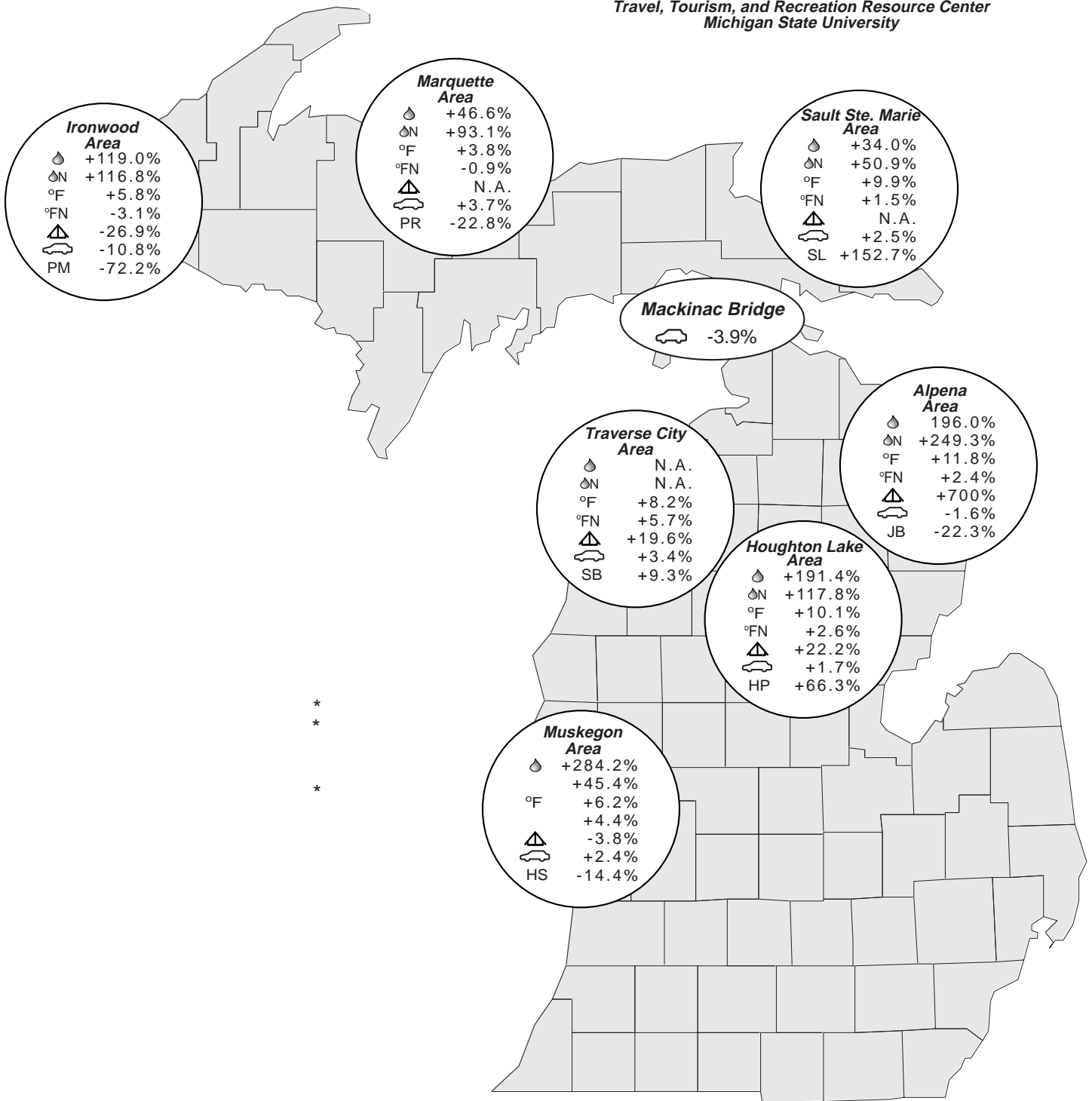


Michigan Travel Indicators March 1998 vs. March 1997

Travel, Tourism, and Recreation Resource Center
Michigan State University



*
*
*

Comments

by Sinji Yang and Donald F. Holecek

Highway traffic volume during March 1998 increased 2% compared to March 1997. Most increases occurred in the Southern Lower Peninsula. Mackinac Bridge crossings declined 4%.

Overnight stays at state parks in March 1998 increased 7% compared to March 1997. Most increases in state park overnight stays occurred in the Lower Peninsula. Aggregate attendance at selected attractions decreased 11%, although increases occurred at Soo Locks (+152%), Hartwick Pines State Park (66%), and Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (+9%).

Weather conditions in March 1998 appeared slightly warmer but much wetter compared to March 1997. Average temperatures in March 1998 were 5% higher than March 1997 and 2% higher than normal. Statewide overall precipitation in March was 88% higher than March 1997 and 81% higher than normal.