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16. Abstract

This study examined the effects of recent changes in the fuel economy of purchased new vehicles and the amount of driving on carbon dioxide emissions in the U.S. The analysis used monthly data from October 2007 through April 2009. The data are presented normalized to the situation in October 2007. The results indicate that, as a consequence of the improved fuel economy of purchased new vehicles and the decrease in distance driven, the carbon dioxide emissions per driver from purchased new vehicles were lower in each month when compared to October 2007. The greatest reduction in emissions—12%— occurred in July 2008. The reduction in April 2009 (the latest month examined) was 8%.

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