

(7) ANALYSIS OF TRAFFIC, BY TYPE OF VEHICLE.

A comparison of the use of the main highways by different types of motor-vehicles in 1937-38 and in 1934-35 is afforded by Table F.

TABLE F.—VEHICLE-MILEAGE IN 1937-38 AND 1934-35, ACCORDING TO TYPE OF VEHICLE.

Type of Vehicle.	Annual Vehicle-mileage.		Increase.		Average Number of Vehicles on the Road.		Increase.	
	1937-38.	1934-35.	Vehicle-miles.	Percentage	1937-38.	1934-35.	Numbers.	Percentage
Motor-cars	651,237,380	401,254,355	249,983,025	62·3	179,194	128,261	50,933	39·7
Trade motors—								
Under 2 tons	70,359,225	52,676,800	17,682,425	33·6	24,867	20,201	4,666	22·8
2 tons to 4½ tons ..	35,425,075	40,950,445	5,525,370*	13·5*	21,887	15,982	5,905	36·9
4½ tons to 6½ tons ..	57,057,530	35,184,175	21,873,355	62·1				
Over 6½ tons	11,446,035	6,794,110	4,651,925	68·5				
Total, trade motors ..	174,287,865	135,605,530	38,682,335	28·5	46,694	36,183	10,511	29·1
Public passenger-vehicles—								
Service cars	12,619,510	12,631,190	11,680*	0·1*	648	511	137	26·9
Omnibuses	6,126,525	4,652,290	1,474,235	31·7	622	735	113*	15·4*
Total, public passenger-vehicles	18,746,035	17,283,480	1,462,555	8·4	1,270	1,246	24	1·9
Motor-cycles	31,871,070	33,686,215	1,815,145*	5·4*	20,082	21,186	1,104*	5·2*
Trailers	7,146,335	4,174,505	2,971,830	71·2	5,119	2,107	3,012	142·9
Miscellaneous	2,004,945	1,703,090	301,855	17·7	..	..	..	..
All motor-vehicles ..	885,293,630	593,707,175	291,586,455	49·1	252,359	188,983	63,376	33·5

* Decrease.

This table shows that the great bulk of the increase in the utilization of the highway system by motor-vehicles is due to the increased use of the private car. The use of this type of vehicle on the main highways increased by 62 per cent., although the number on the road increased by only 40 per cent. The use of trade motors of a gross weight in excess of 4½ tons has also increased very considerably, while the use of the lighter truck, from 2 tons to 4½ tons gross weight, has decreased. The use of motor-cycles also decreased by 5 per cent. during the period, which was almost in proportion to the reduction in numbers of motor-cycles. The use of trailers increased by over 70 per cent., but the number of trailers on the road increased 140 per cent.

Table G shows the extent to which the character of traffic on the main-highway system has changed during the three-year period under review. In 1934-35 the private car provided 67 per cent. of the total use of the highways. In 1937-38, 74 per cent. of the total vehicle-mileage was performed by the private car.

TABLE G.—SHOWING PROPORTION OF HIGHWAY USED BY DIFFERENT TYPES OF VEHICLES IN 1937-38 AND 1934-35.

Type of Vehicle.	Proportion of Vehicle-mileage.					
	North Island.		South Island.		New Zealand.	
	1937-38.	1934-35.	1937-38.	1934-35.	1937-38.	1934-35.
Motor-cars	73·79	67·57	73·13	67·62	73·56	67·59
Trade motors—						
Under 2 tons	7·62	8·45	8·56	9·61	7·95	8·87
2 tons to 4½ tons ..	4·43	7·72	3·20	5·46	4·00	6·90
4½ tons to 6½ tons ..	6·82	6·13	5·74	5·57	6·45	5·93
Over 6½ tons	1·18	1·08	1·51	1·26	1·29	1·14
Total, trade motors ..	20·05	23·38	19·01	21·90	19·69	22·84
Public passenger-vehicles—						
Service cars	1·45	2·15	1·38	2·09	1·43	2·13
Omnibuses	0·63	0·75	0·81	0·84	0·69	0·78
Total, public passenger-vehicles	2·08	2·90	2·19	2·93	2·12	2·91
Motor-cycles	3·22	5·34	4·32	6·26	3·60	5·67
Trailers	0·68	0·56	1·04	0·95	0·81	0·70
Miscellaneous	0·18	0·25	0·31	0·34	0·22	0·29
All motor-vehicles ..	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00