Highway Agencies, travel during December 2009 on all roads and streets in the nation changed by - percent (-0.1 billion vehicle miles) resulting in estimated travel for the month at **238.5**** billion vehicle-miles.

This total includes **78.1** billion vehicle-miles on rural roads and **160.4** billion vehicle-miles on urban roads and streets.

Cumulative Travel changed by **+0.2** percent (6.6 billion vehicle miles).

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 1984 are also included.

Travel in Millions of Vehicle Miles

All Roads and Streets

Year	December	Year to Date	Moving 12-Month
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	218,390	2,746,924	2,746,924
2001	229,578	2,795,548	2,795,548
2002	234,241	2,855,262	2,855,262
2003	238,498	2,889,675	2,889,675
2004	245,542	2,964,167	2,964,167
2005	246,317	2,989,395	2,989,395
2006	248,745	3,014,336	3,014,336
2007	240,754	3,029,791	3,029,791
2008	238,580	2,925,728	2,925,728
2009	238,476	2,932,374	2,932,374

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. Because of the limited sample sizes, caution should be used with these estimates. The Highway Performance Monitoring System provides more accurate information on an annual basis.

** System entries may not add to give "All Systems" total due to rounding for Page 2 to 8.

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

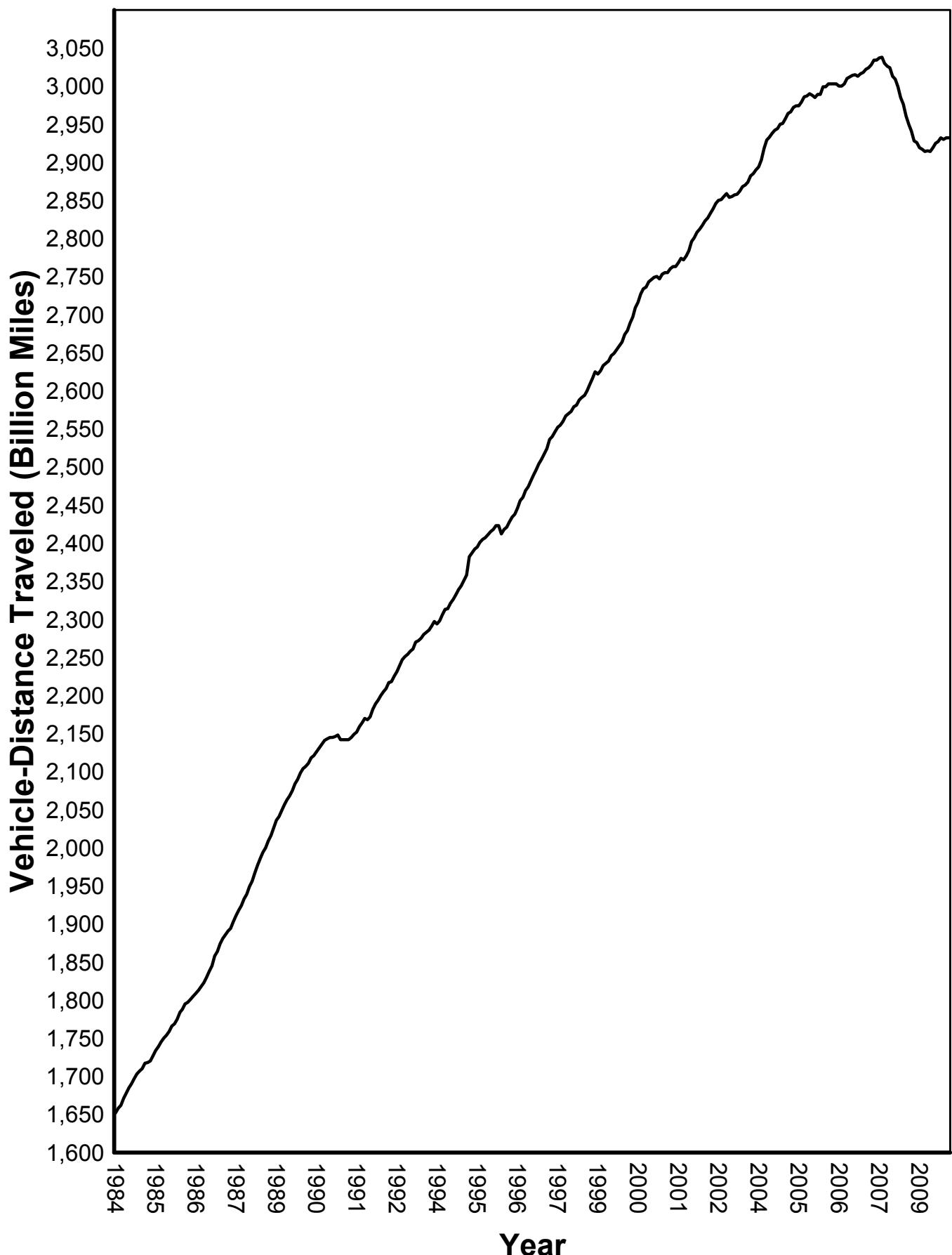
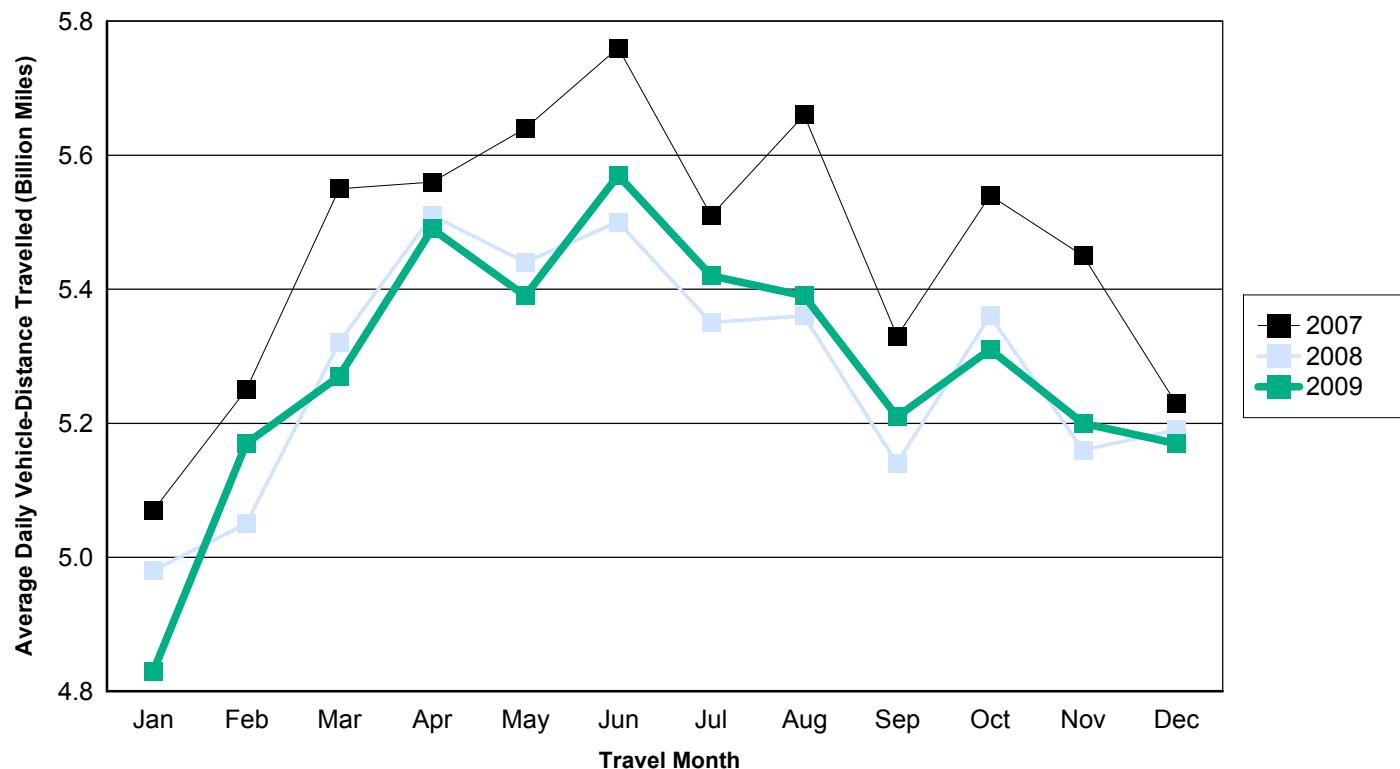


Figure - 2. Travel on U.S. Highways by Month**Urban Highways****Rural Highways**