The 2009 Travel of Men & Women in Vermont

The National Household Transportation Survey (NHTS) is a comprehensive survey of personal travel in the U.S. conducted by the U.S. Department of Transportation approximately every eight years. The results of the 2001 NHTS provided evidence that nationally, travel patterns differ between men and women.

Survey participants completed a one day travel diary and telephone interview, providing us information on the participants’ general travel habits, along with specific travel behaviors for a single day. Compiling information from many Vermont participants helps researchers understand the travel behavior throughout the state, for every day of the week, for every month of the year. Annual miles traveled by men and women in Vermont are summarized below.

On average, male respondents traveled a greater number of miles annually than female respondents: 14,684 miles annually vs. 11,030 miles for women. The greatest differences in travel patterns between men and women were present at the extremes of the distribution, with a greater proportion of women traveling less than 5,000 miles annually and a greater proportion of men traveling greater than 20,000 miles.

Although women in Vermont travel fewer miles than men on a daily basis, they take a greater number of trips. Journey-to-work distances, for respondents who reported that they did not work at home, are similar between men and women, with nearly half of all survey respondents traveling less than five miles to work each way. TRC researchers also examined rates of biking and walking for men and women.