## DENISON

## ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

## STUDY

INTERVIEW


Denison Corporate Area
Origin and Destination Traffic Survey

April 1959

Prepared By<br>Highway Planning Section<br>Safety and Traffic Department<br>Iowa State Highway Commission In Cooperation With the United States Bureau of Public Roads

## INDEX

DEFINITIONS. ..... 1
I. SUMMARY ..... 3
II. HISTORY AND CHARACTERISTICS DENISON CORPORATE AREA ..... 6
A. History ..... 7
B. Characteristics ..... 9
III. SURVEY PRESENTATION ..... 10
A. Introduction ..... 1.1
B. Purposes and Objectives. ..... 11
C. Procedures ..... 11
D. Findings. ..... 12
APPENDIX ..... 23

## Urban Area

An area including and adjacent to a municipality or other urban place of 5,000 or more population as shown by the latest available census. Corporation Line

A hypothetical line delimiting the muncipal area and often called the City Limits. Urban or Corporate Area Traffic Survey

A survey of highway travel desigred to collect detailed information concerning trip origins and destinetions within a selected urban or corporate area.

External Survey
A study in which trip data is obtained by interviewing motor vehicle operators intercepted at external stations.

## External Station

An interview point located on a principal rural higrway which crosses the corporation or urban area line. It is always set up outside of the urban or corporate area, but as close as is practical and possible to the line delimiting this area.

## Tract

One of the several homogeneous sections into which the study area is divided.

## Central Business District (CBD)

The section containing the concentrated commercial and retail business center, in most cases, tract 001.

Trip
A one-way journey between a point of origin and a point of destination.

Origin
The stated beginning point of a single trip.

## Destination

The stated terminating point of a single trip.

## External Local Trip

A trip with either the point of origin or the point of destination located within the cormonave Iimits, the performance of which trip involves travel through an cxtornal interview station. External Through Trip

A trip with both points of origin and destination located outside the corporate limits, the performance of which trip involves travel through an external interview station and into, through, and out of the corporate or urban area. Duplicated Through Trips (Duplicates)

Trips traveling completely across the urban or corporate area, and thereby passing through two interview stations. Average Weekday

This includes Monday through Friday inclusive.

PART I
SUMMARY


This report of the Denison Corporate Area Traffic Survey describes briefly the characteristics of the corporate area pertinent to the local problem of highway transportation and presents and analyzes the data gathered in the survey. All trip data obtained in the survey are presented in terms of the number of trips per day. They are classified by the origins and destinations of these trips and by the areas within the city, to which and from which they were made. The only information obtained was from those trips crossing the city limits, and this was done by maintaining roadside interview stations at the entrances of the principal rural highways into the city. These trips, for which the data were obtained, may be defined as "rural trips." Knowledge of the number of "urban trips" or "intra-city trips" is not available in the external type survey.

For this particular study, information was gathered by interviewing 92.80 per cent of the average weekday traffic. After the expansion of this information it was found that for an average weekday in July 1958, a total of 8,296 trips crossed the Denison city limits. Out of this total 46.35 per cent were classified as external through trips which traveled without passing via the central business district.

Of all trips passing through the interview stations 24.48 per cent had termini in the central business district. However, another 14.83 per cent of the total had termini in the residential and intermediate areas between the station and the central business district. In addition to this 4.13 per cent of the total trips passing through the interview stations had routes via and termini beyond the central
business district. The final consideration is given to the 847 trips, or 10.21 per cent of the total number of trips which passed through the stations, with routes not via but termini beyond the central business district.

## HISTORY AND CHARACTERISTICS

CITY OF DENISON


## A. HISTORY

Denison was named for its founder, J. W. Denison. He came to Crawford County in 1855, where he worked as a land agent and school promoter. He helped bring settlers into the county and was instrumental in establishing Denison as the county seat of Crawford County. .

The first store was established by H. C. Laub in 1855. He is regarded as one of the most active business intellects ever to come to Crawford County. His enterprises included building construction. bridge erection, and the construction of the first telegraph line from Boone to Council Bluffs.
J. W. Denison established a church and the town's religious growth started in 1858. It has expanded with the population until at the present time there are nine churches in the community. The first newspaper, called the Boyer Valley Record, was started by Issac Allen with its first edition appearing in 186I.

The railroad reached Denison in 1866 with the depot located about one mile east of the town. Later the station was moved into Denison. The coming of the railroad opened many new trade areas to the community's manufacturers. The town's population and exports began to grow and among the early shipments were soap, cheese, brick, and agricultural implements, all made in Denison.

In 1869 Morris McHenry and his brother established the Denison Saving Bank with a capital of $\$ 3,000,00$. The name was soon changed to McHenry Brothers Bank and Land Office, with the real estate office doing the larger portion of the business

Denison was incorporated as a town in 1875 with A. F. Bond being
elected its first mayor. Nine years later, on Easter Sunday in 1884, a cyclone struck, killing several persons and destroying the homes of a dozen settlers. This terrific storm had been shortly preceded by a disastrous flood, which had cut off communications for days. The water rose so suddenly that a number of farmers were cut off from their homes and several people perished. However, the community survived these two disasters and continued its rapid growth. The purchase of an electric light plant in 1894 at a cost of $\$ 15,000.00$ was an example of the town's early progress. At the turn of the century 2,771 persons resided in Denison. The community's population increased to an estimated 5,200 people in 1958. The following figure illustrates the city's population growth since 1900 .

## DENISON POPULATION TRENDS



## B. CHARACTERISTICS

Denison is located in the west central part of Iowa in Crawford County. It is situated in hilly terrain approximately 50 miles east
of the Missouri River and 100 miles north of the Iowa-Missouri border. The West Boyer River enters the city about one-half mile east of the northwest corner of the corporate limits and flows to an exit point about three-quarters of a mile north of the southwest corner of the corporate area. The East Boyer River flows westerly across the middle of the south half of the municipality and joins the West Boyer near the west corporate line.

The corporation limits of Denison compose an area about 2 miles square with the business district located in the middle of these boundaries. Principal industries located in Denison or the adjacent area include the Crawford County Packing Company in the northwest part of the city, and the Corn Belt Packing Company, and Iowa Plastic Fabricators just south of Denison.

Two railroads serve the municipality. The Illinois Central crosses the north corporation line about one-quarter of a mile east of the West Boyer River and roughly parallels the river across the city. The Chicago and Northwestern crosses the east corporation line approximately three-quarters of a mile north of the southeast corner of the city and runs westerly to an exit point near the southwest corner of Denison.

There are five arterial highway entrances to Denison. The northeast quarter of the city is the only area that does not contain a primary highway. The exact location of these routes may be seen by referring to the urbar area map of Denison.

PART III
SURVEY PRESENTATION


## A. INTRODUCTION

Part III of this report describes briefly the purposes and objectives, procedures, and findings of the Denison Corporate Area Traffic Survey. Summaries and illustrations of the significant data classifications are included. All information was collected during the period of July 7 to 11,1958 , inclusive. It is reported in terms of the number of trips daily on an average July weekday in 1958 and classified by trip origins and destinations.

## B。 PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

The purposes of this survey were to determine the origin, destination, and number of daily trips into, out of, and through the corporate area. Ultimate objectives were to assemble and present, as clearly as possible, the traffic patterns and volumes as they exist. This presentation reveals the amount of street congestion which may be attributed to through highway travelers, and the exact routes by which these travelers enter and exit the corporate area. It will also assist city officials and highway administrators in determining the location and type of street or highway improvements necessary to alleviate particular traffic problems.

## C. PROCEDURES

The data for the determination of the origin and destination of all trips were gathered through roadside interviews of motor vehicle operators. These interviews were obtained at the external stations located on each rural road entrance to the city. All vehicles were stopped as they passed through the station and the motor vehicle
operator was asked the purpose, origin, and destination of this particular trip. The interviewers also recorded for each vehicle, from visual inspection, other data such as the type, the place of registration, and the number of passengers.

Each interview station was operated for 16 hours starting at 6 AM and ending at 10 PM. This scheme of operation provided for coverage of all but a small portion of the trips passing through each station in the twenty-four hour day. This small portion of traffic was accounted for by portable automatic traffic recorders which were operated continuously at each station for the entire period of the survey. Factors obtained by using these recorder tapes provided means for converting all of the data to average twenty-four hour weekday values. The information gathered was then coded and punched on I.B.M. cards to expedite tabulation.

## D. FINDINGS

Most of the significant findings of this survey have been summarized in the ensuing tables and charts. Any other combinations of related material may be found by referring to the trip tabulation sheet in the appendix.

Three traffic flow diagrams will be found in appropriate locations throughout the presentation of the findings. The first one encountered merely gives a pictorial view of the entire traffic pattern within the area. A traffic flow map depicting all external through trips will be found next, immediately following the external through trip table. The third and final flow diagram is found following the group of tables relating all of the external local trips to their termini.

The following illustration represents a net total trip summarization and percentage distribution of the termini for all trips passing through the external interview stations on an average weekday in July 1958. It should be noted that the few external through trips having termini on non-primary rural roads, as listed on the trip tabulation sheet in the appendix, are all included with the external local trips.


1. Traffic and Interview Summary:

By using the previously explained procedures, the information in the following table was obtained. The external stations are listed with the total traffic passing each station, the total number of interviews taken at each station, and the per cent that this interview figure is of the total traffic figure. This information is all based on the flow of traffic for an average weekday in July 1958.

| External <br> Station <br> Locations | ic Entering by Way of |  | e l <br> ing the pal Rura | Denison <br> Road | Corporat <br> Entrance |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Average Weekday Traffic-July 1958 |  |  |  | No. of Interviews Taken | Per Cent Interviewed |
|  | Passenger Single <br> Cars and Unit <br> Pick-Ups Trucks |  | Truck Combi. nations | Total |  |  |
| US 30 E | 2,897 | 181 | 423 | 3,501 | 2,876 | 82.15 |
| US 30 W | 2,968 | 164 | 361 | 3,493 | 3,265 | 93.47 |
| US59-Ial41 NW | 1.873 | 149 | 164 | 2,186 | 2,089 | 95.56 |
| Ia 4 N | 1,269 | 86 | 63 | 1,418 | 1,613 | 113.75 |
| US 59 S | 1,305 | 117 | 121 | 1,543 | 1,424 | 92.29 |
| Total | 10,312 | 697 | 1,132 | 12,141 | 11,267 | 92.80 |


2. External Through Trips Not

Via the Central Business District:
The following table reveals the exact relationship between all trips passing through each external station and the percentage of these trips which pass directly on through and out of the corporate area, but not via the central business district. This same comparison is also presented for the total of all external through trips passing through all external stations. From Table 2 it is then noted that this figure is 46.35 per cent.

| External Station Location | Table 2 <br> External Through Trips Not Via the Central Business District n an Average Weekday in July 1958 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total Trips Through Station | Through Trips Noi Tia the CBD |  |
|  |  | Number | Per Cent of Total |
| US 30 E | 3.501 | 2,548 | 72.78 |
| U, 30 W | 3,493 | 2,659 | 76.12 |
| US 59-Ia 141 NW | 2,186 | 1,040 | 47.58 |
| Ia 4 N | 1,418 | 709 | 50:00 |
| US 59 S | 1,543 | 734 | 47.57 |
| Less Duplicates | 3,845 | 3,845 | 100.00 |
| Total | 8,296 | 3,845 | 46.35 |


3. Trips Through Each Station With Termini in the Central Business District:

Table 3 compares the total trips passing through each station with the percentage of these respective trips having termini in the central business district. It also relates the total of all trips passing through all of the stations to the number of these same trips having termini in the central business district. On this comparative basis 24.48 per cent of the total trips passing through all external stations fall into the above explained category.

| Table 3 <br> Trips Through Each Station With Termini in the Central Business District on an Average Weekday in July 1958 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| External Station Location | Total Trips Through Station | Termini in CBD |  |
|  |  | Number | Per Cent of Total |
| US 30 E | 3.501 | 363 | 10.37 |
| US 30 W | 3.493 | 384 | 10.99 |
| US 59-Ia 141 NW | 2,186 | 531 | 24.29 |
| Ia 4 N | 1,418 | 349 | 24.61 |
| US 59 S | 1.543 | 404 | 26.18 |
| Less Duplicates | 3,845 | --- | --m- |
| Total | 8,296 | 2,031 | 24.48 |

4. Trips Through Each Station With Termini Between the Station and the Central Business District:

The information contained in Table 4 reveals a comparison of the total trips passing through each station and the percentage of these trips having termini in the residential and intermediate areas between that station and the central business district. In addition to this, the summation of the total trips passing through all of the external stations is compared to the percentage of these total trips having termini as explained above. These comparisons are pointed out both numerically and on a percentage basis. As can be seen from the table, l,230 trips, or 14.83 per cent of the total trips passing through all of the external stations, had termini in the residential and intermediate areas between the stations and the central business district.

| Table 4Trips Through Each Station With TerminiBetween the Station and the Central Business Districton an Average Weekday in July 1958 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| External Station Location | Total Trips Through Station | Termini Between Station and CBD |  |
|  |  | Number | Per Cent of Total |
| US 30 E | 3.501 | 253 | 7.23 |
| US 30 W | 3.493 | 226 | 6.47 |
| US 59-Ia 141 NW | 2,186 | 321 | 14.68 |
| Ia 4 N | 1,418 | 211 | 14.88 |
| US 59 S | 1.543 | 219 | 14.19 |
| Less Duplicates | 3,845 | --- | ----- |
| Total | 8,296 | 1,230 | 14.83 |

5. Trips Through Each Station With Routes Via and Termini Beyond the Central Business District:

In Table 5 a comparison is made between the total trips passing through each external station, and the number and percentage of these trips which pass directly via and have their termini beyond the central business district. It can also be seen from the following table that 343 trips, or 4.13 per cent of all trips passing through all stations, travel directly via the central business district and have their termini beyond it. These comparisons are made both numerically and on a percentage basis for all of the routes listed.

| Table 5 <br> Trips Through Each Station With Routes Via and Termini Beyond the Central Business District on an Average Weekday in July 1958 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| External Station Location | Total Trips Through Station | Route Via-Termin Beyond CBD |  |
|  |  | Number | Per Cent of Total |
| US 30 E | 3.501 | 104 | 2.97 |
| US 30 W | 3.493 | 55 | 1.58 |
| US 59-Ia 141 NW | 2,186 | 72 | 3.29 |
| Ia 4 N | 1,4].8 | 63 | 4.44 |
| US 59 S | 1.543 | 49 | 3.18 |
| Less Duplicates | 3.845 | --- |  |
| Total | 8,296 | 343 | 4.13 |

6. Trips Through Each Station With Routes Not Via but Termini Beyond the Central Business District:

The following table reveals the exact relationship between all trips passing through all external stations, and the percentage of these trips which had termini beyond but routes not via the central business district. As can be seen below, 847 trips, or 10.21 per cent of the total trips passing through all of the external stations, fall into the above catagory. This same comparison for each individual station is also clearly presented in the table.

| Table 6 <br> Trips Through Each Station With Routes Not Via But Termini Beyond the Central Business District on an Average Weekday in July 1958 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| External Station Location | Total Trips Through Station | Route Not Via-Termini. Beyond CBD |  |
|  |  | Number | Per Cent of Total |
| US 30 E | 3,501 | 233 | 6.65 |
| US 30 W | 3.493 | 169 | 4.84 |
| US 59-Ia 141 NW | 2,186 | 222 | 10.16 |
| Ia 4 N | 1,418 | 86 | 6.07 |
| US 59 S | 1,543 | 137 | 8.88 |
| Less Duplicates | 3,845 | --- | ----- |
| Total | 8,296 | 847 | 10.21 |



APPENDIX


1958 Denison Origin and Destination
Total Trips Through Stations Located on
 Average Weekday Traffic in July


