

# Massachusetts State Data Center Newsletter

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## Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey

*by David Crout, Data Specialist*

The Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS) provides data on the physical and operational characteristics of the U.S. truck population. Vehicles such as sport-utility vehicles, minivans, and station wagons were also included in the Inventory. This survey is conducted every five years as part of the Economic Census; this is the first product from the 1997 Economic Census released for Massachusetts. The VIUS is a sample of private and commercial trucks registered in the U.S. as of July 1, 1997. Approximately 131,000

trucks were surveyed to measure the characteristics of nearly 75 million trucks registered in the U.S.

Some highlights from the VIUS for Massachusetts:

- *The number of sport-utility vehicles more than doubled (101.5% increase) between 1992 and 1997.*
- *The number of minivans also increased significantly (69.1%) in the same time period, while the number of station wagons declined by over 33%.*

- *Trucks used for personal transportation rose nearly 42% between 1992 and 1997.*
- *The number of vehicles in the Inventory that get 25 or more miles per gallon decreased by over 46% between 1992 and 1997.*
- *The number of vehicles in the Inventory having four-wheel drive increased nearly 70% in the same time period.*

The VIUS for Massachusetts can be accessed from our web site at:

<http://www.umass.edu/miser/dataop/whats.htm>

## Internet Use by Public Libraries On the Rise in 1997

*by David Crout, Data Specialist*

Of 8,921 public library systems in the U.S., 44.6% were connected to the Internet in 1996, and 72.3% were connected in 1997—a 62.1% increase. Of the various Internet services offered to patrons in connected libraries, graphical based World-Wide Web browsing was offered the most (72.1% of libraries), with text-based World-Wide Web browsing and access to FTP and

telnet services nearly tying for second place (40.8% and 40.6%, respectively). Other Internet services provided by libraries included online CD services (30.7%), online reference services (29.7%), access to newsgroup services (28.1%), online database services (26.3%), email accounts (18.0%), and special software or hardware for individuals with disabilities (10.6%).

Connected to the Internet is defined as at least one outlet in the library system connected to or offering Internet services.

*This data is from the American Library Association's 1997 Survey of U.S. Public Libraries and the Internet: Final Report, 1998 as presented in the 1998 Statistical Abstract of the United States, Table 333, p. 204 U.S. Census Bureau. The Statistical Abstract web site: <http://www.census.gov/statab/www/>*

**ATTENTION AFFILIATES:** *The Affiliate Memorandum of Understanding forms for 1999 - 2000 will be sent to you soon. These completed forms will be necessary to maintain your affiliate status.*



**Visit Our Web Site at [www.umass.edu/miser/dataop](http://www.umass.edu/miser/dataop)**



## United States Department of Agriculture

### 1997 Census of Agriculture Product Release Dates

Products	Available
STATE AND COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS TABLES (Internet)	2/1/99
STATE AND COUNTY PROFILES (Internet)	2/1/99
<b>Volume 1, GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES (Internet, CD-ROM, Print)</b>	
One report for each State and a U.S. Summary of National-level statistics	3/20/99
Puerto Rico	July 99
Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa	August 99
<b>Volume 2, SUBJECT SERIES, (Internet, CD-ROM, Print)</b>	
Agricultural Atlas of the United States (map image formats electronically)	Summer 99
Ranking of States and Counties	Summer 99
ZIP Code Tabulations of Selected Items (Internet and CD-ROM only, database format)	Fall 99
<b>Volume 3, SPECIAL STUDIES (Internet, CD-ROM, Print)</b>	
1998 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey (spreadsheet format electronically)	Fall 99
1998 Census of Horticultural Specialties (database format electronically)	Fall 99
1998 Census of Aquaculture (database format electronically)	Fall 99
1999 Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey	Winter 2000
<b>SPECIALTY PRODUCTS (Internet and CD-ROM)</b>	
Congressional Tabulation (database format)	Fall 99
Public Use Files, U.S. and State (ASCII format)	Fall 99
<b>SERVICES:</b>	
<b>AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH LAB (tabulations using microdata)</b>	Ongoing
<b>SPECIAL TABULATIONS (published data only)</b>	Ongoing

For additional information on product availability call 1-800-523-3215 or check out the National Agricultural Statistics Services Home Page at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> You can also access the Census of Agriculture through MISER's web site at [www.umass.edu/miser/dataop/whats.htm](http://www.umass.edu/miser/dataop/whats.htm)

## Staffing News

The State Data Center Welcomes Firuzeh Khorasanizadeh to our staff. Firuzeh, along with other Data Center staff, will be responsible for programming work done for special projects as well as answer data inquiries made to the Data Center. Our staff includes:

Dave Crout, Data Specialist/  
Programmer  
Deb Furioni, Data Specialist  
John Gaviglio, Data Center Manager  
Firuzeh Khorasanizadeh, Data  
Specialist/Programmer  
Roy Williams, Senior Data Specialist/  
Programmer

Our Boston Office:  
Bill Murray, Data Center Manager  
Michael Sullivan, Data Specialist

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