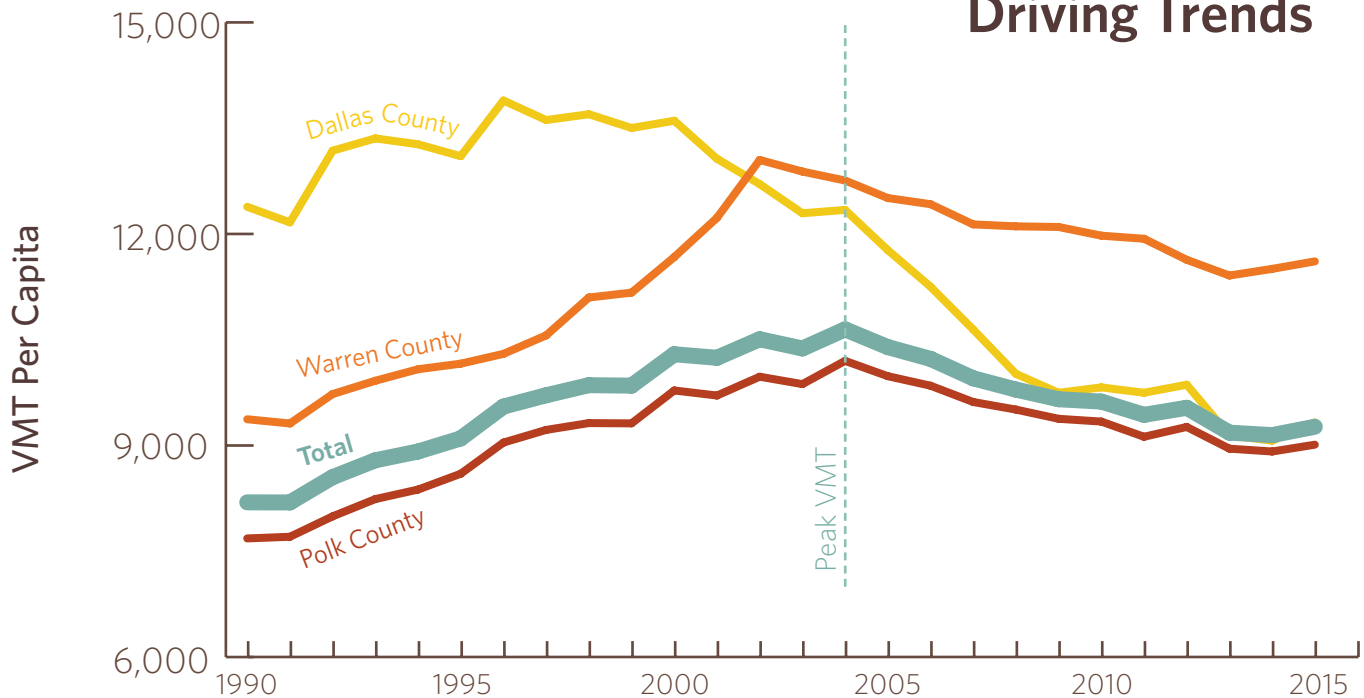


# Many the Miles

## 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.

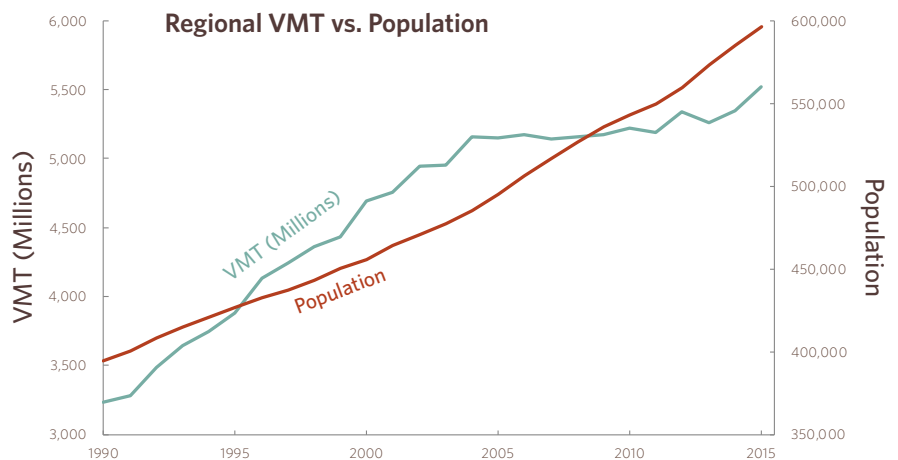
### Driving Trends



The region reached peak VMT in 2004. Collectively, the region has seen a decline in the number of miles driven per capita in the following years.

#### What impacts VMT

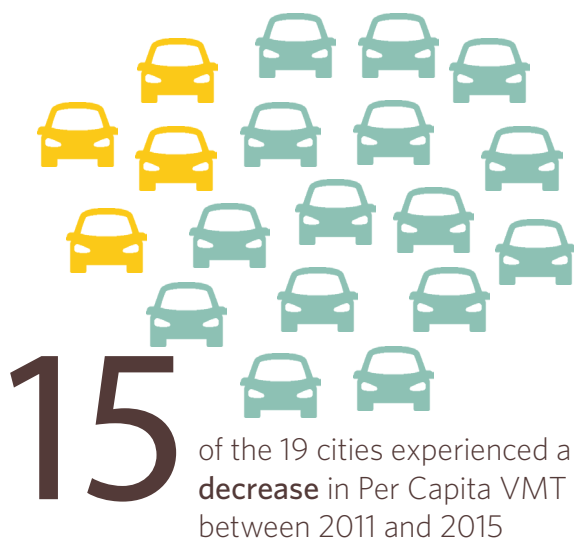
- Demographic changes
- Car ownership
- Fuel prices
- Desire for compact, mixed-use communities
- Saturated highways



Data Sources: US Census Bureau  
Iowa Department of Transportation

## PER CAPITA VMT BY CITY

CITY	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	PERCENT CHANGE (11-15)
ALTOONA	6362	6378	6175	5938	5792	<b>-9.0%</b>
ANKENY	6243	6515	6119	6119	5987	<b>-4.1%</b>
BONDURANT	5576	5487	4923	4761	4645	<b>-16.7%</b>
CARLISLE	2209	2154	2038	1945	1953	<b>-11.6%</b>
CLIVE	9141	9307	8965	8648	8572	<b>-6.2%</b>
CUMMING	3825	3367	3218	3156	3166	<b>-17.2%</b>
DES MOINES	6877	6892	6648	6626	6758	<b>-1.7%</b>
GRIMES	6747	7351	6928	6601	6067	<b>-10.1%</b>
INDIANOLA	4086	3872	3761	3717	3758	<b>-8.0%</b>
JOHNSTON	3913	3997	3689	3521	3527	<b>-9.8%</b>
MITCHELLVILLE	1131	1237	1193	1166	1151	<b>1.7%</b>
NORWALK	3008	2986	2848	2789	2857	<b>-5.0%</b>
PLEASANT HILL	8861	8880	8626	8513	8472	<b>-4.4%</b>
POLK CITY	3960	3467	3165	2976	2937	<b>-25.8%</b>
URBANDALE	9230	9789	9530	9014	9109	<b>-1.3%</b>
VAN METER	1530	1374	1305	1263	1286	<b>-15.9%</b>
WAUKEE	2730	2834	2570	2482	3307	<b>21.1%</b>
WEST DES MOINES	9789	10501	10032	9873	10112	<b>3.3%</b>
WINDSOR HEIGHTS	9937	10220	10121	10526	10829	<b>9.0%</b>



### 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 and attractiveness of alternative modes of transportation, such as public transit and bicycling
- Taking advantage of demand management strategies and vehicle sharing services.

Data Source: Iowa Department of Transportation