



# TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

Washington, D. C.

September 1963

SEPTEMBER (PRELIMINARY) AND AUGUST (REVISED), 1963 COMPARED TO 1962

Table 1.—Summary by Road Class and by Region

	Preliminary data for September 1963			Revised data for August 1963		
	Vehicle-miles (millions)		Percentage change	Vehicle-miles (millions)		Percentage change
	1962	1963		1962	1963	
Class of road—All States:						
Main rural roads.....	27,084	27,809	+2.7	32,105	33,340	+3.8
Local rural roads.....	.....	.....	+2.4	.....	.....	+2.3
All rural roads.....	.....	.....	+2.6	.....	.....	+3.5
City streets.....	.....	.....	+2.5	.....	.....	+3.6
All roads and streets.....	.....	.....	+2.5	.....	.....	+3.5
By region 48 States (main rural only):						
Eastern region.....	10,064	10,291	+2.3	12,114	12,623	+4.2
Central region.....	12,700	13,072	+2.9	14,803	15,396	+4.0
Western region.....	4,222	4,346	+2.9	5,085	5,212	+2.5
Total.....	26,986	27,709	+2.7	32,002	33,231	+3.8

Table 2.—Changes on Main Rural Roads by States

Division and state	September (preliminary)		August (revised)		Division and state	September (preliminary)		August (revised)	
	Number of stations <sup>1</sup>	Percentage change	Number of stations <sup>1</sup>	Percentage change		Number of stations <sup>1</sup>	Percentage change	Number of stations <sup>1</sup>	Percentage change
<b>NEW ENGLAND:</b>					<b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:</b>				
Connecticut.....	17	+1.7	17	+3.4	Alabama.....	27	+2.9	27	+4.3
Maine.....	14	+3.2	14	+5.5	Kentucky.....	13	+2.5	12	+4.9
Massachusetts.....	10	-1.8	8	+1.9	Mississippi.....	36	+1.1	38	+1.4
New Hampshire.....	49	+7.3	53	+8.2	Tennessee.....	23	+5.8	23	+3.9
Rhode Island.....	5	-2.3	4	+3.9	<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL:</b>				
Vermont.....	7	+4.8	30	+8.0	Iowa.....	26	+0.4	26	+1.2
<b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC:</b>					Kansas.....	70	-0.2	73	-1.0
New Jersey.....	4	-0.4	10	+3.8	Minnesota.....	30	+1.7	30	+3.6
New York.....	7	-0.9	12	+5.2	Missouri.....	22	+4.1	24	+2.5
Pennsylvania.....	.....	.....	47	+5.8	Nebraska.....	13	+0.8	17	+0.3
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC</b>					North Dakota.....	30	+3.9	30	+3.7
(North):					South Dakota.....	28	+0.7	28	+3.9
Delaware.....	9	+2.0	9	+4.6	<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:</b>				
Maryland.....	28	+3.0	32	+4.6	Arkansas.....	29	+4.8	29	+3.3
Virginia.....	.....	.....	.....	+1.8	Louisiana.....	40	+2.6	40	+4.7
West Virginia.....	22	+5.6	24	+4.8	Oklahoma.....	23	+2.5	22	+4.5
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC</b>					Texas.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
(South):					<b>MOUNTAIN:</b>				
Florida.....	.....	.....	54	+1.4	Arizona.....	13	+3.0	13	+5.3
Georgia.....	23	+4.0	25	+3.6	Colorado.....	19	+6.9	21	+6.5
North Carolina.....	42	+4.4	41	+5.8	Idaho.....	19	-2.2	20	-0.5
South Carolina.....	7	+3.6	7	+0.7	Montana.....	.....	.....	18	-2.9
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL:</b>					Nevada.....	22	+9.1	20	+4.5
Illinois.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	New Mexico.....	.....	+8.8	.....	+3.5
Indiana.....	23	+4.7	24	+5.6	Utah.....	39	+0.3	37	+3.4
Michigan.....	37	+1.5	37	+4.6	Wyoming.....	26	+3.6	27	+5.6
Ohio.....	.....	.....	.....	+3.9	<b>PACIFIC:</b>				
Wisconsin.....	34	+2.1	35	+4.5	California.....	.....	.....	.....	+5.3
Alaska.....	5	+0.9	5	+8.7	Oregon.....	83	+1.4	83	+1.4
Hawaii.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Washington.....	10	-8.6	10	-7.1

<sup>1</sup>Rural mileage of each major toll route is considered as one station. Where the number of stations is not shown, the States prepared traffic estimates, generally based on extensive traffic sampling surveys.

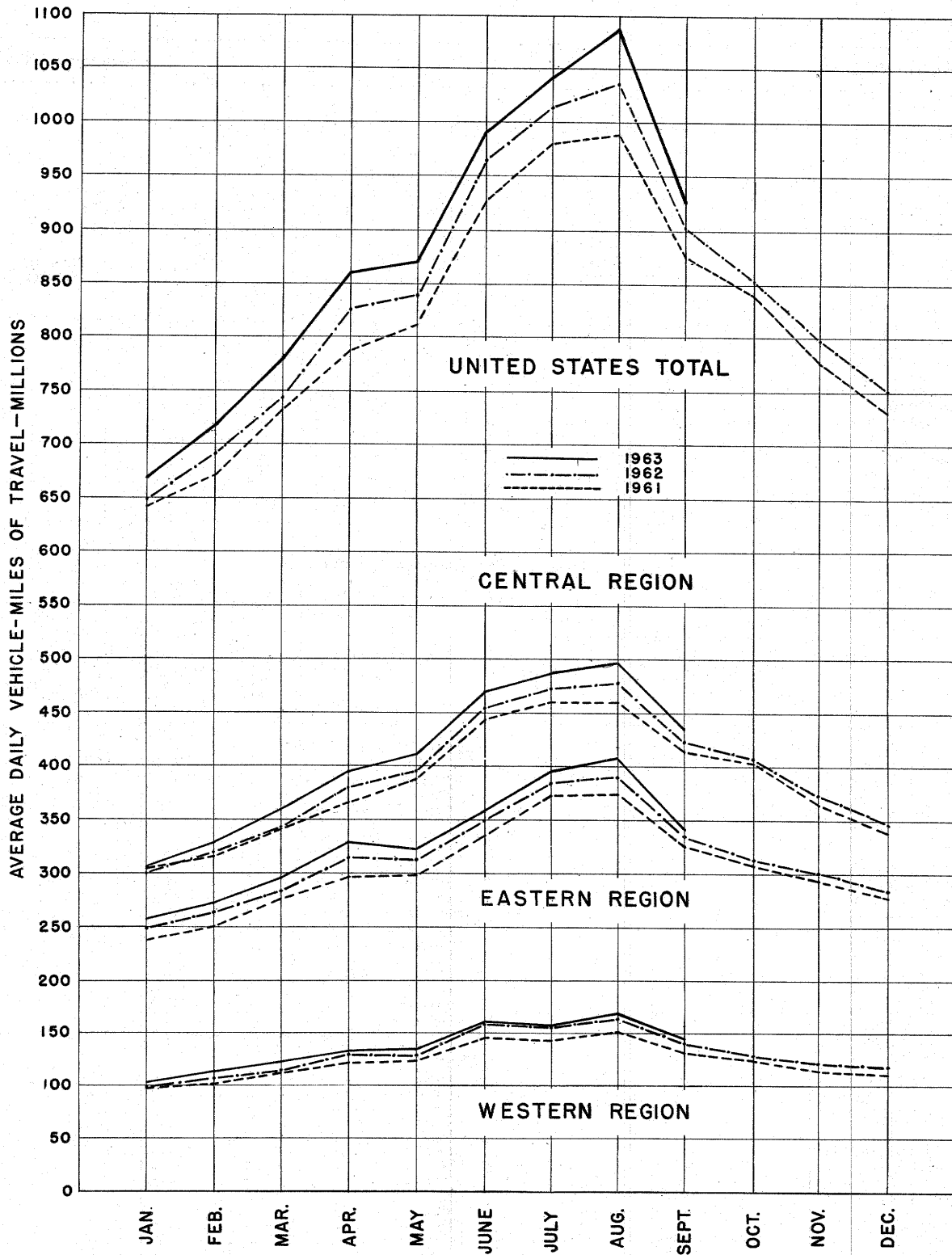


FIGURE 1—TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS, BY MONTHS

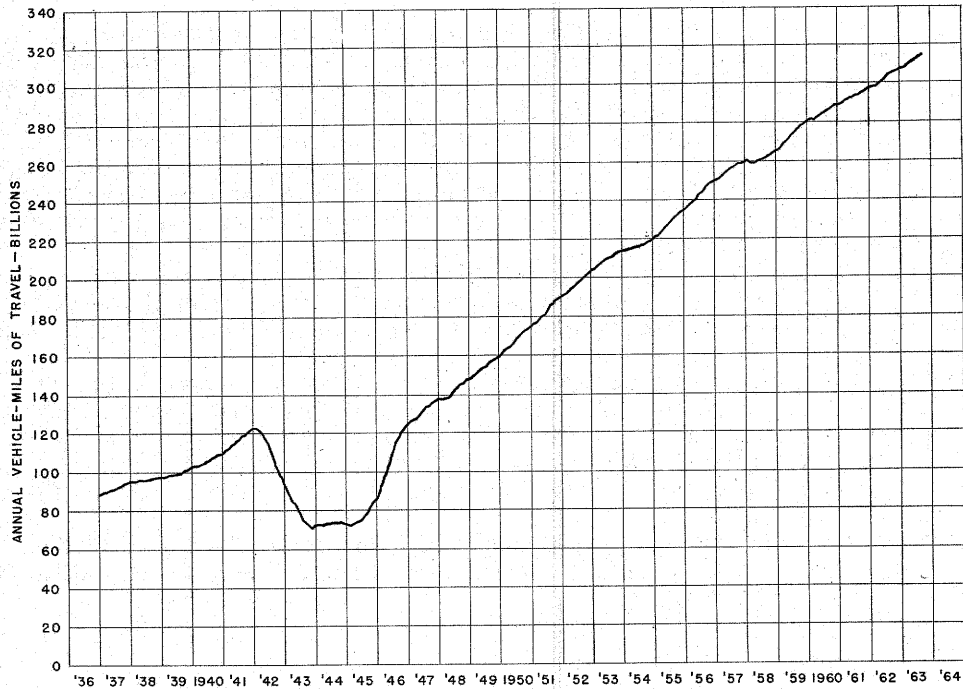


FIGURE 2-- TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS BY 12-MONTH PERIODS ENDING EACH MONTH, IN VEHICLE-MILES

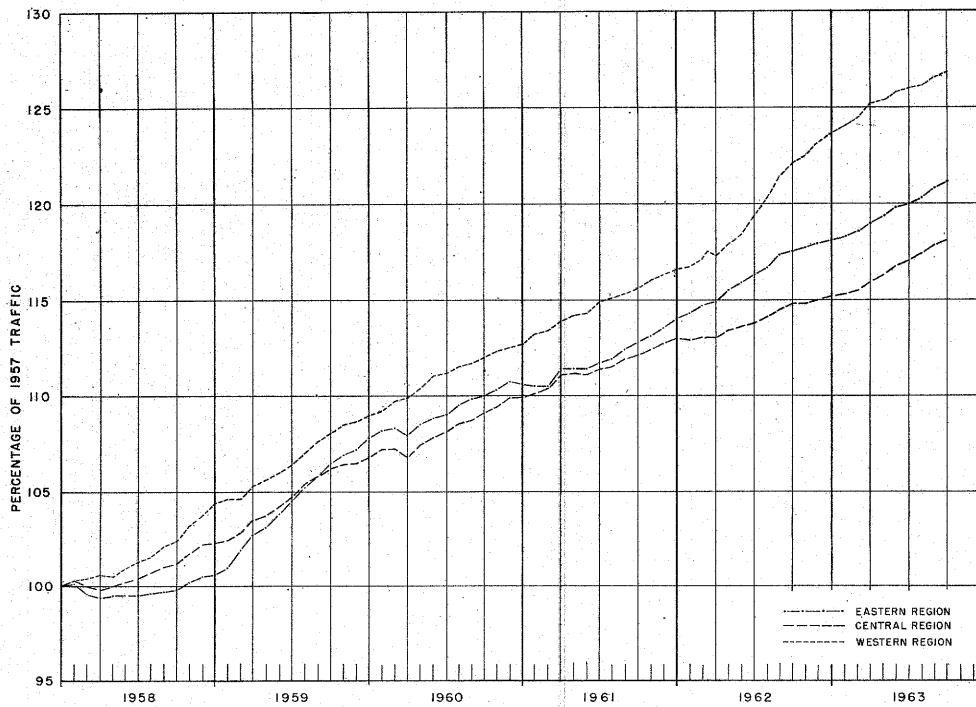


FIGURE 3 - TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS BY 12-MONTH PERIODS ENDING EACH MONTH, AS A PERCENTAGE OF TRAFFIC IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 1957

## ESTIMATED TRAVEL BY MOTOR VEHICLES IN 1962

Motor-vehicle travel in the United States in 1962 totaled 767.8 billion vehicle-miles, an increase of 4.1 percent over the travel in 1961. The travel data were compiled from information supplied by the State highway departments and toll authorities. Total travel for 1963, based on information for the first 9 months of the year is estimated at 798 billion vehicle-miles, a 4 percent increase over 1962.

The proportions of travel by road system and by vehicle type changed little from 1961 to 1962. Of the 1962 travel, 40 percent was on main rural roads comprising 14 percent of the Nation's total of 3.6 million miles of roads and streets. Another 46 percent of the travel was on urban streets, which comprise only 13 percent of the total mileage. Local rural roads accounted for only 14 percent of the travel but make up 73 percent of the total mileage.

Passenger cars represented 83.5 percent of the vehicles registered and accounted for 81.8 percent of the travel in 1962; trucks and truck combinations accounted for 16.1 percent of the vehicles registered and 17.6 percent of the travel. Buses accounted for 0.4 percent of all vehicles registered and for 0.6 percent of total travel.

Average vehicle performance in 1962 differed very little from that reported for 1961. The average motor vehicle traveled 9,635 miles in 1962, almost half of it in cities, and consumed 774 gallons of fuel at a rate of 12.44 miles per gallon. The average passenger car traveled 9,435 miles and consumed 654 gallons of fuel at a rate of 14.42 miles per gallon. The average truck traveled a little more and the average commercial bus a little less in 1962 than in 1961, but their average rates of fuel consumption did not change appreciably.

The travel and related information for 1962 is shown in table 1 by road system and vehicle type. Such data have been reported in PUBLIC ROADS magazine for a number of years; the latest, for 1961, appeared in vol. 32, No. 7, April 1963, p. 180.

Estimated Motor Vehicle Travel in the United States and Related Data  
Calendar Year 1962<sup>1</sup>

Table VM-1

Item	Passenger vehicles					Trucks and combinations	All motor vehicles
	Passenger cars <sup>2</sup>	Buses			All passenger vehicles		
		Commercial	School and nonrevenue	All buses			
Motor-vehicle travel (million vehicle-miles):							
Main rural roads.....	242,521	915	656	1,571	244,092	66,092	310,184
Local rural roads.....	82,099	165	694	859	82,958	21,460	104,418
All rural roads.....	324,620	1,080	1,350	2,430	327,050	87,552	414,602
Urban streets.....	303,619	1,776	270	2,046	305,665	47,507	353,172
Total travel.....	628,239	2,856	1,620	4,476	632,715	135,059	767,774
Number of vehicles registered (thousands).....	66,589	75.5	209.7	285.2	66,874	12,809	79,683
Average miles traveled per vehicle.....	9,435	37,828	7,725	15,694	9,461	10,544	9,635
Fuel consumed (million gallons).....	43,570	609	229	838	44,408	17,288	61,696
Average fuel consumption per vehicle (gallons).....	654	8,066	1,092	2,938	664	1,350	774
Average miles traveled per gallon of fuel consumed.....	14.42	4.69	7.07	5.34	14.25	7.81	12.44

<sup>1</sup>For the 50 States and District of Columbia.

<sup>2</sup>Includes taxicabs; also motor cycles (660,400 registered).