U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) is Back!

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) and its partners are reinstating the Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS).

VIUS '21

An updated VIUS will be conducted in 2022 to obtain data on vehicle activity for calendar year 2021. Results are planned for release in 2023.

The Census Bureau will collect data from a sample of 150,000 heavy trucks, light trucks, pickups, vans, minivans, and SUVs owned by businesses and households, covering variables such as:

- Miles traveled and fuel economy by weight, type, configuration, and age of vehicle
- Axle configurations, trailers hauled, and operating weight
- Equipment added after manufacture of the chassis
- Business versus personal use and types of economic activity served
- The kinds of commodities carried

VIUS '21 is sponsored by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, the Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Department of Energy, and the Census Bureau.

Uses

Current VIUS estimates are of critical importance to federal agencies, state departments of transportation, metropolitan planning organizations, and businesses. Results from the 2021 survey will provide statistics for:

- Vehicle size and weight studies
- Tracking the deployment of driver-assistance technology
- Input to freight demand models and air quality models
- Role of motor vehicles in the economy
- Fuel efficiency of the Nation's truck fleet
- Analyses of fees and allocation of cost among highway users
- Highway traveler exposure to potential safety risks

Contact VIUS@dot.gov for any questions and comments about VIUS

Visit our website: https://www.bts.gov/VIUS

Background

First conducted in 1963 and then every five years between 1967 through 2002, the VIUS has provided exclusive national and statewide data on how trucks, vans, minivans and SUVs are equipped and used.

Informed Decision Making

The **U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)** uses the data for freight movement analysis, highway cost allocation studies, truck size and weight evaluation, investment and performance analysis, commercial motor vehicle safety analysis, and system performance analysis.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)** uses the data to assess the fuel efficiency of the Nation's truck fleet, assess technology and alternative fuel penetration, and to forecast truck population, activity and fuel demand.

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** uses the data in support of rural transportation analysis, including truck size and weight, commodities carried, mileage, and the statutory exemptions and waivers important to farmers, ranchers, and their suppliers.

The **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** uses the data to calculate vehicle emission estimates, vehicle performance and fuel economy, and fuel conservation practices of the trucking industry.

The **Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)** within the **U.S. Department of Commerce** uses the data as a part of the framework for the national investment and personal consumption expenditures component of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

State DOTs and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) use the data for highway planning, air quality improvement planning, and ports and intermodal center development and planning.

Businesses, such as truck manufacturers, oil and gas companies, and private consulting firms, make use of these data in conducting market studies and evaluating market strategies, assessing technology penetration, and determining future fuel demands.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

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Making Transportation Count