

This analysis is based on the 2020 California Traffic Volume Dataset, published by CalTrans. The project examines the dataset to provide an impact analysis of the annual and daily average traffic volumes across various counties in California, focusing on their respective highways.

PREFACE

Traffic Profile

This lists the 2020 traffic volumes for counts locations on the California state highway system. Peak hours, peak month ADTs and annual ADTs are shown at count locations. Significant volume changes (breakpoints) in the traffic profile along each route are counted and identified by name and post mile value. In addition to the profile breakpoints, there are county lines and landmarks to aid in orientation. The numbers shown apply to the highway immediately back and ahead of the locations. Therefore, between any two successive breakpoints along the route it may be assumed that traffic volumes will vary from one breakpoint to the next at a reasonably uniform rate of increase or decrease. Where only a single set of figure appears between two breakpoints, a constant volume of traffic may be assumed for the intervening section of highway.

All traffic volume figures listed include traffic in both directions unless otherwise indicated.

Route Number

All California State highways are listed in order of Legislative Route Number

Post Mile

Each profile breakpoint is identified by the postmile value corresponding to that point on the highway. The post mile value increase from the beginning of a route within a county to the next county line. The post mile values start over again at each county line. Post mile values increases from South to North or West to East depending upon the general direction the route follows within the state. The post mile at a given location will remain the same year after year. When a section of road is relocated, new post miles (usually noted by an alphabetical prefix such as "R" or "M") are established for it.

Annual Average Daily Traffic (Annual ADT)

Annual average daily traffic is the total traffic volumes for the year divided by 365 days. The traffic count year is from October 1st through September 30th. Few locations in California are counted continuously. Traffic counting is generally performed by electronic counting instruments moved from location to location throughout the State in a program of continuous traffic count sampling. The resulting counts are adjusted to an estimate of annual average daily traffic by compensating for seasonal influence, weekly variation and other variables which may be present. Annual ADT is necessary for presenting a statewide picture of traffic flow, evaluating traffic trends, computing collision rates, planning and designing highway and other purposes.

Peak Month ADT

The peak month ADT is average daily traffic for the month of heaviest traffic flow. This data is obtained because on many routes, high traffic volumes which occur during a certain season of the year are more representative of traffic conditions than the annual ADT.

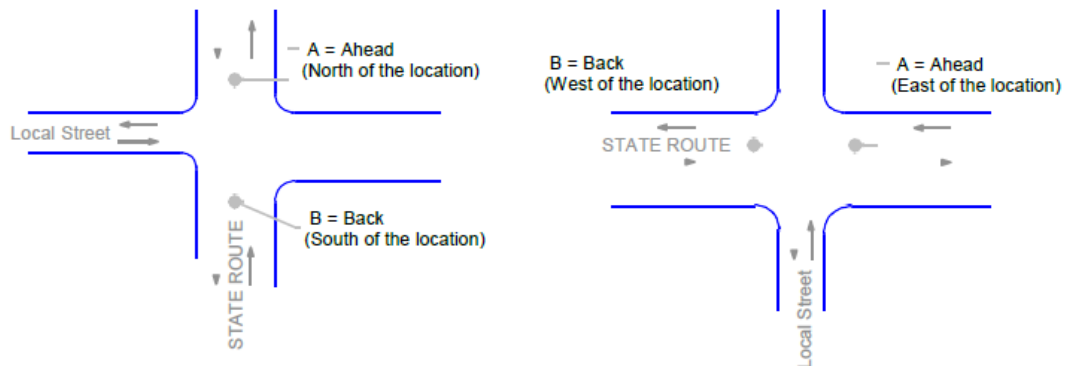
Peak Hour

This list includes an estimate of the “peak hour” traffic at points on the state highway system. This value is useful to traffic engineers in estimating the amount of congestion experienced and shows how near to capacity the highway is operating. Unless otherwise indicated, peak hour values indicate the volume in both directions.

A few hours each year are higher than the “peak hour,” but not many. In urban and suburban areas, the peak hour normally occurs every weekday, during what is considered “rush hour” traffic. On roads with large seasonal fluctuations in traffic, the peak hour is the hour near the maximum for the year but excluding a few (30 to 50 hours) that are exceedingly high and are not typical of the frequency of the high hours occurring during the season.

Explanation of Traffic Counts

Explanatory Diagram of Traffic Counts



Generally, in California West to East routes are even numbered, while South to North routes are odd numbered. In addition, the postmile values increase from South to North or West to East depending upon the general direction the highway follows within the state, except the following 5 backward routes, Route 71 (North to South), Route 224 (East to West), Route 282 (East to West), Route 580 (East to West), and Route 780 (East to West).

Highway Closures List

Regular Winter Closure

<https://dot.ca.gov/travel/winter-driving-tips>