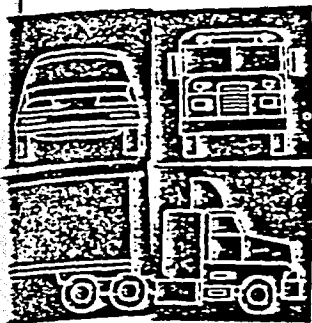




Americans Take to the Roads With Over 2 Trillion Miles Driven

Odometer readings clicked for 2.1 trillion miles in the United States in 1990. Gas tanks took an average of 683 gallons, a five-gallon decline from the previous year.

The number of miles traveled per vehicle in 1989 continued its steady growth, with an average 10,382 miles added to each car and 13,901 miles to each truck. The average miles traveled for all motor vehicles, 10,992, shows a 2.5 percent gain since 1988.

Total gas consumption continued to rise as service station operators and drivers themselves pumped an estimated 132.8 billion gallons of fuel in 1990.

VEHICLE MILES OF TRAVEL AND FUEL CONSUMPTION

PASSENGER VEHICLES					TRUCKS				All Motor Vehicles
Passenger Cars	Motorcycles	Buses	Total	2-Axle 4-Tire	Other Single Unit	Trailer Combinations	Total		
VEHICLE MILES OF TRAVEL (In Millions)									
1990 Prelim.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,149,457
1989	1,485,474	10,425	5,685	1,501,584	456,699	53,190	95,567	605,456	2,107,040
1988	1,429,579	10,024	5,466	1,445,069	439,496	51,239	90,158	580,893	2,025,962
1987	1,355,330	9,506	5,318	1,370,154	415,449	49,537	86,064	551,050	1,921,204
1985	1,260,565	9,086	4,876	1,274,527	373,072	46,980	79,600	499,652	1,774,179
1980	1,111,596	10,214	6,059	1,127,869	290,935	39,813	68,678	399,426	1,527,295
1975	1,033,950	5,629	6,055	1,045,634	200,700	34,606	46,724	282,030	1,327,664
1970	916,700	2,979	4,544	924,223	123,286	27,081	35,134	185,501	1,109,724
1960 ⁽¹⁾	588,083	(2)	4,353	592,436	-	-	-	126,409	718,845
1950	363,613	(2)	4,081	367,694	-	-	-	90,552	458,246
1940	249,600	(2)	2,657	252,257	-	-	-	49,931	302,188
AVERAGE ANNUAL MILES TRAVELED PER VEHICLE									
1989	10,382	2,351	9,095	10,136	12,062	12,964	60,132	13,901	10,992
1988	10,121	2,187	8,878	9,867	11,848	12,948	61,073	13,659	10,720
1987	9,878	1,933	8,833	9,600	11,591	12,755	60,634	13,393	10,449
1985	9,560	1,669	8,216	9,242	11,016	11,962	56,725	12,747	10,018
1980	9,141	1,794	11,458	8,824	10,437	9,103	48,472	11,864	9,458
1975	9,690	1,134	13,102	9,325	9,829	8,178	41,321	10,940	9,627
1970	10,272	1,055	12,035	9,998	8,676	7,356	38,819	9,869	9,976
1960 ⁽¹⁾	9,446	(2)	16,004	9,474	-	-	-	10,583	9,652
1950	9,020	(2)	20,910	9,078	-	-	-	10,776	9,369
1940	9,080	(2)	18,580	9,129	-	-	-	10,626	9,347
FUEL CONSUMED (Millions of Gallons)									
1990 Prelim.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	132,764
1989	72,333	209	949	73,490	32,068	7,415	17,892	58,374	131,865
1988	71,949	200	921	73,071	32,803	7,260	17,123	57,186	130,056
1987	70,573	190	903	71,666	32,266	7,091	16,493	55,850	127,515
1985	69,268	182	835	70,285	29,021	6,735	15,280	51,037	121,322
1980	71,883	204	1,018	73,106	23,594	5,557	12,703	41,854	114,960
1975	76,447	113	1,053	77,613	17,903	4,815	8,654	31,371	108,984
1970	67,820	60	820	68,699	12,313	3,968	7,348	23,630	92,329
1960 ⁽¹⁾	41,169	(2)	827	41,996	-	-	-	15,882	57,878
1950	24,305	(2)	732	25,037	-	-	-	10,566	35,603
1940	16,323	(2)	436	16,759	-	-	-	5,156	21,915
AVERAGE FUEL CONSUMPTION PER VEHICLE (Gallons)									
1990 Prelim.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	683
1989	506	47	1,518	496	873	1,807	11,258	1,340	688
1988	509	44	1,496	499	884	1,834	11,599	1,345	688
1987	514	39	1,500	502	900	1,826	11,620	1,357	694
1985	525	33	1,407	510	857	1,715	10,889	1,302	685
1980	591	36	1,926	572	846	1,271	8,966	1,243	712
1975	716	23	2,279	692	877	1,138	7,653	1,217	790
1970	760	21	2,172	743	866	1,078	8,119	1,257	830
1960 ⁽¹⁾	661	(2)	3,040	672	-	-	-	1,330	777
1950	603	(2)	3,752	618	-	-	-	1,257	728
1940	594	(2)	3,049	607	-	-	-	1,097	678

- Not Available. (1) Alaska and Hawaii included since 1959. (2) Motorcycles are included in passenger cars.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, *Highway Statistics*, annual.