Motor Fuel Data Reporting

- What data we collect in this area
- Why we collect this data
- What we do with the data
- Timing and updating
- Analysis
- Issues
- Questions
Data Collected

- 551M Data (Monthly)
  - Gasoline and gasoline blends
  - Taxable special fuels
    - Primarily diesel
    - Taxable kerosene
  - Refunded gallons
  - IFTA activity
  - Tax rates and fees
Data Collected

- 556 Data (Annual)
  - Volume tax collections
  - Other receipts under motor fuel tax laws
  - Non-highway dedications of volume tax
  - Deductions
  - Distributions
Who Collects Motor Fuel Data?
Federal Taxation of Fuel

U.S. Energy Mapping System

Map created at Energy Information Administration – US Dept. of Energy
Why Do We Collect The Data

• Providing information to Congress
• Support in computing program funding by State
• Provide data on fuel use by type
• Show trends on monthly/annual basis
What Do We Do With The Data

• Produce tables and charts for Highway Statistics
• Produce Monthly Motor Fuel Report
• Respond to information requests from
  • Congress
  • Academia
  • Federal and State agencies
  • Media
  • Public
Timing and Updating

• 551M reports should be filed within 90 days of the date of the State report.
  • Example: State activity in November 2018, should be reported by the end of February 2019
  • Updates can be submitted as needed

• 556 report is filed annually
  • Due on January 1 (State fiscal year basis)
  • Due on April 1 (State calendar year basis)
Analysis

• Monthly Motor Fuel Report (551M)
  • Compare to prior years
  • Compare with neighboring States
  • Produce National tables (MF-33GA/MF-33SF)
  • Examine reported losses
  • Examine Public use
  • Compute Net Volume Taxed
• Gasoline and Gasohol
• Highway Diesel/Kerosene
  • Dyed Diesel Fuel (not reported to us)
Analysis

• Annual Revenue Report (556)
  • Compare to prior years
  • Compare with neighboring States
  • Produce National tables (MF-33GA/MF-33SF)
  • Examine reported losses
  • Examine Public use
  • Compute Net Volume Taxed
• Gasoline and Gasohol
• Highway Diesel/Kerosene
  • Dyed Diesel Fuel (not reported to us)
Analysis

- Annual Revenue Report (556)
  - Volume Tax Collections
  - Other Receipts
  - Non-highway Dedications of Volume Tax
  - Deductions By State Taxing Agency
  - Amounts Distributed.

- Annual total volume tax receipts are compared to amounts reported as gallons on 551 multiplied by the prevailing tax rate
Non-Highway Gasoline

• Some gasoline is used off non-taxable purposes
• Not all States can report refunds in all categories
• Oak Ridge National Lab created a model to estimate non-highway usage by category
• Model estimates are subtracted from gross gallons reported
• We compute on-highway use of fuel
Non-Highway Gasoline

• Inputs are from
  • Recreational Boating
  • Agricultural Use
  • Industrial and Commercial
  • Construction
  • Lawn and Garden
  • Recreation Vehicles (Snowmobiles, ATVs, etc.)
  • Aviation Gasoline
Data Accuracy

• Data used for
  • Planning
  • Forecasting
  • Possible support for apportionment of Federal-Aid program funds
  • Less questions

• It is important that the data be submitted timely and accurately
Issues

• Late reporting – Some States are occasionally late with monthly reporting; some more extreme
  • Late reports cause delays in our report publications
  • Volume amounts may be estimated
• Staff Turnover – Can be at State, Division or FHWA HQ.
  • Proper procedures documentation is essential
• Communication – All involved State agencies should know their contacts in the other agencies
Suggestions

• Schedule processes
• Document Procedures
• Communication
  • E-mail addresses
  • Phone numbers
• Training
• Motor Fuel Reviews
  • Not required but suggested every 3-4 years
  • Include all involved agencies
Products

• Monthly Motor Fuel Reports
  • https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/motorfuelhwy_trustfund.cfm

• Annual Highway Statistics
  • https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/statistics.cfm

• State Statistical Abstracts
  • https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/statistics/abstracts/2015/

• Guide to Reporting Highway Statistics
  • https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/hss/guide/
Questions and Comments

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