

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 12, 2022

For further information contact: Peter Petainen, General Manager
Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority & BTOA President
906-635-5255 or 705-942-4345
petainenp@michigan.gov

2021 Border Traffic Statistics Issued by the Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association (BTOA)

Today the Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association (BTOA) released border crossing numbers for the year 2021 between the Province of Ontario and the States of Michigan and New York.

For all of 2021, the border was closed to all but essential travel, or restricted by testing requirements, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Commercial truck traffic was deemed essential.

In 2021, compared to 2020, overall car crossings decreased by 15.2%. Truck crossings increased by 7.6%. Combined there were 13,669,120 car, truck and bus crossings, a decrease of 5.73% or 830,407 less vehicles.

The data for each individual crossing is as follows:

		2020	2021	Change	Percent
Ambassador Bridge	Passenger Cars	1,856,008	1,813,664	(42,344)	-2.28%
	Trucks	2,254,294	2,303,720	49,426	2.19%
	Buses & Misc.	-	-	-	0.00%
	TOTAL	4,110,302	4,117,384	7,082	0.17%
Blue Water Bridge	Passenger Cars	564,256	363,024	(201,232)	-35.66%
	Trucks	1,440,245	1,658,391	218,146	15.15%
	Buses & Misc.	1,041	620	(421)	-40.44%
	TOTAL	2,005,542	2,022,035	16,493	0.82%
Detroit-Windsor Tunnel	Passenger Cars	1,354,451	1,046,270	(308,181)	-22.75%
	Trucks	12,264	20,902	8,638	70.43%
	Buses & Misc.	6,462	637	(5,825)	-90.14%
	TOTAL	1,373,177	1,067,809	(305,368)	-22.24%
Ogdensburg Bridge	Passenger Cars	151,292	109,980	(41,312)	-27.31%
	Trucks	69,218	73,415	4,197	6.06%
	Buses & Misc.	47	7	(40)	-85.11%
	TOTAL	220,557	183,402	(37,155)	-16.85%
Peace Bridge	Passenger Cars	876,229	682,366	(193,863)	-22.12%
	Trucks	1,018,388	1,111,136	92,748	9.11%
	Buses & Misc.	3,840	554	(3,286)	-85.57%
	TOTAL	1,898,457	1,794,056	(104,401)	-5.50%

		2020	2021	Change	Percent
Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Bridge Authority	Passenger Cars	255,681	111,387	(144,294)	-56.44%
	Trucks	79,475	77,764	(1,711)	-2.15%
	Buses & Misc.	5,192	6,506	1,314	25.31%
	TOTAL	340,348	195,657	(144,691)	-42.51%
Seaway International Bridge	Passenger Cars	1,697,256	1,755,682	58,426	3.44%
	Trucks	57,935	59,746	1,811	3.13%
	Buses & Misc.	-	-	-	0.00%
	TOTAL	1,755,191	1,815,428	60,237	3.43%
Thousand Islands Bridge	Passenger Cars	705,362	688,364	(16,998)	-2.41%
	Trucks	360,424	392,566	32,142	8.92%
	Buses & Misc.	-	-	-	0.00%
	TOTAL	1,065,786	1,080,930	15,144	1.42%
Lewiston-Queenston Bridge	Passenger Cars	479,849	278,707	(201,142)	-41.92%
	Trucks	728,160	780,498	52,338	7.19%
	Buses & Misc.	800	806	6	0.75%
	TOTAL	1,208,809	1,060,011	(148,798)	-12.31%
Rainbow Bridge	Passenger Cars	412,625	264,348	(148,277)	-35.94%
	Trucks	0	-	0	0.00%
	Buses & Misc.	1,044	174	(870)	-83.33%
	TOTAL	413,669	264,522	(149,147)	-36.05%
Whirlpool Rapids Bridge	Passenger Cars	107,689	67,886	(39,803)	-36.96%
	Trucks	-	-	-	0.00%
	Buses & Misc.	-	-	-	0.00%
	TOTAL	107,689	67,886	(39,803)	-36.96%
TOTALS	Passenger Cars	8,460,698	7,181,678	(1,279,020)	-15.12%
	Trucks	6,020,403	6,478,138	457,735	7.60%
	* Buses & Misc.	18,426	9,304	(9,122)	-49.51%
	GRAND TOTAL	14,499,527	13,669,120	(830,407)	-5.73%

*Some crossings do not segregate "Buses & Misc." and are included in "Passenger Cars".

As 2020 was not a normal traffic year, a more apt comparison of 2021 traffic would be to the pre-pandemic year of 2019 as described below:

In 2021, compared to 2019, overall car crossings decreased by 73.37%. Truck crossings decreased by 2.4%. Combined there were 13,669,120 car, truck and bus crossings, a decrease of 59.48% or 20,062,835 less vehicles.

		2019	2021	Change	Percent
Ambassador Bridge	Passenger Cars	4,423,950	1,813,664	(2,610,286)	-59.00%
	Trucks	2,551,517	2,303,720	(247,797)	-9.71%
	Buses & Misc.	-	-	-	0.00%
	TOTAL	6,975,467	4,117,384	(2,858,083)	-40.97%
Blue Water Bridge	Passenger Cars	2,944,860	363,024	(2,581,836)	-87.67%
	Trucks	1,596,580	1,658,391	61,811	3.87%
	Buses & Misc.	5,002	620	(4,382)	-87.60%
	TOTAL	4,546,442	2,022,035	(2,524,407)	-55.52%
Detroit-Windsor Tunnel	Passenger Cars	4,177,293	1,046,270	(3,131,023)	-74.95%
	Trucks	11,146	20,902	9,756	87.53%
	Buses & Misc.	31,478	637	(30,841)	-97.98%
	TOTAL	4,219,917	1,067,809	(3,152,108)	-74.70%
Ogdensburg Bridge	Passenger Cars	591,772	109,980	(481,792)	-81.42%
	Trucks	74,529	73,415	(1,114)	-1.49%
	Buses & Misc.	257	7	(250)	-97.28%
	TOTAL	666,558	183,402	(483,156)	-72.49%
Peace Bridge	Passenger Cars	4,021,927	682,366	(3,339,561)	-83.03%
	Trucks	1,073,541	1,111,136	37,595	3.50%
	Buses & Misc.	20,700	554	(20,146)	-97.32%
	TOTAL	5,116,168	1,794,056	(3,322,112)	-64.93%
Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Bridge Authority	Passenger Cars	1,217,958	111,387	(1,106,571)	-90.85%
	Trucks	88,909	77,764	(11,145)	-12.54%
	Buses & Misc.	46,282	6,506	(39,776)	-85.94%
	TOTAL	1,353,149	195,657	(1,157,492)	-85.54%
Seaway International Bridge	Passenger Cars	2,349,169	1,755,682	(593,487)	-25.26%
	Trucks	69,072	59,746	(9,326)	-13.50%
	Buses & Misc.	-	-	-	0.00%
	TOTAL	2,418,241	1,815,428	(602,813)	-24.93%
Thousand Islands Bridge	Passenger Cars	1,663,274	688,364	(974,910)	-58.61%
	Trucks	382,678	392,566	9,888	2.58%
	Buses & Misc.	-	-	-	0.00%
	TOTAL	2,045,952	1,080,930	(965,022)	-47.17%
Lewiston-Queenston Bridge	Passenger Cars	2,639,335	278,707	(2,360,628)	-89.44%
	Trucks	789,404	780,498	(8,906)	-1.13%
	Buses & Misc.	6,546	806	(5,740)	-87.69%
	TOTAL	3,435,285	1,060,011	(2,375,274)	-69.14%
Rainbow Bridge	Passenger Cars	2,494,218	264,348	(2,229,870)	-89.40%
	Trucks	0	-	0	0.00%
	Buses & Misc.	20,294	174	(20,120)	-99.14%
	TOTAL	2,514,512	264,522	(2,249,990)	-89.48%

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge	Passenger Cars	440,264	67,886	(372,378)	-84.58%
	Trucks	-	-	-	0.00%
	Buses & Misc.	-	-	-	0.00%
	TOTAL	440,264	67,886	(372,378)	-84.58%
TOTALS	Passenger Cars	26,964,020	7,181,678	(19,782,342)	-73.37%
	Trucks	6,637,376	6,478,138	(159,238)	-2.40%
	* Buses & Misc.	130,559	9,304	(121,255)	-92.87%
	GRAND TOTAL	33,731,955	13,669,120	(20,062,835)	-59.48%

*Some crossings do not segregate "Buses & Misc." and are included in "Passenger Cars".

Overall, traffic in 2021 comprised 13,669,120 vehicles, 74% lower than in 2000 when 52,367,401 vehicles traversed the border. For individual crossing data, see the attached document entitled "2000 – 2021 Comparative Traffic Volume Analysis of Bridge & Tunnel Operators Association (BTOA) Crossings."

Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association

The Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association (BTOA) is a binational membership organization representing the international bridge and tunnel crossings between the Province of Ontario and the States of Michigan and New York. Members of the BTOA include the: Federal Bridge Corporation Limited and Michigan Department of Transportation operating the Blue Water Bridge, Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority, Detroit Windsor Tunnel LLC and the Windsor Detroit Borderlink Limited operating the Detroit Windsor Tunnel, Niagara Falls Bridge Commission, Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority, Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority, Seaway International Bridge Corporation, Ambassador Bridge, and the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority.

###

**For more information and BTOA contact information, go to
www.bridgeandtunneloperators.org**