

WASHINGTON *State* DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION BLDG. • OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON



ALBERT D. ROSELLINI
GOVERNOR

H. DEWAYNE KREAGER
DIRECTOR

January 15, 1958

Mr. Albro B. Gregory, Editor
Yakima Morning Herald
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Gregory:

Through the courtesy of Mike Webster, Department of Natural Resources, we have been advised that you wish some information in regard to travel service in this state for 1957.

We submit the following information obtained from the State Ferries, Washington State Parks, Washington State Highway Commission, and the State Tax Commission. By separate mail we are sending the 1956 survey of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and here are the 1957 figures just obtained from the state parks office.

1957 income from all sources	\$1,555,362.81
Park areas in operation	67
Attendance 10/56 thru 9/57	6,212,616
Total day attendance	5,591,221
Total overnight attendance	621,395
Group camp attendance, 1957	34,153
Boat Moorage area attend. 1957	33,736
 Grand Total Attendance	 6,280,505

The State Ferries Report for 1956 and 1957 follow:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NO. PASSENGERS</u> (Exclusive of drivers except on Ferries from Anacortes to Sidney and Port Angeles to Victoria)	<u>NO. VEHICLES</u>
1956	5,261,587	2,568,664
1957	5,328,468	2,585,049

The 1957 travel figures show 1957 tourist travel to Mount Rainier National Park as 896,000 or 53,264 persons above 1956 figure. The Rainier National Park Company expects a big 1958 travel at Rainier due to the new "Around the Mountain Trip" made possible by the completion of the Steven's Canyon Highway to the Ohanapecosh Entrance.

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The 1957 tourist travel to Mount Rainier, Puget Sound, San Juan Island Group, Columbia Basin and Grand Coulee Dam area shows increase of 5 to 10 per cent. The Washington State Highway Department completed 75 miles of freeway construction in 1957.

The Washington State Highway Planning Survey conducted by the State Highway Commission reports that vacation visitors in 1956 amounted to 3,721,000 persons. A check was made with 10,000 of the visitors and shows that 3 and 3/10's persons stayed 7.38 days in Washington and spent \$9.87 per day per person in this state for all purchases including food, lodging, gasoline and other items.

The State Tax Commission reports the tax collected on gasoline and other motor fuel for the year ending June, 1956, amounting to \$53,794,000 and the tax collected for the year ending June 30, 1957 amounted to \$54,628,000.

The survey conducted, as mentioned above, estimated that at least \$10,000,000 was returned directly to the state on tourist expenditures in sales taxes on gasoline and automobile accessories.

We trust that the material sent you meets your requirements.

Kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

TOURIST DIVISION

By 
F. W. Mathias
Consultant

FWM:mpd

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February 5, 1958

Yakima Republic
Yakima, Wn.

Dear Sir:

In a separate dispatch to your newspaper, the state preliminary winners of the "Youth to Brussels" contest are announced. Several of these young people are from your area. They are Helen Goheen, and Jon P. Harlan, of Naches.

Would it be possible for you to pick up an interview with them: why they want to go to Brussels, what they hope to see there, etc., and perhaps run a portion of their winning essay on "What our State Will Gain From a World's Fair?"

In my work throughout the state on this competition, I have found much genuine interest, and I am sure that feature stories on these winners in the preliminary go-around would provide much reader interest.

Sincerely,

Virginia Burnside

Virginia Burnside
Contest Coordinator