



News from the Ohio Turnpike

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Ohio Turnpike breaks record for number of vehicles using the roadway ***Total E-ZPass traffic increases by 2 percent in 2015***

BEREA (Jan. 19, 2016) More vehicles traveled on the Ohio Turnpike in 2015 than any other year in its 60-year history. The total of 53.4 million vehicles in 2015 eclipses the previous record total from 2006, which was 51.8 million.

In 2015, the Turnpike also recorded the second most number of vehicle miles traveled in its history with over 3 billion vehicle miles traveled. This was 39 million fewer miles traveled than in 2006. Vehicle miles traveled in both of those years topped 3 billion miles, which has only happened twice in 60 years. The results were reported at today's meeting of the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission.

“Relatively low gas prices, mild weather and positive economic growth all contributed as factors in record traffic volume in 2015,” said Randy Cole, Executive Director. “We look forward to continuing to be the road of choice across northern Ohio in 2016.”

Other significant statistics include a two percent gain in the percentage of total traffic that used *E-ZPass*® on the Ohio Turnpike. In 2015, 54.9 percent of all customers (passenger cars and commercial vehicles) used *E-ZPass*, saving them both time and money. *E-ZPass* customers save an average of 33 percent on tolls compared to cash-paying customers.

E-ZPass growth in 2015 also includes a nine percent gain in the number of passenger cars using *E-ZPass* and a six percent rise in the number of commercial vehicles that used *E-ZPass* last year.

During 2015, *E-ZPass* became available to the public at retail locations. In northeast Ohio, Giant Eagle, Inc. became the first non-turnpike retailer to offer *E-ZPass* transponders to customers at 90 northern Ohio locations in 13 counties beginning last July.

By October of 2015, the Ohio Turnpike and Giant Eagle expanded their partnership by offering *E-ZPass* at 72 northeast Ohio area GetGo locations throughout 15 counties.

Last month, Barney's Convenience Mart Inc. became the first non-turnpike retailer to offer *E-ZPass* in northwest Ohio at 18 locations in Lucas and Wood Counties.

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“Through our new partnerships with local retailers, we’re making it easier than ever for travelers to acquire an Ohio *E-ZPass*,” said Cole. “In fact, more than 10,000 *E-ZPass* customers obtained their transponders at non-turnpike locations since retailers began offering them last summer.”

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2015 vs. 2014 and 2006* Ohio Turnpike Traffic Volume

<u>Number of Vehicles</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Percent change</u>
Passenger Cars	42,109,917	40,345,033	4.4%
Commercial Vehicles	11,283,846	10,923,430	3.3%
Total	53,393,763	51,268,463	4.1%

<u>Number of Vehicle Miles</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Percent change</u>
Passenger Cars	1,998,169,654	1,906,619,116	4.8%
Commercial Vehicles	1,003,117,235	968,539,659	3.6%
Total	3,001,286,889	2,875,158,775	4.4%

<u>E-ZPass vs. Non E-ZPass- Passenger</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
E-ZPass Passenger Cars	20,058,934	18,376,109	9.2%
Non-E-ZPass Passenger Cars	22,050,983	21,968,924	0.40%
% of Passenger Cars using E-ZPass	47.6	45.5	2.1%
<u>E-ZPass vs. Non E-ZPass- Commercial</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Commercial Vehicles	9,262,658	8,733,584	6.1%
Non-E-ZPass Commercial Vehicles	2,021,188	2,189,846	-7.7%
% of Commercial Vehicles using E-ZPass	82.1	80	2.1%
% of Vehicles that used E-ZPass	54.9	52.9	2.0%

***In 2006, the total number of vehicles traveling the Ohio Turnpike was 51,783,848 and the number of vehicle miles traveled was 3,040,292,635.**

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The Ohio Turnpike is a 241-mile toll road offering one of the safest, best and most convenient routes for motorists to reach east/west destinations along the northern corridor of Ohio. The Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission provides excellent customer service and amenities to meet travelers’ wants and needs, including state-of-the-art service plazas, a variety of restaurant choices, and routine maintenance for a smooth, pleasant trip. For a better travel experience, choose the Ohio Turnpike.