

MACKINAC BRIDGE AUTHORITY

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Robert J. Sweeney, P.E., Administrator

September 6, 2009
Phone: 906-643-7600

September Traffic Report

Robert J. Sweeney, Executive Secretary of the Mackinac Bridge Authority, reported today that 431,613 vehicles crossed the Mackinac Bridge during the month of September. This represents an 18.0 percent increase when compared to the 365,919 crossings during September 2008. Fare revenue for the month of September was up 16.5 percent compared to 2008.

This is the sixth month in a row traffic has increased on the bridge compared to the same time last year. Traffic for the first nine months of 2009 is up 5.3 percent from 2008; 3,058,634 vehicles vs. 2,904,477 in 2008. Fare revenue for the year is up 4.3 percent compared to 2008.

In 2007, the Mackinac Bridge reached a milestone - the 50-year anniversary of the opening of the bridge. Over the next decade the bridge will undergo some unprecedented preservation and rehabilitation projects. These major projects will ensure that the Mackinac Bridge continues to maintain high marks in the structural integrity of the bridge and provide pleasurable and expedient passages over the Straits of Mackinac.

The Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) is committed to preserving and maintaining the State of Michigan's icon for another 50 years and beyond. Regardless of traffic volumes, the MBA will work diligently on its long-term preservation strategy to continuously review and implement a variety of cost-saving measures, as appropriate.

	Traffic	Traffic	%	Fare	Fare	%
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Inc.</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Change</u>
January	178,965	180,895	-1.1	\$754,190	\$711,793	6.0
February	190,669	194,395	-1.9	\$811,097	\$757,109	7.1
March	208,332	217,800	-4.3	\$886,354	\$960,337	-7.7
April	230,508	210,946	9.3	\$940,323	\$950,101	-1.0
May	324,158	309,548	4.7	\$1,264,124	\$1,280,937	-1.3
June	388,997	366,985	6.0	\$1,525,987	\$1,484,334	2.8
July	548,267	504,818	8.6	\$2,048,673	\$1,919,803	6.7
August	557,125	553,171	0.7	\$2,143,878	\$2,055,049	4.3
September	431,613	365,919	18.0	\$1,703,443	\$1,462,724	16.5