

1. VEHICLE TRAFFIC VOLUME
2. DENSITY OF ROADS AND NUMBER OF VEHICLES

1. Vehicle Traffic Volume

At present, the means of transport in Japan consist mainly of railways and automobiles. Automobiles which used to play a supplemental role to railways have been developed to a point where they now assume a role equal to, or more significant than the railways due to the development of industry and the improvement of roads since World War II.

The passenger transport volume (in passenger-kilometerage) in 1970 stood at 49.2% for railways and 48.5% for automobiles, whereas the freight transport volume (in ton-kilometerage) was 18.5% for railways and 39.7% for automobiles.

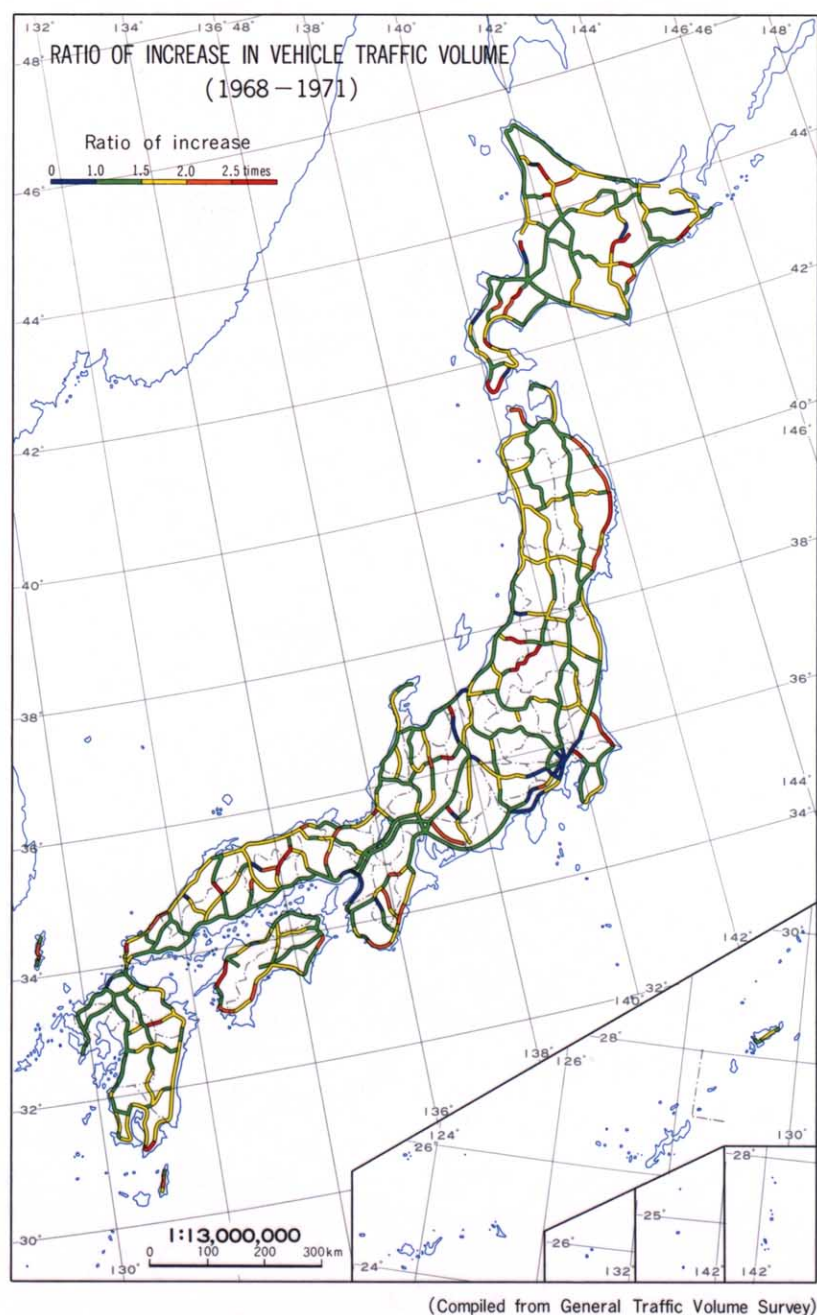
The vehicle traffic volume is great on national highways and principal local roads connecting large metropolitan cities with major local cities. A check of the 12-hour vehicle traffic volume reveals that the sections recording a traffic volume of more than 50,000 vehicles are found in Tōkyō, Ōsaka and Nagoya, and that the sections recording a traffic volume of more than 30,000 vehicles can be found in the peripheries of these cities and, Sapporo, Sendai, Sizuoka, Hiroshima and Hukuoka.

Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation

At present, no nationwide surveys are conducted on the vehicle transport volume for each route in Japan. For this reason, the vehicle traffic volume was used in this map in lieu of the vehicle transport volume.

The vehicle traffic volume, as used in this map, is based on the results of the General Traffic Volume Survey which constituted part of the 1974 National Road Traffic Status Survey.

This survey was designed to check the volume of traffic in the 12-hour period from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on each day between mid-June and mid-July and from the latter part of September to the latter part of October. The mean of the values gained from these two surveys is used as the vehicle traffic volume. The traffic volume represents the number of automobiles passing each survey point. The automobiles, as referred to here, do not include two-wheeled vehicles with motors.

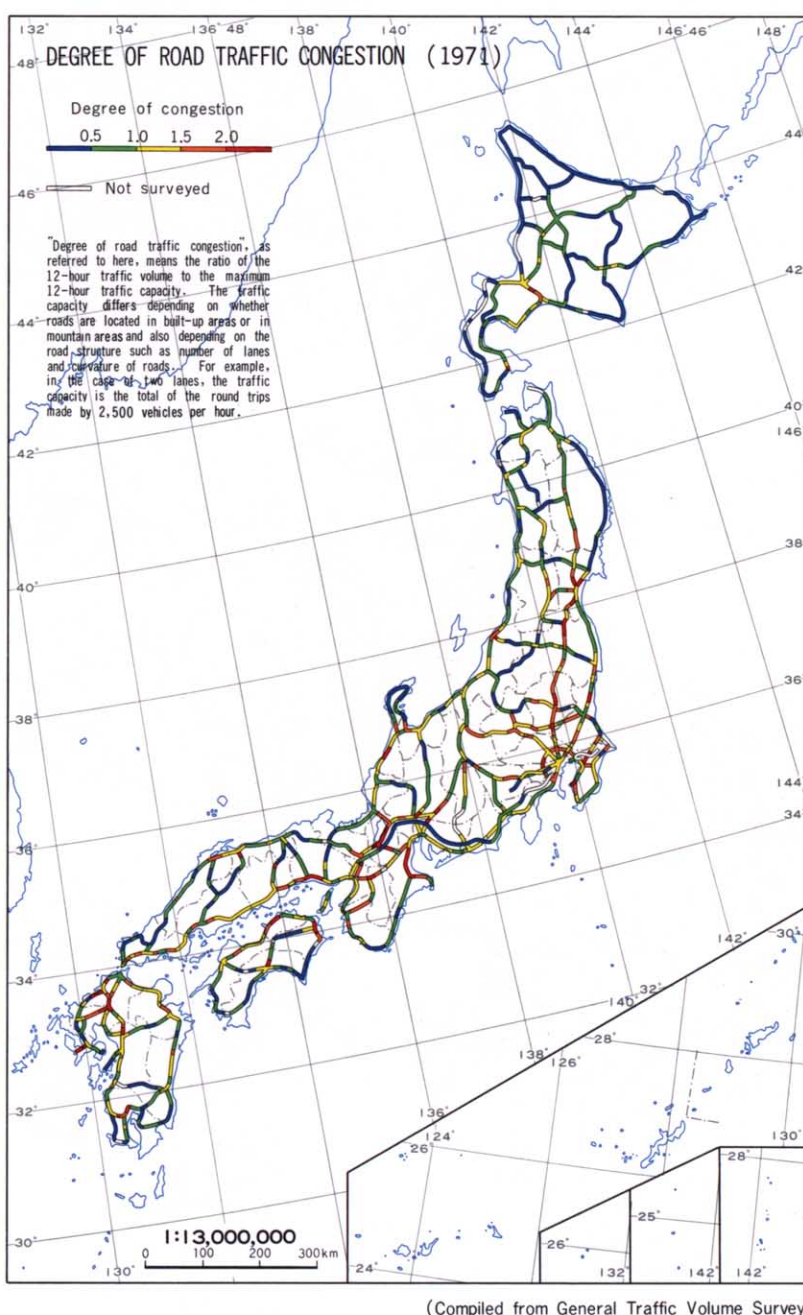


Sources

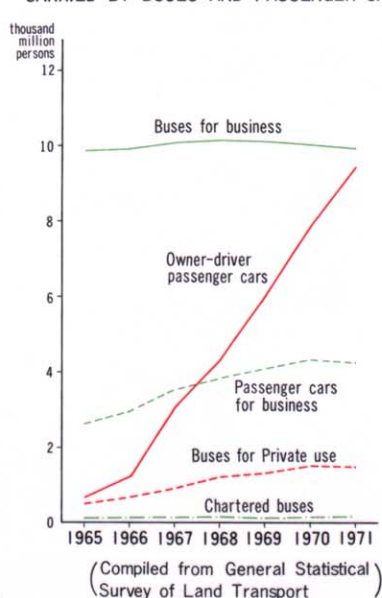
1. Ministry of Construction, 1: 200,000 scale Traffic Volume Map, 1974.
2. Ministry of Construction, General Traffic Volume Survey, 1971.

2. Density of Roads and Number of Vehicles

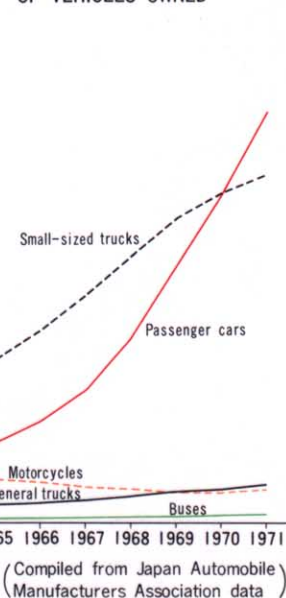
The roads as of March 31, 1972, totaled 1,037,800 km, including 870 km of national expressways, 32,800 km of ordinary national highways, 124,900 km of prefectural highways, and 879,200 km of Si, Mati and Mura roads. Of these



CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PERSONS CARRIED BY BUSES AND PASSENGER CARS



CHANGES IN NUMBER OF VEHICLES OWNED



roads, roads less than 5.5 m in width amounted to 884,800 km (85.3%), whereas unpaved roads consisted of 811,600 km (78.2%). Of the 158,500 km of national and prefectural highways, roads more than 5.5 m in width totaled 72,400 km (45.7%), whereas unpaved roads amounted to 94,100 km (59.3%).

The density of national and prefectural highways (length of roads per 1 km²) stands at 423 m on the national average.

The number of vehicles owned in Japan has been steadily on the rise from about 1965. As of March 31, 1972, there were about 21,000,000 vehicles (excluding bicycles with motors, etc., and those in Okinawa Prefecture). They included 11,000,000 passenger cars (52%), 200,000 buses (1%), 8,000,000 small-sized trucks (39%), 900,000 general trucks (4%), and 760,000 motorcycles (4%).

Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation

The types of vehicles used in this map are as follows:

- Passenger cars: All types of passenger cars.
- Buses: Including small-sized buses.
- Small-sized trucks: Four- and three-wheeled trucks small in size and light in weight.
- General trucks: Trucks other than the small-sized trucks and trailers.
- Motorcycles: Motorcycles with a displacement of more than 125 cc.

The map does not show the numbers of special-purpose vehicles, such as tank lorries and concrete mixers; vehicles of special construction, such as road rollers and shovel-dozers; and bicycles with motors.

Sources

1. Ministry of Construction: The Annuals of Road Statistics, 1973.
2. Data from Ministry of Construction.
3. Ministry of Transport, Monthly Land Transportation Statistics, March 1972.
4. Ministry of Transport, General Statistical Survey of Land Transport, 1973.
5. Data from the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association.



VEHICLE TRAFFIC VOLUME

(1974)

12 HOUR TRAFFIC VOLUME (7 A.M. - 7 P.M.)

- less than 1,000
- 1,000 and over but less than 2,000
- 2,000 and over but less than 5,000
- 5,000 and over but less than 10,000
- 10,000 and over but less than 30,000
- 30,000 and over but less than 50,000
- 50,000 and over
- No available data

- KIND OF ROADS
- National expressways
 - National highways
 - Principal prefectural roads

(The average traffic volume surveyed each day from the middle of June to the middle of July, and from the latter part of September to the latter part of October represent the traffic volume)

1:2,500,000

