

# TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

Washington, D. C.

May 1951

On the basis of preliminary figures, motor-vehicle travel on main and local roads for the country as a whole was higher during May, 1951 than in any previous May.

|                        | Vehicle-miles<br>(millions) | Percentage change from— |       |      |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|------|
|                        |                             | 1941                    | 1943  | 1950 |
| Main rural roads.....  | 15,963                      | 46.1                    | 163.1 | 6.4  |
| Local rural roads..... | 5,646                       | 29.9                    | 134.6 | 4.7  |
| All rural roads.....   | 21,609                      | 41.5                    | 155.0 | 6.0  |

Traffic on rural roads in the geographic regions and changes from previous years are as follows:

|                      | Vehicle-miles<br>(millions) | Percentage change from— |       |      |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|------|
|                      |                             | 1941                    | 1943  | 1950 |
| Eastern regions..... | 6,928                       | 31.0                    | 165.7 | 6.5  |
| Central regions..... | 11,173                      | 47.1                    | 153.2 | 7.5  |
| Western regions..... | 3,508                       | 46.8                    | 141.3 | 0.5  |

Traffic on city streets also was heavier than in any previous May. Comparisons with May of previous years for city streets, rural roads, and all roads and streets are as follows:

|                            | Percentage change from— |       |      |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|------|
|                            | 1941                    | 1943  | 1950 |
| City streets.....          | 44.8                    | 118.6 | 8.7  |
| Rural roads.....           | 41.5                    | 155.0 | 6.0  |
| All roads and streets..... | 43.1                    | 135.9 | 7.3  |

## Attachments

Comm—DC—44017

(1)

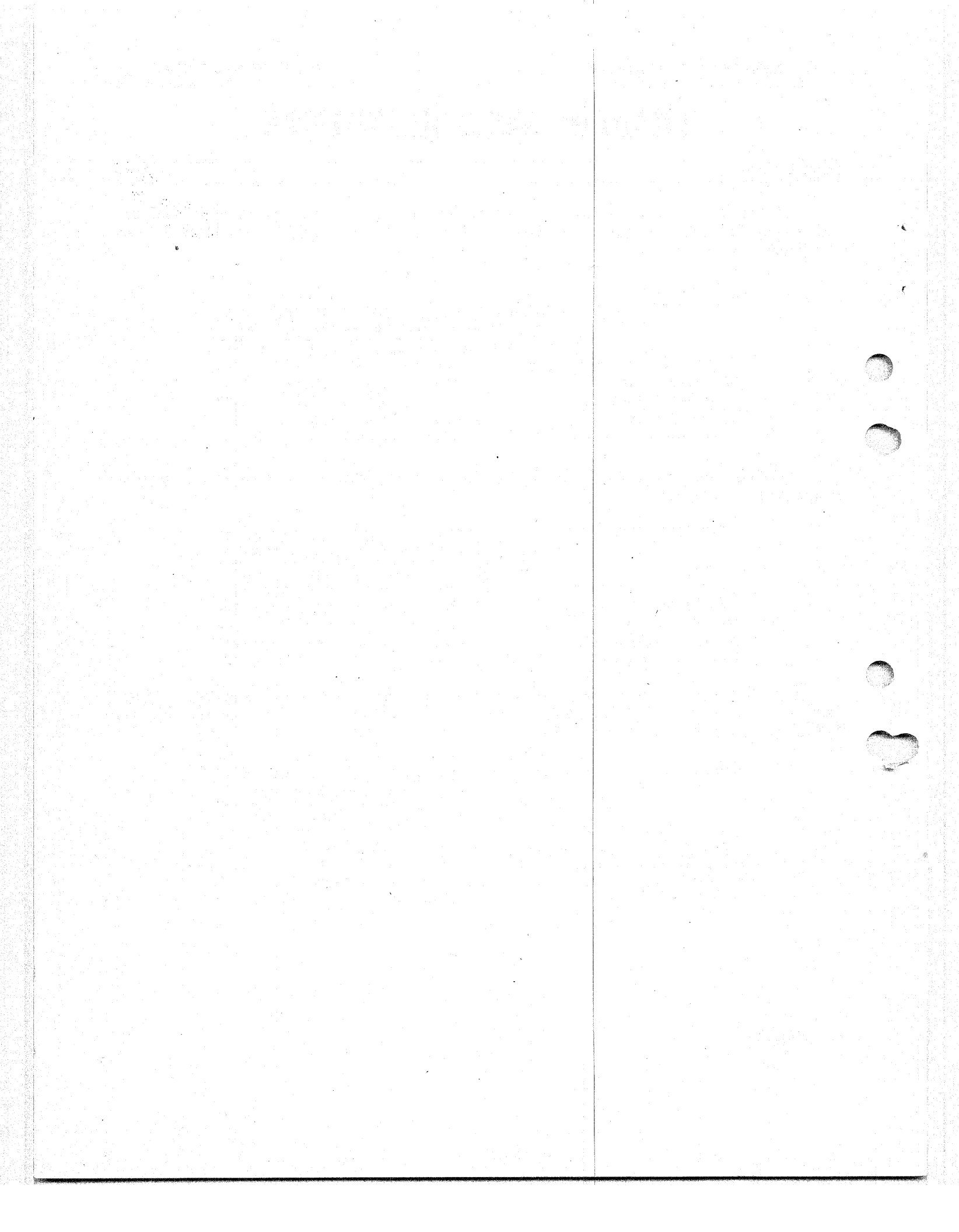


Table 1.—PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR MAY 1951 INCLUDING 650 STATIONS IN 36 STATES

| Type of highway and State | Number of stations | Traffic volume percentage change from May 1950 | Type of highway and State     | Number of stations | Traffic volume percentage change from May 1950 |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| <b>STATE HIGHWAYS</b>     |                    |  | <b>STATE HIGHWAYS—Con.</b>    |                    |  |
| Alabama.....              | 8                  | +13.4  | Texas.....                    | 104                | +8.0   |
| Arizona.....              | 5                  | +6.7   | Utah.....                     | .....              | .....  |
| Arkansas.....             | 22                 | +11.2  | Vermont.....                  | 12                 | +4.5   |
| California.....           | .....              | .....  | Virginia.....                 | .....              | .....  |
| Colorado.....             | .....              | .....  | Washington.....               | 11                 | +1.8   |
| Connecticut.....          | 16                 | +11.8  | West Virginia.....            | 10                 | +10.3  |
| Delaware.....             | 6                  | +17.5  | Wisconsin.....                | 9                  | +10.6  |
| Florida.....              | 21                 | +10.4  | Wyoming.....                  | 7                  | +11.3  |
| Georgia.....              | 7                  | +11.1  |                               |                    |  |
| Idaho.....                | .....              | .....  | <b>TOTAL—36 STATES.....</b>   | <b>623</b>         | <b>+6.4</b>                                    |
| Illinois.....             | .....              | .....  |                               |                    |  |
| Indiana.....              | 21                 | +8.8   | <b>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</b>         |                    |  |
| Iowa.....                 | 25                 | +5.4   | Alabama.....                  | 2                  | +24.7  |
| Kansas.....               | 14                 | +6.4   | Connecticut.....              | 3                  | +1.1   |
| Kentucky.....             | 14                 | +9.6   | Delaware.....                 | 1                  | +8.5   |
| Louisiana.....            | 41                 | +12.0  | Georgia.....                  | 2                  | +11.2  |
| Maine.....                | 12                 | +3.2   | Indiana.....                  | 1                  | +8.2   |
| Maryland.....             | 17                 | +4.6   | Iowa.....                     | 5                  | -14.6  |
| Massachusetts.....        | 9                  | +1.0   | Kentucky.....                 | 1                  | -10.4  |
| Michigan.....             | 24                 | +2.9   | Maryland.....                 | 1                  | +13.1  |
| Minnesota.....            | .....              | .....  | Michigan.....                 | 2                  | +5.6   |
| Mississippi.....          | 18                 | +1.6   | Montana.....                  | 2                  | -14.5  |
| Missouri.....             | 25                 | +7.8   | Nebraska.....                 | .....              | .....  |
| Montana.....              | 17                 | +9.0   | New Jersey.....               | 2                  | +4.0   |
| Nebraska.....             | .....              | .....  | North Dakota.....             | 2                  | +26.8  |
| Nevada.....               | 19                 | +12.9  | Oregon.....                   | 1                  | -3.1   |
| New Hampshire.....        | .....              | .....  | Rhode Island.....             | 1                  | +11.2  |
| New Jersey.....           | 7                  | +9.9   | Tennessee.....                | .....              | .....  |
| New Mexico.....           | 17                 | +7.9   | Wisconsin.....                | 1                  | -1.3   |
| New York.....             | .....              | .....  |                               |                    |  |
| North Carolina.....       | 17                 | +5.9   | <b>TOTAL—15 STATES.....</b>   | <b>27</b>          | <b>+4.7</b>                                    |
| North Dakota.....         | 11                 | +19.5  |                               |                    |  |
| Ohio.....                 | .....              | .....  | <b>ALL HIGHWAYS—</b>          |                    |  |
| Oklahoma.....             | 20                 | +9.5   | <b>36 STATES.....</b>         | <b>650</b>         | <b>+6.0</b>                                    |
| Oregon.....               | 6                  | -2.4   |                               |                    |  |
| Pennsylvania.....         | 30                 | +3.0   | <b>3 EASTERN REGIONS.....</b> | <b>180</b>         | <b>+6.5</b>                                    |
| Rhode Island.....         | 2                  | +7.0   | <b>4 CENTRAL REGIONS.....</b> | <b>385</b>         | <b>+7.5</b>                                    |
| South Carolina.....       | 4                  | +6.7   | <b>2 WESTERN REGIONS.....</b> | <b>85</b>          | <b>+0.5</b>                                    |
| South Dakota.....         | .....              | .....  |                               |                    |  |
| Tennessee.....            | 15                 | +7.3   |                               |                    |  |

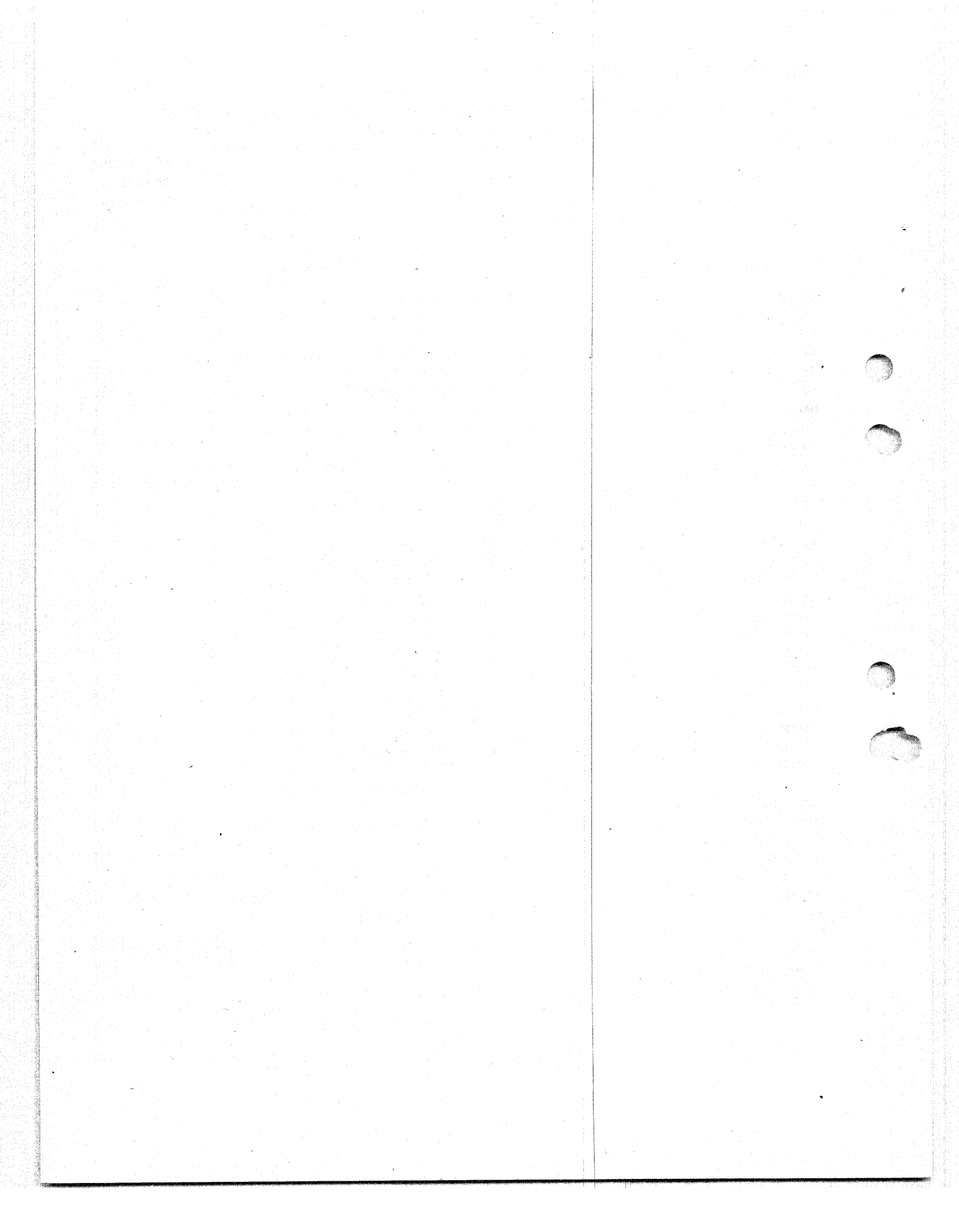
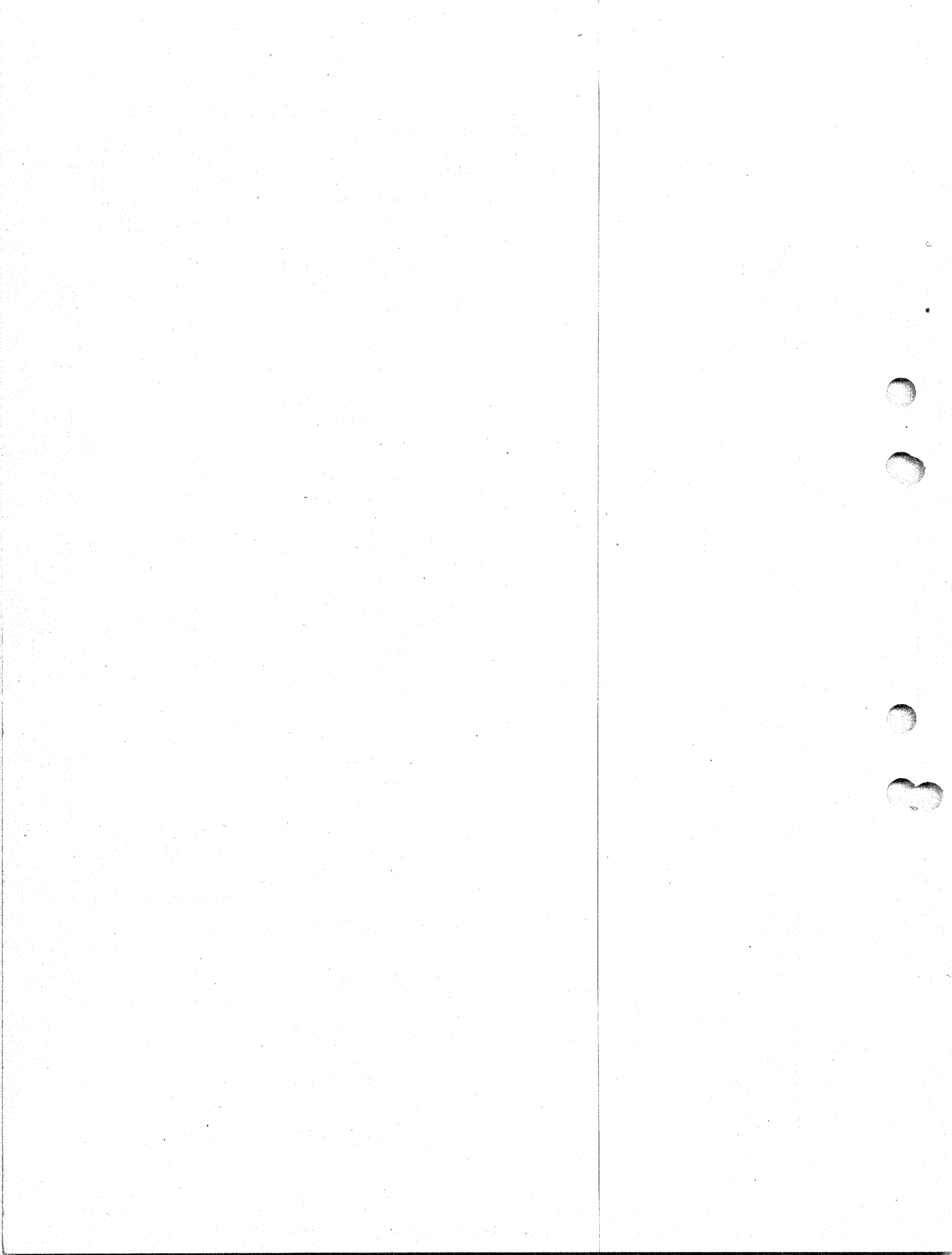


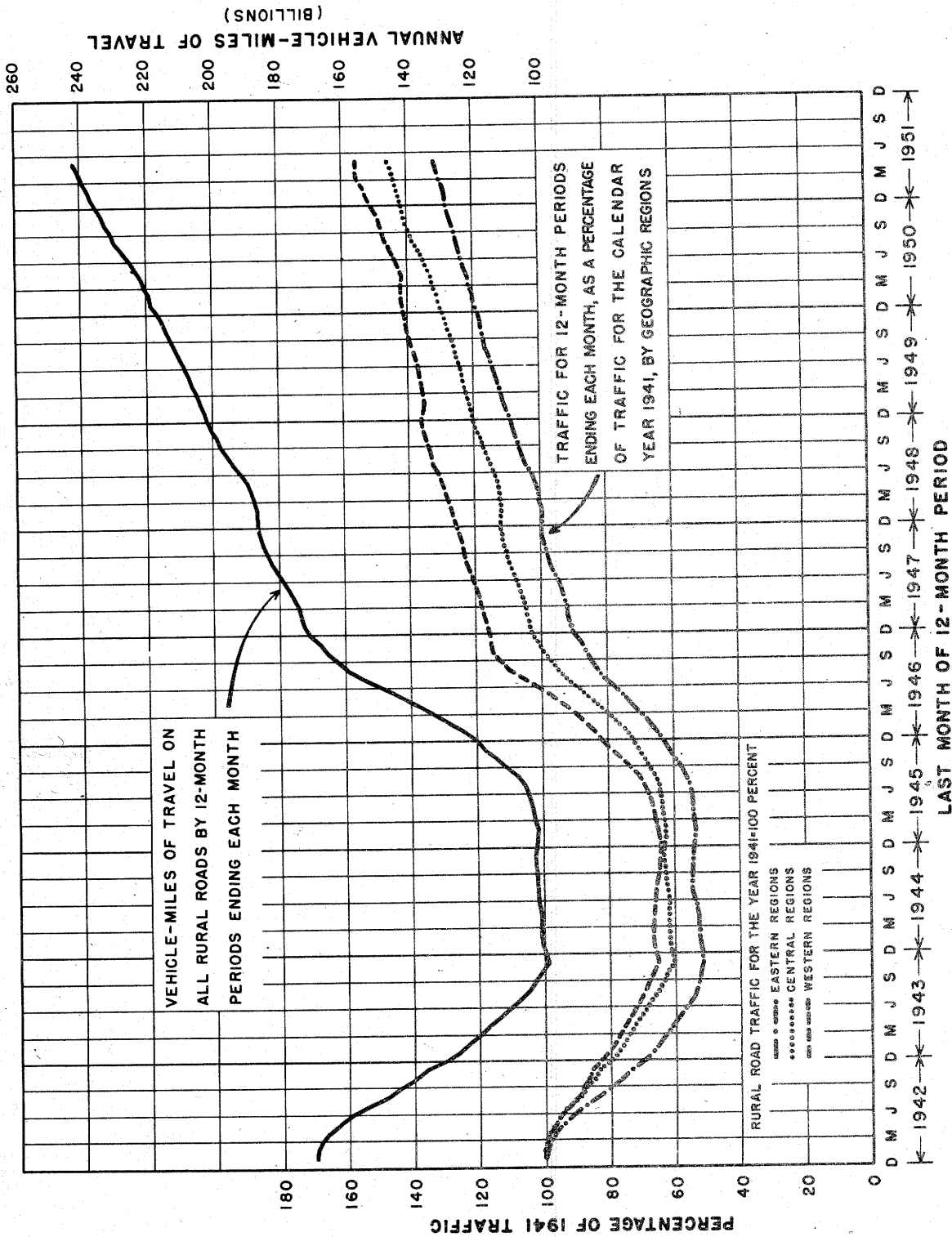
Table 2.—REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR APRIL 1951 INCLUDING 818 STATIONS IN 47 STATES<sup>1</sup>

| Region and State            | Number of stations | Traffic volume percentage change from April 1950 | Region and State             | Number of stations | Traffic volume percentage change from April 1950 |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| <b>NEW ENGLAND:</b>         |                    |  | <b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:</b>   |                    |  |
| Connecticut.....            | 19                 | +11.9  | Alabama.....                 | 9                  | +13.8  |
| Maine.....                  | 12                 | +2.7   | Kentucky.....                | 15                 | +5.2   |
| Massachusetts.....          | 9                  | +7.7   | Mississippi.....             | 19                 | -3.6   |
| New Hampshire.....          | 13                 | +10.1  | Tennessee.....               | 16                 | +5.3   |
| Rhode Island.....           | 3                  | +12.0  | <i>Subtotal</i> .....        | 59                 | +3.4   |
| Vermont.....                | 12                 | +5.2   | <b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:</b>   |                    |  |
| <i>Subtotal</i> .....       | 68                 | +8.9   | Arkansas.....                | 21                 | +8.9   |
| <b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC:</b>     |                    |  | Louisiana.....               | 36                 | +8.6   |
| New Jersey.....             | 9                  | +13.8  | Oklahoma.....                | 20                 | +3.9   |
| New York.....               | .....              | .....  | Texas.....                   | 104                | +5.9   |
| Pennsylvania.....           | 30                 | +3.9   | <i>Subtotal</i> .....        | 181                | +6.4   |
| <i>Subtotal</i> .....       | 39                 | +6.4   | <b>MOUNTAIN:</b>             |                    |  |
| <b>SOUTH ATLANTIC:</b>      |                    |  | Arizona.....                 | 5                  | +2.1   |
| Delaware.....               | 7                  | +7.9   | Colorado.....                | 22                 | +1.8   |
| Maryland.....               | 17                 | +5.6   | Idaho.....                   | 8                  | +3.3   |
| Virginia <sup>2</sup> ..... | .....              | +8.0   | Montana.....                 | 19                 | +9.7   |
| West Virginia.....          | 31                 | +4.2   | Nevada.....                  | 19                 | +13.4  |
| <i>Subtotal north</i>       | 55                 | +5.4   | New Mexico.....              | 17                 | +13.0  |
| <i>portion</i> .....        | .....              | .....  | Utah.....                    | 29                 | +10.3  |
| Florida.....                | 22                 | +6.8   | Wyoming.....                 | 7                  | +16.2  |
| Georgia.....                | 10                 | +9.7   | <i>Subtotal</i> .....        | 126                | +7.7   |
| North Carolina.....         | 18                 | +4.0   | <b>PACIFIC:</b>              |                    |  |
| South Carolina.....         | 6                  | +4.8   | California.....              | 3                  | -10.4  |
| <i>Subtotal south</i>       | 56                 | +5.9   | Oregon.....                  | 7                  | +2.7   |
| <i>portion</i> .....        | .....              | .....  | Washington.....              | 11                 | +6.1   |
| <i>Subtotal</i>             | 91                 | +5.7   | <i>Subtotal</i> .....        | 21                 | +3.0   |
| <i>region</i> .....         | .....              | .....  | <b>TOTAL ALL STATES.....</b> |                    |  |
| <b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL:</b>  |                    |  | 818                          |                    | +5.9   |
| Illinois.....               | 3                  | -6.0   | <b>STATE HIGHWAYS.....</b>   |                    |  |
| Indiana.....                | 22                 | +9.8   | 780                          |                    | +4.7   |
| Michigan.....               | 26                 | +7.5   | <b>LOCAL HIGHWAYS.....</b>   |                    |  |
| Ohio.....                   | 17                 | +18.1  | 38                           |                    | +9.2   |
| Wisconsin.....              | 10                 | -3.9   | <b>3 EASTERN REGIONS....</b> |                    |  |
| <i>Subtotal</i> .....       | 78                 | +8.5   | 198                          |                    | +7.6   |
| <b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL:</b>  |                    |  | <b>4 CENTRAL REGIONS....</b> |                    |  |
| Iowa.....                   | 32                 | -0.3   | 473                          |                    | +5.7   |
| Kansas.....                 | 14                 | +3.1   | <b>2 WESTERN REGIONS....</b> |                    |  |
| Minnesota.....              | 27                 | +4.3   | 147                          |                    | +2.8   |
| Missouri.....               | 27                 | +7.4   |                              |                    |  |
| Nebraska.....               | 13                 | +4.5   |                              |                    |  |
| North Dakota.....           | 12                 | +26.2  |                              |                    |  |
| South Dakota.....           | 30                 | +6.8   |                              |                    |  |
| <i>Subtotal</i> .....       | 155                | +5.1   |                              |                    |  |

<sup>1</sup> Combined State and local highways.

<sup>2</sup> Percentage figured from trend in vehicle mile estimate furnished by state.

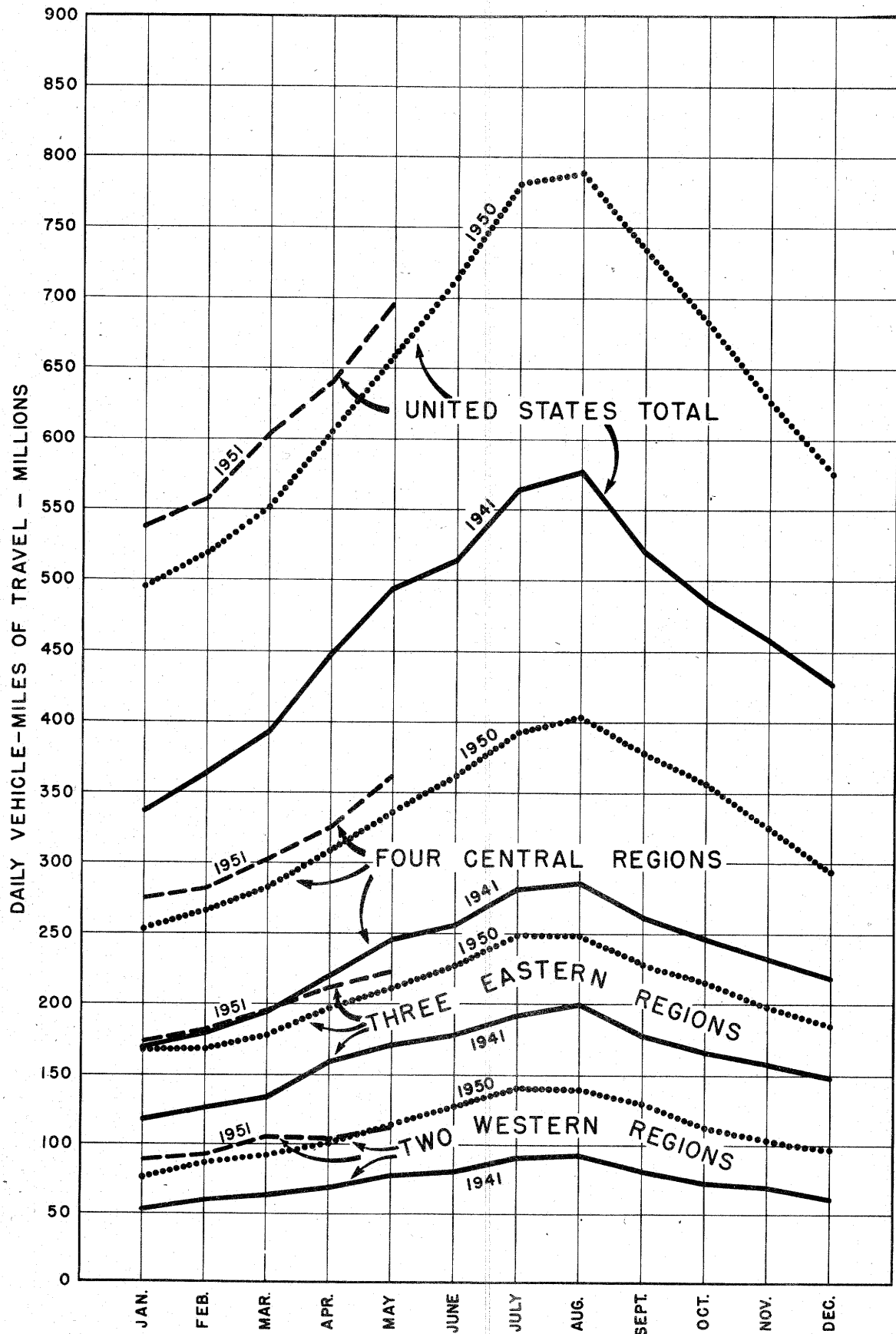




TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS BY 12-MONTH PERIODS ENDING EACH MONTH, IN VEHICLE-MILES AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF TRAFFIC IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 1941







TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS, BY MONTHS

