

## HIGHWAY STATISTICS

### 2010 STANDARD SAMPLES REVIEW

The existing software HPMSV8 does not yet have the capability to delete the samples, run the sample adequacy test, and restore the data when required.

We have reviewed and analyzed the HPMS sample requirements for HPMS 2010 which was submitted this year.

Using HPMSV8 and our micro analysis, it was found that there are at least 10 % excess samples in the Urban, Urbanized, Small Urban, and Rural areas.

After using the new TOPS Development Process with new Low Volume Group (less than 500 AADT) and precision levels, Delaware added samples where required. However, there was no deletion of samples where the minimum requirements were exceeded. A review of final changes in system wide travel patterns is needed prior to the compilation of HPMS 2011.

The 2010 universe comprises 6,337 miles of roadways in Delaware. Twenty Eight (28) standard samples were added. Starting in 2010, the new lower Volume Group 1 (Under 500 AADT) has created 24 samples.

The annual changes in Standard Samples are presented below:

#### **2010 Change in Standard Samples**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Samples</b>	<b>Change</b>
2000	587	
2001	621	34
2002	628	7
2003	643	15
2004	733	90
2005	658	(75)
2006	643	(15)
2007	638	(5)
2008	615	(23)
2009	620	5
2010	648	28

The recent economic crisis, globalization and lack of consumer spending, has impacted key sector of Delaware economic activity base, namely – banking, manufacturing and construction, and retail.

In the New Castle County and the Wilmington Urbanized Area (including a part of Philadelphia Area), the unemployment rate is above 9%. Employment in the banking sector has substantially diminished. General Motors and Chrysler plants, which operated in three shifts, are closed. Port facilities are working at less than 50% of the capacity. In the Dover Urban Area, some of the major retail chain stores like Boscov's and Value City have filed bankruptcy. Bank of America relocated and off-shored their credit card call centers, which were situated in the Silver Lake Office Park and the Blue Hen Corporate Center. In the past 5 years, 850 jobs were lost. In Sussex County's Seaford Small Urban Area, the DuPont Nylon plant has shifted their manufacturing unit, which has resulted in a relocation of more than 85% of their employment.

The DVMT of the entire State was 24,686,000 vehicle-miles of travel in 2003. Seven years thereafter, with so much of development, the DVMT even decreased by 0.7 % to 24,514,000 vehicle-miles in 2010. The permanent traffic counters are showing significant decline in AADT across the entire state.

DelDOT also uses the HPMS sampling data for various studies, like planning for capital improvements, environmental studies and congestion management. Our HPMS Samples will continue to be more than the minimum required by the guidelines.



*Cape May Lewes Ferry*