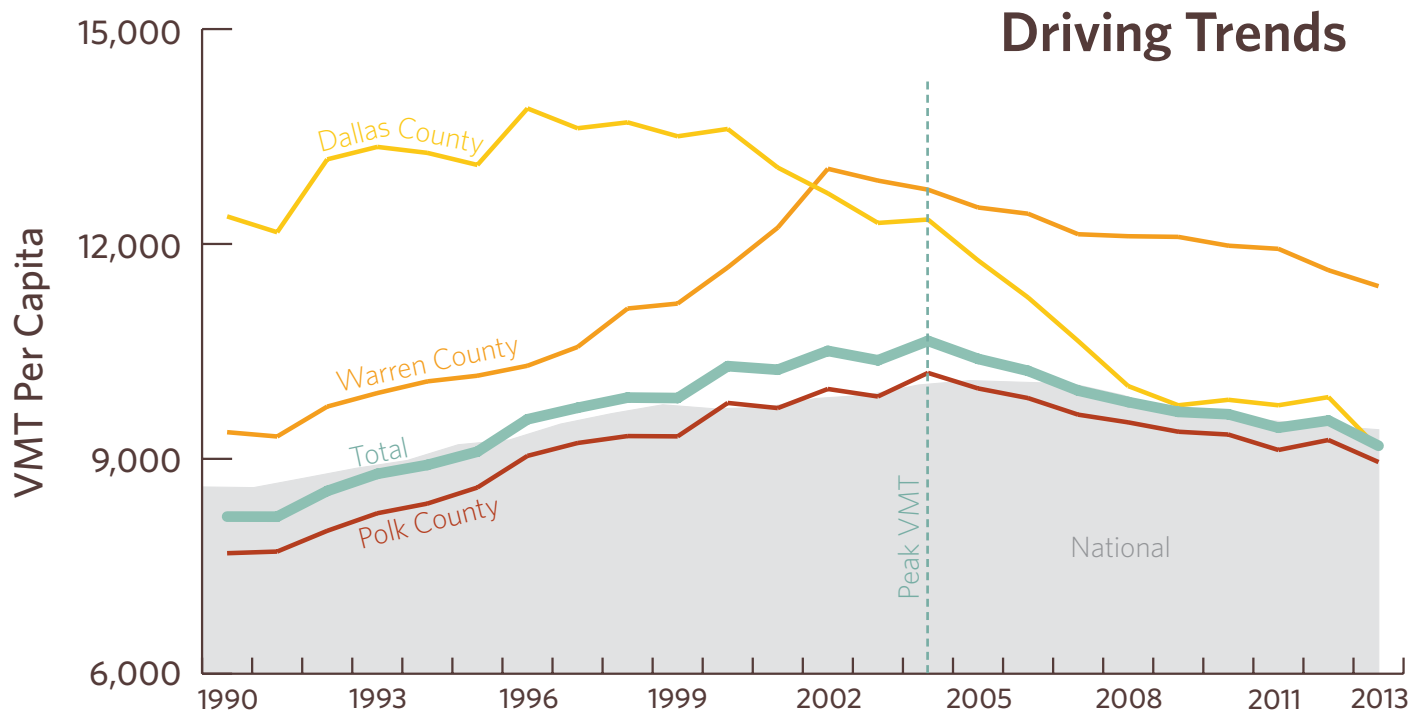


Many the Miles

Vehicle Miles Traveled

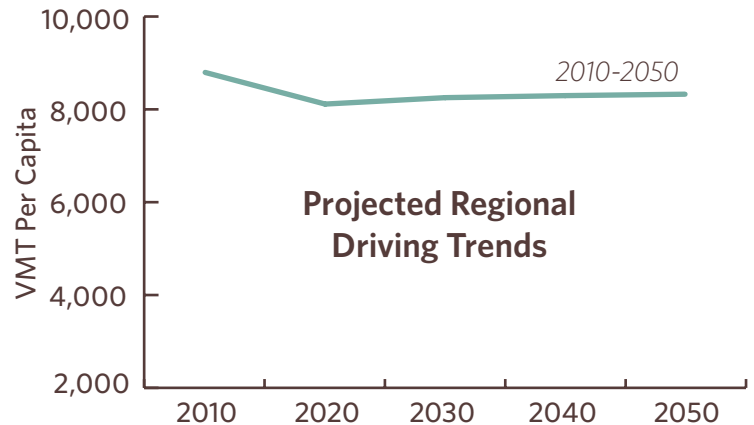
Vehicle miles traveled (VMTs) are the amount of total miles driven by all vehicles in a given area and are an indicator of how much people are driving. VMT-based metrics, such as per capita VMT and crashes per VMT, are common performance measures in transportation planning. *Mobilizing Tomorrow*, the MPO's long-range transportation plan, and other efforts support a reduction in VMTs to reduce energy consumption, transportation-related emissions, congestion, and the occurrence of crashes.



Local trends follow national trends when it comes to how much the region is driving. Collectively, the region has seen a decline in the number of miles driven per capita since 2004.

Some reasons for the decline

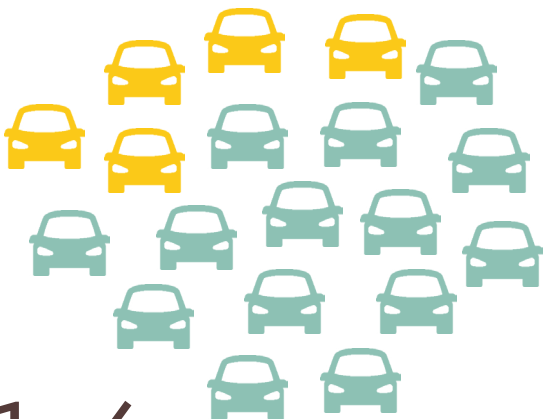
- Demographic changes
- Decline in car ownership
- Desire for compact, mixed-use communities
- Saturated highways



Data Sources: US Census Bureau
 Federal Highway Administration Travel Volume Trends
 State Smart Transportation Initiative, 2014
 2050 Travel Demand Model

PER CAPITA VMT BY CITY

CITY	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	PERCENT CHANGE (08-12)
ALTOONA	6,633	6,403	6,548	6,362	6,378	-3.8%
ANKENY	6,743	6,647	6,514	6,243	6,515	-3.4%
BONDURANT	7,860	7,479	5,937	5,576	5,487	-30.2%
CARLISLE	2,355	2,310	2,253	2,209	2,154	-8.5%
CLIVE	9,810	9,604	9,449	9,141	9,307	-5.1%
CUMMING	3,382	3,317	3,897	3,825	3,367	-0.4%
DES MOINES	7,223	7,234	7,040	6,877	6,892	-4.6%
GRIMES	6,912	6,623	7,200	6,747	7,351	6.4%
INDIANOLA	4,198	4,201	4,146	4,086	3,872	-7.8%
JOHNSTON	4,816	4,619	4,167	3,913	3,997	-17.0%
MITCHELLVILLE	1,238	1,198	1,134	1,131	1,237	-0.1%
NORWALK	3,222	3,117	3,139	3,008	2,986	-7.3%
PLEASANT HILL	7,921	7,729	9,030	8,861	8,880	12.1%
POLK CITY	2,134	2,274	4,124	3,960	3,467	62.5%
URBANDALE	9,619	9,467	9,507	9,230	9,789	1.8%
VAN METER	1,413	1,347	1,655	1,530	1,374	-2.8%
WAUKEE	3,116	2,993	2,999	2,730	2,834	-9.1%
WEST DES MOINES	10,202	9,850	10,191	9,789	10,501	2.9%
WINDSOR HEIGHTS	10,401	10,201	10,030	9,937	10,220	-1.7%



14 of the 19 cities experienced a **decrease** in Per Capita VMT between 2008 and 2012

HOW CAN WE CONTINUE TO REDUCE HOW MANY MILES WE'RE DRIVING?

Many strategies exist to reduce the number of miles people are driving:

- Creating more mixed use, walkable developments
- Increasing the availability of alternative modes of transportation, such as public transit and bicycling
- Increasing the cost of driving

Data Source: Iowa Department of Transportation