

HIGHWAY STATISTICS

2010 Delaware HPMS Data Compilation

Delaware is a small state consisting of 1954 square miles, which ranks 49th in land area and 45th in population, estimated at 897,934 persons in 2010.

There are only two full time staff members in the department to gather road inventory and field data. The suburban and municipal street mileages are ineligible for federal-aid apportionment. The suburban and municipal road mileages are reviewed annually and revised as necessary to determine if these roads are eligible for an increase in the authorization of suburban and municipal street-aid funds from the state.

The state's traffic count data manipulation is contracted out to Chaparral, a traffic software consultant in New Mexico.

As a coastal state, Delaware's weather is often unpredictable. Stormy weather mixed with heavy rains often creates coastal flooding which results in wide variations in traffic patterns annually. This also cause frequent malfunction in our permanent ATRs along roads that may be flooded.

Delaware does not have an HPMS field crew, therefore, some data is not available until just before the due date for reporting the HPMS. DelDOT also encounters problems in "Sample Management". There are small sections within the Volume Group Universe with section lengths under 0.20 miles. These sections should be ignored by the HPMS software. DelDOT puts a lot of effort into collecting data from numerous small sections to avoid errors. Because the software fails to ignore very small sections, it is doubtful if these extra efforts are worthwhile. After the compilation of HPMS data, a field review is made before those data are made final.

As the one and only HPMS Coordinator, I work with the following sections to update the required database:

- Road Inventory
- Traffic
- Pavement
- Highway Safety
- Road Construction
- Closely work with GIS and IT sections.
- Agencies outside DelDOT like, Army Corps, State Parks etc

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