

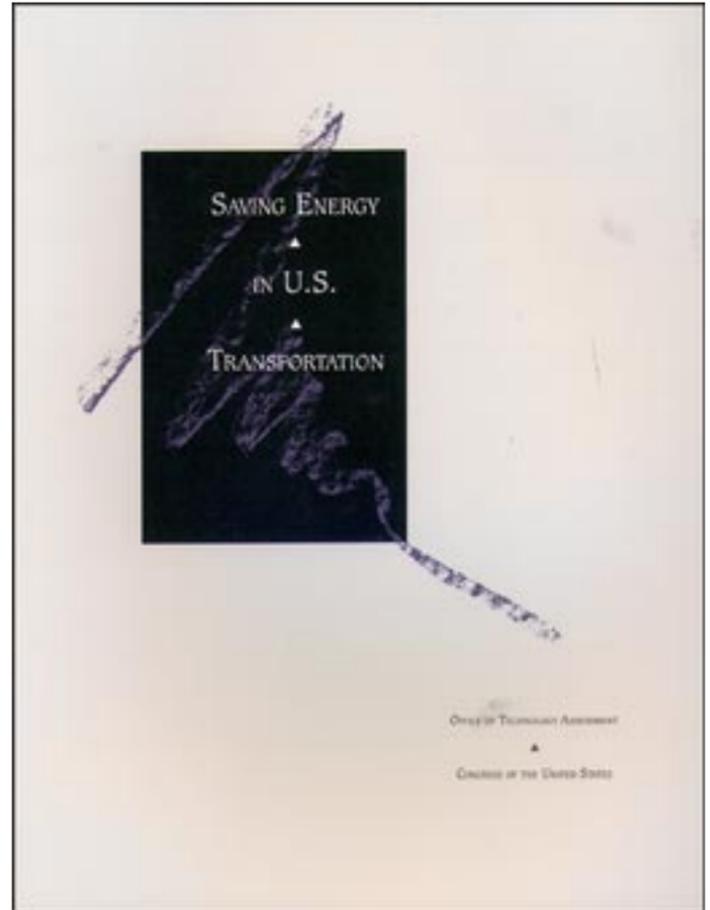
Saving Energy in U.S. Transportation

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Foreword

This report was prepared as the final part of an OTA assessment on *U.S. Energy Efficiency: Past Trends and Future Opportunities*, requested by the Senate Committees on Governmental Affairs and Energy and Natural Resources; the House Committee on Energy and Commerce; with an endorsement from the Subcommittee on Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources of the House Committee on Government Operations. Other reports in this assessment examine energy use in the Federal Government, industry, buildings, and the role of utilities in energy efficiency.

This report focuses on energy use in U.S. transportation, which accounts for over 60 percent of U.S. oil consumption. Opinions about the health of the U.S. transportation system and the efficacy of proposed measures to reduce its energy consumption are extremely polarized: some view the system as basically healthy, though in need of some “fine-tuning” to deal with future growth pains; others view the system as extremely wasteful in its energy use, environmentally destructive, and verging on breakdown, with the need for systemic changes. The report attempts to put these opinions into context by examining the current status of the system and evaluating critical problems such as congestion, presenting forecasts of future energy use, making some pointed comparisons with European transportation, and describing and evaluating a range of options for saving energy.



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Note: OTA appreciates and is grateful for the valuable assistance and thoughtful critiques provided by the advisory panel members. The panel does **not, however, necessarily approve, disapprove, or endorse this report.** OTA **assumes full responsibility for the report and the accuracy of its contents,**

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