

Traffic Volume Maps

Introduction

The Highway Information Services Division's Traffic Monitoring System (TMS) Team administers the Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) Traffic Monitoring Program. The program is responsible for the collection, processing, analysis, summarization and dissemination of Maryland highway traffic data and is supported by a comprehensive, user friendly, management information system.

Traffic monitoring data is a strategic resource for SHA and Maryland's Department of Transportation. The data is essential in the planning, design and operation of the statewide road system and the development and implementation of state highway improvement and safety programs. TMS is a product of the ISTEA Act of 1991, which required a traffic data program to effectively and efficiently meet SHA's long-term traffic data monitoring and reporting requirements. The quality control feature of the system allow data edit checks and validation for data from the 79 permanent, continuous automatic traffic recorders (ATR's) and short-term traffic data.

The Maryland Traffic Volume Maps depict the Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) at various locations on Maryland's roadways by county. Traffic Volume data is collected from over 3000 program count stations and 79 ATR's, located throughout Maryland. Program count data is collected (both directions) at regular locations on a three year cycle (one-third of these are counted each year). Growth Factors are applied to counts which were not taken during the current year and the counts are factored based on the past yearly growth of an associated ATR. Counters are placed for 48 hours on a Monday or Tuesday and are picked up that Thursday or Friday, respectively. The ATR and toll count data is collected on a continuous basis. Toll station data is provided by the Maryland Transportation Authority.

To identify the years which the count was actually taken, starting in 2006 a special numeric code is added to the AADT & AAWDT numbers. The last digit represents the number of years prior to the actual count. Where "0" represents the current year when data was collected (in 2008), "1" represents the count taken in 2007, "2" represents the count taken in 2006, "3" represents the count taken in 2005 and so forth.

All route, traffic and travel data being made available by SHA in these maps are developed to support internal uses, primarily transportation planning. Any and all data are provided "as is" with the understanding that no warranty of any kind, implied, expressed or statutory, is given with respects to the contents of these maps. Any and all conclusions or products derived from the data are the sole responsibility of the user.

The information presented in these maps is considered public information and may be copied or distributed, but must be free of charge.