



# ENTRANCE TO ASPEN

SNAPSHOT OF BUS AND CAR STATISTICS

## SO WHAT'S UP WITH THOSE CARS AND BUSES?

The Entrance to Aspen issue isn't just about a highway, where it is and what it looks like, it's about the vehicles traveling on the road. So here are some of the things we know about cars and buses traveling on Highway 82.

### How many RFTA buses are on the road at peak travel time?

Peak travel for RFTA buses is in the winter compared to cars which make more trips across the Castle Creek Bridge in the summer. On average, between 80-90 RFTA buses cross the Castle Creek Bridge heading in and out of Aspen during peak hours in the winter (about 3,200 passengers).

### How many trips do RFTA buses make a day into Aspen?

On a peak winter day approximately 850- 875 buses cross the Castle Creek Bridge heading into and out of Aspen. In the summer approximately 410 buses cross the Castle Creek Bridge heading in and out of Aspen.

### How many cars are on the road at peak travel time?

On July 4th, 2004 there were 33,159 cars crossing the Castle Creek Bridge (total round trip) per day or about 2,800 cars per hour at the peak periods. Summer days in July and August average around 28,000-29,000 round trips across the Castle Creek Bridge per day. In the winter the average number of vehicles coming in and out of Aspen is 22,000-25,000 per day.

### What is the average number of people in cars coming into Aspen?

Single occupant vehicles = 76% of cars midweek in winter  
Two people per vehicle = 18% of cars midweek in winter  
Three or more people per vehicle = 6% of cars midweek in winter  
\*Source = 1994 Mount Sopris Transportation Project Final Report

### What is the average number of people in buses coming into Aspen?

According to RFTA approximately 10,000—13,000 riders are on bus routes which cross the Castle Creek Bridge heading into and out of Aspen in the winter. In the summer approximately 3,475 riders cross the Castle Creek Bridge into and out of Aspen.

### STATISTICS FROM 2005 RFTA AUDIT

#### CITY OF ASPEN SYSTEM

Total passengers 1,073,948  
Total route miles 491,418  
Total route hours 50,600

#### TOTAL RFTA SYSTEM

Total passengers 3,650,807  
Total route miles 3,339,412  
Total route hours 207,259

### 2005 Average Daily Traffic (no. of vehicles crossing Castle Creek)

Jan	24,398
Feb	24,162
March	25,892
April	19,420
May	19,021
June	25,097
July	29,544
Aug	27,998
Sept	23,796
Oct	20,371
Nov	18,892
Dec	22,449

For more information on the Entrance to Aspen go to:  
[www.aspenpitkin.com](http://www.aspenpitkin.com)  
[www.sh82.com](http://www.sh82.com)



THE CITY OF ASPEN

### According to the 2004 Local and Regional Travel Patterns Study:

- Average commuting distance: 15.7 miles (region covered includes Eagle and Parachute to Aspen)
- Percent of Roaring Fork workers who commute by bus: 7% (according to 2000 census)
- Percent of workers who ride the bus: 11%
- Percent of workers who car pool or van pool to work: 20%
- Percent of workers who drive alone: 64%

The 2004 Local and Regional Travel Patterns Study was done by RRC Associates, Charlier Associates and Healthy Mountain Communities and it can be found at [www.hmcnews.org](http://www.hmcnews.org).

