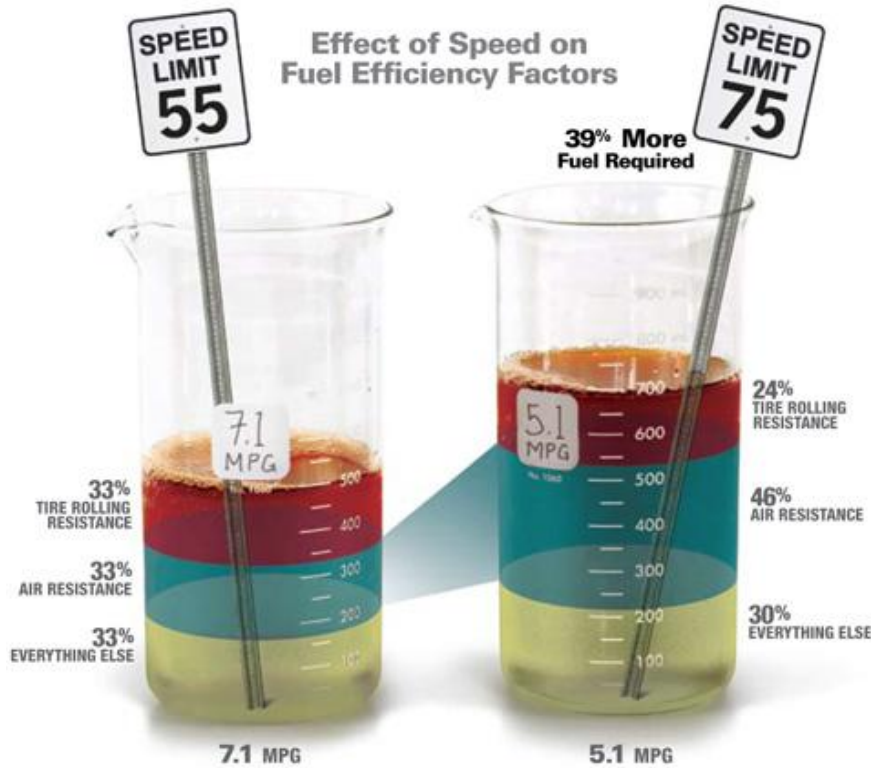


Shifting Gears and Speed Considerations

There are several factors which contribute to the decreased fuel economy you see as you reach higher speeds. The main factor is air resistance, which at low speeds is almost non-existent. At higher speeds, this effect becomes more noticeable. The graphic below clearly shows this.



A 400 mile trip will look like this at each speed:

	55 MPH	75 MPH	Difference
Trip Time	7 hours 16 min.	5 hours 20 min.	1 hour 56 min.
Fuel Consumed	56 gallons	78 gallons	22 gallons
Fuel \$/gallon	\$3.993	\$3.993	
Total Cost	\$224	\$311	\$87
Annual Savings			\$21,750

Of course you will also lose productivity when running slower, so choosing a speed that best balances productivity and cost is vital.