2002 Fast Facts for the United States

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2002 Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) are now available for the United States. The VIUS produces state and U.S. level statistics on the physical and operational characteristics of the Nation’s truck population.

There were 85.2 million private and commercial trucks registered in the United States during 2002, up approximately 17 percent from 72.8 million trucks in 1997.

The report includes these highlights for the United States:

The number of sport utility vehicles (SUVs) registered in the U. S. during 2002 increased 56 percent from 1997. The number of minivans increased 24 percent and the number of pickups in the United States increased 5 percent during this same period.

- Total truck registrations in 2002 included 45 percent pickups, 28 percent SUVs, and 14 percent minivans.
- The United States has approximately one pickup for every 8 people and about one SUV for every 12 people. It also has approximately one pickup for every 5 licensed drivers and about one SUV for every 8 licensed drivers. Estimates are taken from this report and statistics from the U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Statistics 2002.
- In 2002, an estimated 7 percent of all large trucks carried hazardous materials.
About 77 percent of all trucks were used for personal transportation, while 20 percent were operated for business, including for-hire use.

The report also includes information on fuel efficiency, annual mileage, primary range of operation, permanent equipment, and other physical and operational characteristics.

The Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey is conducted every five years as part of the Economic Census and data are used by government agencies, businesses, academia, and the general public. Estimates in this report are based on data from the 2002 Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey. They contain sampling and nonsampling errors. To keep the identity of an individual respondent confidential, some estimates may be suppressed. Users making their own estimates, based on survey estimates, should cite the U.S. Census Bureau as the source of the original estimates only. See [www.census.gov/svsd/www/02vehinv.html](http://www.census.gov/svsd/www/02vehinv.html) for measures of sampling variability and other survey information.