

Eastern railroads which in 1967 accounted for about two of every three passengers in the United States conduct predominantly short-trip service. The average length of trip in 1967 was 33.5 miles, down from 43.3 miles in 1957. For non-commutation service, the average trip in 1967 was 50.8 miles, down nearly a third from the 1957 average of 75.5. This strongly supports the view that a large number of non-commuter passengers in the East are more likely suburban patrons using basic fare tickets. With a relatively short average trip, the East's reported non-commutation passenger miles are substantially a lesser proportion of total United States non-commutation passenger-miles than passengers--accounting for only about 37 percent of the U. S. total in 1967. The East had about 4 billion non-commutation passenger-miles in 1967--down approximately 56 percent from 1957, as compared to the 36.3 percent drop in passengers.

The average length of non-commutation trip is considerably greater in the South than in the East and declined only slightly from 1957 to 1967--from 267.8 miles to 260.1 miles. Accordingly, the declines in passenger miles and passengers were nearly the same--around 36 percent.

The situation in the West has changed considerably during the 10-year period. The average length of non-commutation trips increased approximately