

2019 Research Showcase

The Vermont Transportation Energy Profile

& STIC Annual Meeting

PROJECT TITLE

The 2019 Vermont Transportation Energy Profile

STUDY TIMELINE

October 2018 – September 2019

INVESTIGATORS

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VTRANS CONTACTS

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This fact sheet was prepared for the 2019 VTrans Research Showcase & STIC Annual Meeting held at the Dill Building in Berlin, VT, on September 11, 2019 from 8:30 am– 1:00 pm.

Fact sheets can be found for additional projects featured at the 2019 Symposium at <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/research/2019showcase>

Additional information about the VTrans Research Program can be found at <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/research>

Additional information about the VTrans STIC Program can be found at <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/board-s-councils/stic>

Introduction

The transportation sector consumes more energy than any other sector in the state. The Vermont Transportation Energy Profile is a biannual reporting series that evaluates the trends in transportation energy use. The Profile is intended to inform transportation-related policy-making generally and to directly track the State's progress toward achieving the transportation-sector goals and objectives articulated in the State's Comprehensive Energy Plan.

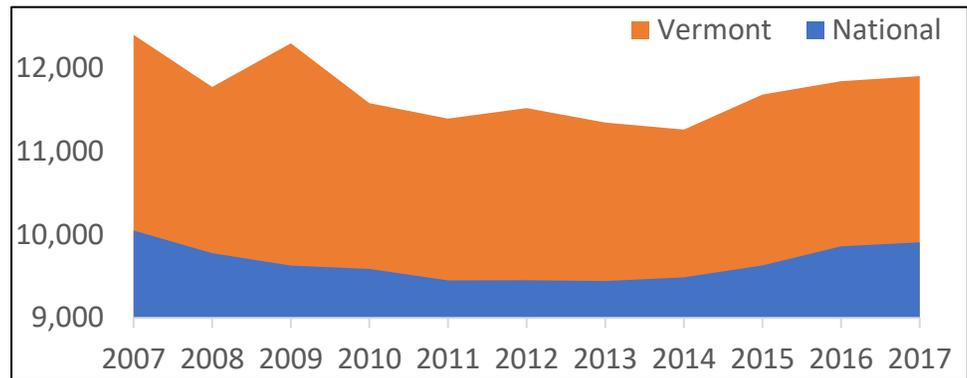


Figure 1. Per Capita Vehicle Miles Traveled

Methodology

The Energy Profile draws on a variety of state and federal data sets to illustrate trends in Vermonters' travel behavior, vehicle fleet composition, and fuel sources that are relevant to Comprehensive Energy Plan metrics and broader transportation policy-making initiatives.

Conclusions

The 2016 Vermont Comprehensive Energy Plan sets forth an energy vision that requires rapid changes in transportation energy use patterns relative to trends in the recent past, includes reducing total transportation energy use by 20% from 2015 levels and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 30% from 1990 levels by 2025. To date, the State is lagging behind the rate of change required to achieve many of the targets evaluated in the Energy Profile.

Potential Impacts and VTrans Benefits

Current progress toward the Comprehensive Energy Plan targets suggests that additional policy initiatives may be needed to reduce transportation sector energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. The Energy Profile provides essential information to support planning and policy-making.