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TITLE: Projected Motor Vehicle Registration & Drivers Licenses Outstanding 1978-2005

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To prepare a set of estimated vehicle registrations to 2005, by county, for each of the four classes of vehicles --passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, motorcycles, and trailers.

SUMMARY:

The ownership of motor vehicles in California has long been used by economists, bankers, planners, and administrators at all levels of government and the private sector as an important measure of the State's economy. Members of these professions have continued to seek long-range estimates of vehicle registration data in order to forecast future growth and development of the State and to plan necessary facilities for this expected growth.

This is the fifth set of estimates released by the department. This set of vehicle registration estimates (to year 2005) are by county for each of the four types of vehicles - passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, trailers, and motorcycles. Also included are estimates on the number of drivers license holders statewide (to year 2005), and various driver distributions by county, age, and sex. In addition, we have for the first time included estimates on the number of undocumented vessel registrations and off-highway vehicle registrations (to year 2005). County distributions for these items are also included for reference.

It is anticipated that these registration estimates will need revision at least every two years and perhaps more frequently should drastic changes occur in the base estimators.

A multiple linear regression model was employed as the statistical tool to the development of the estimates. Separate equations were developed for each vehicle type (passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, trailers and motorcycles) for each of the 58 counties of California. The predictor variables used were population, gross national product (GNP), personal disposable income, and two "dummy variables"--energy conditions and wage-price controls, as independent variable. Population estimates were obtained from projections of total California population, E-150 series, provided by the Department of Finance. Gross National Product estimates were calculated from a simple regression on historical data--trend-line analysis.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

See report #27, *Projected Motor Vehicle and Trailer Registration by County, 1967-1980*, April 1968 for the first report in this series. See also Report 31, *Projected Motor Vehicle Registration and Drivers Licenses Outstanding, 1970-1985* for the second report in this series. This publication represents an updating of Report 48, *Projected Motor Vehicle Registration and Drivers Licenses Outstanding 1970-1985* (October 1974) and Report 48.1, *Projected Motor Vehicle Registration & Drivers Licenses Outstanding 1976-2000*, Research Staff, Oct 1976, the third and fourth reports in this series.