

Statistical Abstract of the United States

1958

79th Annual Edition

Prepared under the direction of

EDWIN D. GOLDFIELD

Chief, Statistical Reports Division

*Bureau of the Census
Library*



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Sinclair Weeks, Secretary

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, Robert W. Burgess, Director

No. 705.—MOTOR-VEHICLE OPERATORS AND CHAUFFEURS LICENSES, BY STATES:
1955 AND 1956

[Incomplete data for some States]

STATE	PERIOD FOR WHICH ISSUED ¹		1955			1956		
	Operators	Chauffeurs	Licenses in force ²	Licenses issued		Licenses in force ²	Licenses issued	
				Opera-tors	Chauf-feurs ³		Opera-tors	Chauf-feurs ³
U. S.			74,685,949	(4)	(4)	77,658,826	32,017,624	3,727,769
N. E.:								
Maine	1 year	Not required	391,231	391,231		406,246	406,246	
N. H.	2 years	2 years	281,277	40,043	5,777	274,992	167,559	61,513
Vt.	1 year	Not required	160,237	160,237		165,197	165,197	
Mass.	2 years	1 year	2,002,899	1,593,241	(4)	2,108,890	515,649	(4)
R. I.	2 years	2 years	380,421	182,698		388,669	194,096	10,402
Conn.	2 years	1 year	1,108,718	1,108,718	8,200	1,164,395	475,098	10,285
M. A.:								
N. Y.	3 years	3 years	6,143,862	2,514,483	747,025	6,399,684	1,293,731	318,398
N. J.	1 or 3 years	Not required	2,385,533	2,385,533		2,461,004	2,461,004	
Pa.	1 year	Not required	4,640,030	4,640,030		4,791,945	4,791,945	
E. N. C.:								
Ohio	3 years	3 years	4,218,899	493,230	56,061	4,385,697	1,110,720	109,142
Ind.	2 years	1 year	2,204,688	(4)	(4)	2,604,020	1,302,305	256,336
Ill.	3 years	1 year	4,254,313	1,589,781	270,500	4,489,089	859,667	300,146
Mich.	3 years	1 year	3,195,985	1,033,540	228,931	3,272,496	1,237,664	231,726
Wis.	2 years	Not required	1,731,150	459,250		1,772,700	440,100	
W. N. C.:								
Minn.	4 years	1 year	1,797,759	408,058	158,004	1,595,633	592,161	174,035
Iowa	2 years	1 year	1,365,395	622,634	150,111	1,396,833	620,822	153,377
Mo.	3 years	1 year	2,054,641	593,514	128,277	2,084,771	933,461	135,856
N. Dak.	2 years	Not required	318,134	293,876		326,618	32,542	
S. Dak.	2 years	Not required	415,130	30,174		415,200	342,554	
Nebr.	2 years	Not required	789,552	729,802		793,173	63,371	
Kans.	2 years	2 years	1,315,646	1,078,582	103,238	1,350,830	591,756	17,574
S. A.:								
Del.	(4)	(4)	191,694	34,533	2,475	202,846	90,442	20,272
Md.	Indefinite	2 years	1,191,856	89,694	45,418	1,281,623	94,921	51,597
D. C.	3 years	Not required	333,749	112,643		336,977	117,862	
Va.	3 years	1 year	1,640,751	445,768	70,037	1,630,245	437,454	72,062
W. Va.	4 years	1 year	808,438	192,008	40,042	819,932	272,088	42,770
N. C.	4 years	1 year	1,720,199	441,133	50,802	1,794,345	431,934	58,454
S. O.	4 years	1 year	1,089,610	60,554	4,555	1,119,239	104,463	4,719
Ca.	(7)	(7)	1,596,537	141,259	9,356	1,628,123	1,111,900	81,363
Fla.	1 year	1 year	1,882,318	1,637,582	244,736	2,138,007	1,887,625	250,382
E. S. C.:								
Ky.	2 years	1 year	1,138,038	580,000	22,165	1,180,000	600,000	22,019
Tenn.	2 years	2 years	1,425,273	1,214,890	91,464	1,423,673	108,160	9,159
Ala.	2 years	Not required	1,201,515	488,602		1,251,031	497,152	
Miss.	1 or 2 years	1 or 2 years	688,824	311,200	19,555	711,822	328,768	15,315
W. S. C.:								
Ark.	1 year	1 year	743,721	717,096	26,625	769,220	743,796	25,424
La.	2 years	1 year	1,063,722	602,897	105,180	1,161,389	449,909	108,583
Okla.	2 years	2 years	1,092,123	485,173	68,214	1,099,017	443,465	69,214
Tex.	2 years	1 year	3,874,834	1,418,804	767,691	4,009,296	1,784,564	805,928
Mt.:								
Mont.	2 years	2 years	330,662	141,760	14,777	347,202	169,043	21,622
Idaho	2 years	2 years	357,325	187,358	17,584	369,142	145,781	18,419
Wyo.	2 years	1 year	215,122	38,313	13,419	215,396	105,792	13,586
Colo.	3 years	3 years	896,288	272,299	72,564	954,684	260,184	21,162
N. Mex.	2 years	1 year	397,291	177,790	46,923	410,376	190,662	48,310
Ariz.	3 years	2 years	477,722	161,378	33,295	541,373	167,963	28,372
Utah	5 years	5 years	396,291	41,628	4,706	416,291	66,845	7,190
Nev.	2 years	1 year	143,393	90,124	11,993	162,932	40,002	11,670
Pac.:								
Wash.	2 years	Not required	1,251,083	602,658		1,232,603	629,945	
Oreg.	2 years	1 year	850,617	426,087	46,095	874,396	448,309	45,845
Calif.	4 years	4 years	6,631,453	1,652,718	99,245	6,964,514	1,690,647	96,542

¹ In effect in 1956.² Estimated from data reported by States for current and previous years; no allowance made for deaths, emigration, or revocation.³ Includes public service and other special licenses that are issued to operators of vehicles for hire.⁴ Not available.⁵ Chauffeurs' licenses not added to operators' licenses since an operator's license is required in addition to the chauffeur's license.⁶ Issued for 2-year period, but drivers meeting certain requirements may obtain licenses for indefinite period.⁷ Issued for 1- or 5-year period at option of applicant.Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads; annual report, *Highway Statistics*.

No. 706.—MOTOR VEHICLES—SUMMARY OF SELECTED ITEMS: 1950 TO 1957

ITEM	1950	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	
SALES, EXPORTS, AND SCRAPPAGE								
Passenger car factory sales, total	1,000	6,666	4,321	6,117	5,559	7,920	5,816	6,113
4-door sedans	do	3,247	2,259	3,079	2,593	3,044	2,005	1,952
2-door sedans, coupes and coupes ¹	do	2,794	1,244	1,732	1,493	1,691	1,136	908
"Hard-top" coupes and sedans	do	267	540	842	955	2,169	1,824	2,073
Convertibles (except "hard-top")	do	208	100	159	156	240	199	285
Station wagons ²	do	142	169	297	349	759	639	890
Chassis	do	9	9	8	13	18	14	6
Exports, total value ³	\$1,000,000	794	1,124	1,082	1,156	1,367	1,516	1,637
Passenger cars (new)	do	179	244	276	300	380	331	299
Trucks and buses (new)	do	217	814	269	332	340	438	447
Rubber tires and tubes	do	47	90	72	71	82	100	100
Parts and accessories ⁴	do	350	476	466	453	565	646	791
Vehicles scrapped, total	1,000	3,234	3,767	4,054	4,379	4,355	4,850	4,400
Passenger cars	do	2,598	3,163	3,466	3,833	3,732	4,230	4,000
Trucks and buses	do	636	604	588	546	623	620	400
TIRES AND PARTS								
Tires, passenger car:								
Production	1,000	78,598	74,341	81,431	76,794	97,223	85,546	93,547
Shipments	do	84,423	70,905	79,779	77,713	93,730	85,000	90,217
Original equipment	do	36,078	24,106	33,098	29,741	42,574	30,874	32,724
Replacement	do	47,103	45,458	45,874	47,044	50,189	53,252	56,005
Export	do	642	741	806	928	966	875	888
Inventory, year-end	do	3,050	11,251	13,043	12,217	15,963	16,494	19,818
Tires, truck and bus:								
Production	do	14,156	16,070	14,600	12,347	14,955	14,859	13,394
Shipments	do	15,164	15,041	14,889	12,528	14,769	14,325	13,430
Original equipment	do	4,671	5,378	4,838	3,591	4,800	4,548	4,041
Replacement	do	9,705	8,584	9,317	8,111	9,057	8,594	8,544
Export	do	788	879	734	826	912	853	845
Inventory, year-end	do	743	2,859	2,663	2,545	2,815	3,378	3,408
Replacement parts and accessories, domestic sales (wholesale value) ⁵	\$1,000,000	1,882	2,164	1,892	1,683	1,805	1,827	2,070
Auto battery shipments for replacement, United States	1,000	24,442	22,453	23,614	23,771	25,828	25,014	25,943
EMPLOYMENT AND PAY								
Total employment in automotive manufacturing plants	number	825,200	790,200	928,900	775,600	896,500	791,300	807,100
Average employment, production workers	do	701,600	644,400	767,100	624,400	740,400	633,200	645,700
Total payrolls, production workers	\$1,000,000	2,672	2,775	3,508	2,887	3,765	3,132	3,342
Average weekly earnings	dollars	73.25	82.82	87.95	68.91	97.78	94.71	99.54
Average weekly hours	hours	41.2	40.6	41.1	40.6	42.7	40.3	40.3
Average hourly earnings	dollars	1.778	2.04	2.14	2.19	2.29	2.35	2.47
SPECIAL MOTOR-VEHICLE TAXES ⁶								
Special motor-vehicle taxes, total	\$1,000,000	4,359	5,331	5,993	6,304	7,299	7,964	8,826
Federal excise	do	1,479	1,867	2,183	2,204	2,736	2,965	3,672
State gross registration receipts	do	948	1,134	1,250	1,334	1,483	1,592	1,640
State gasoline, net	do	1,667	1,968	2,155	2,306	2,543	2,792	2,880
Special city and county	do	107	157	183	216	247	270	278
Bridge, tunnel, ferry, road tolls	do	157	206	221	244	291	345	356
TRAFFIC DEATHS								
Traffic deaths, total ⁷	number	34,763	37,794	37,955	35,566	38,426	39,628	38,500
Noncollision accidents	do	10,950	12,850	13,050	12,550	13,550	14,650	13,700
Collision accidents:								
With other motor vehicles	do	11,250	12,900	12,600	11,750	13,000	13,650	13,500
With pedestrians	do	9,100	8,600	8,700	8,000	8,200	7,950	7,800
With other vehicles or objects	do	3,490	3,461	3,582	3,277	3,655	3,600	3,500
Traffic death rates:								
Per 100,000 population	do	23.0	24.3	24.0	22.1	23.4	23.9	22.6
Per 10,000 motor vehicles	do	7.2	7.2	6.8	6.1	6.2	6.2	5.8
Per 100 million vehicle miles	do	7.6	7.4	7.0	6.3	6.4	6.4	5.9

¹ Includes business coupes. ² Excludes station wagons on commercial vehicle chassis.

³ Includes used vehicles. ⁴ Preliminary.

⁵ Government purchases not included. Estimates based on Federal excise tax receipts.

⁶ Special taxes on motor vehicle users; excludes income and property taxes on motor vehicle, body, parts and tire factories; garages; dealers; repair shops; terminal and truck, including taxicab and bus, operating companies.

⁷ Includes \$1,513,000 collected on use of vehicles over 26,000 lbs. for 1956 (tax effective Oct. 1) and \$28,138,650 for 1957.

⁸ Totals do not equal the sum of the various types because the estimates were generally made only to the nearest 10 deaths, and to the nearest 50 deaths for certain types.

No. 707.—MOTOR-VEHICLE TRAVEL, BY TYPE OF VEHICLE AND CLASS OF ROAD: 1940 TO 1956

[In millions of vehicle-miles, except averages. Estimates for total United States travel based on automatic traffic recorder data from 48 States. See also *Historical Statistics, 1789-1945*, Series K 236-238b]

ITEM	1940	1945	1950	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Total travel.....	302, 188	250, 173	458, 246	513, 581	544, 433	560, 857	603, 434	627, 843
CLASS OF ROAD								
Rural.....	152, 195	120, 012	239, 998	289, 463	308, 375	317, 218	336, 153	352, 379
Main rural roads.....	109, 861	85, 921	174, 350	203, 101	213, 604	217, 059	227, 988	237, 748
Local rural roads.....	42, 334	34, 091	65, 648	86, 362	94, 771	100, 159	108, 165	114, 631
Urban.....	149, 993	130, 161	218, 248	224, 118	236, 058	243, 639	267, 281	275, 464
TYPE OF VEHICLE								
Passenger vehicles.....	252, 257	204, 232	367, 694	414, 521	439, 800	455, 013	492, 047	511, 743
Rural.....	121, 988	92, 831	183, 218	224, 534	240, 046	248, 844	265, 667	278, 287
Urban.....	130, 269	111, 401	184, 476	189, 987	199, 754	206, 169	226, 380	233, 456
Passenger cars (incl. taxicabs).....	249, 600	200, 398	363, 613	410, 187	435, 351	450, 605	487, 540	507, 188
Rural.....	120, 540	90, 926	181, 095	222, 064	237, 567	246, 300	263, 088	275, 686
Urban.....	129, 060	109, 472	182, 518	188, 123	197, 784	204, 305	224, 452	231, 452
All buses.....	2, 657	3, 834	4, 081	4, 334	4, 449	4, 408	4, 507	4, 605
Rural.....	1, 448	1, 905	2, 123	2, 470	2, 479	2, 544	2, 579	2, 601
Urban.....	1, 209	1, 929	1, 958	1, 864	1, 970	1, 864	1, 928	2, 004
Commercial buses.....	1, 944	3, 192	3, 271	3, 194	3, 311	3, 190	3, 256	3, 271
Rural.....	808	1, 328	1, 394	1, 444	1, 455	1, 453	1, 452	1, 417
Urban.....	1, 136	1, 864	1, 877	1, 750	1, 856	1, 743	1, 804	1, 854
School and nonrevenue buses.....	713	642	810	1, 140	1, 138	1, 212	1, 251	1, 334
Rural.....	640	577	729	1, 026	1, 024	1, 091	1, 127	1, 184
Urban.....	73	65	81	114	114	121	124	150
Trucks and combinations.....	49, 931	45, 941	90, 552	99, 060	104, 633	105, 844	111, 387	116, 100
Rural.....	30, 207	27, 181	56, 780	64, 929	68, 329	68, 374	70, 486	74, 092
Urban.....	19, 724	18, 760	33, 772	34, 131	36, 304	37, 470	40, 901	42, 008
Average miles per vehicle:								
Passenger vehicles.....	9, 129	7, 870	9, 078	9, 442	9, 417	9, 354	9, 400	9, 359
Passenger cars (incl. taxicabs).....	9, 080	7, 771	9, 020	9, 378	9, 370	9, 308	9, 359	9, 348
All buses.....	18, 580	23, 521	20, 910	21, 062	18, 234	18, 918	17, 658	18, 059
Commercial buses.....	36, 000	38, 434	36, 500	37, 568	32, 782	38, 506	34, 035	34, 432
School and nonrevenue buses.....	8, 011	8, 025	7, 775	9, 441	7, 958	8, 080	7, 836	8, 338
Trucks and combinations.....	10, 626	9, 270	10, 776	10, 940	10, 927	10, 883	10, 697	10, 813

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads; releases.

No. 708.—MOTOR VEHICLES—FACTORY SALES AND REGISTRATIONS: 1900 TO 1957

[See also *Historical Statistics, 1789-1945*, series K 225-223]

YEAR	FACTORY SALES						REGISTRATIONS (1,000)		
	Number (1,000)			Wholesale value ² (\$1,000)			Total (excl. publicly owned)	Passen-ger cars and taxis ³	Motor-trucks and buses ³
	Total	Passen-ger cars	Motor-trucks ¹	Total	Passen-ger cars	Motor-trucks ¹			
1900.....	4			4, 899	4, 899		8	8	
1910.....	187	181	6	225, 000	215, 340	9, 660	468	458	10
1920.....	2, 227	1, 906	322	2, 232, 420	1, 809, 171	423, 249	9, 239	8, 131	1, 108
1930.....	3, 363	2, 787	575	2, 034, 835	1, 644, 033	390, 752	26, 532	22, 973	3, 559
1940.....	4, 472	3, 717	755	2, 938, 474	2, 370, 654	567, 820	32, 035	27, 372	4, 663
1945.....	725	70	656	1, 239, 210	57, 255	1, 181, 956	30, 638	25, 691	4, 947
1950.....	8, 003	6, 666	1, 337	10, 175, 885	8, 466, 137	1, 707, 748	48, 567	40, 185	8, 382
1951.....	9, 765	5, 338	1, 427	9, 565, 134	7, 241, 275	2, 323, 859	51, 292	42, 525	8, 767
1952.....	5, 539	4, 321	1, 218	8, 774, 903	6, 455, 114	2, 319, 789	52, 616	43, 654	8, 964
1953.....	7, 323	6, 117	1, 206	11, 091, 640	9, 002, 580	2, 089, 060	55, 593	46, 289	9, 302
1954.....	6, 601	5, 559	1, 042	9, 878, 113	8, 218, 094	1, 660, 019	57, 876	48, 324	9, 552
1955.....	9, 169	7, 920	1, 249	14, 473, 844	12, 452, 871	2, 020, 973	62, 020	51, 980	10, 031
1956.....	6, 921	5, 816	1, 104	11, 832, 403	9, 754, 971	2, 077, 432	64, 385	54, 004	10, 380
1957.....	7, 221	6, 113	1, 108	13, 280, 185	11, 198, 380	2, 081, 805	66, 310	55, 693	10, 617

¹ Includes buses. A substantial part of the trucks and buses reported comprises chassis without body; hence, excludes the value of bodies for these chassis. Includes military trucks; total sales for the period Sept. 1, 1939, through 1946, amounted to 2,575,000, valued at \$5,257,588,000. Production for the period Jan. 1, 1940, through 1946 was 2,601,000.

² Beginning 1940, includes value of standard equipment.

³ Prior to 1925, buses included with passenger cars. Beginning 1950, motortrucks exclude farm trucks registered at a nominal fee in 5 States. ⁴ Partly estimated.

Source: Factory sales—Automobile Manufacturers Association, Detroit, Mich.; *Automobile Facts and Figures*. Registrations—Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads; annual report, *Highway Statistics*.