

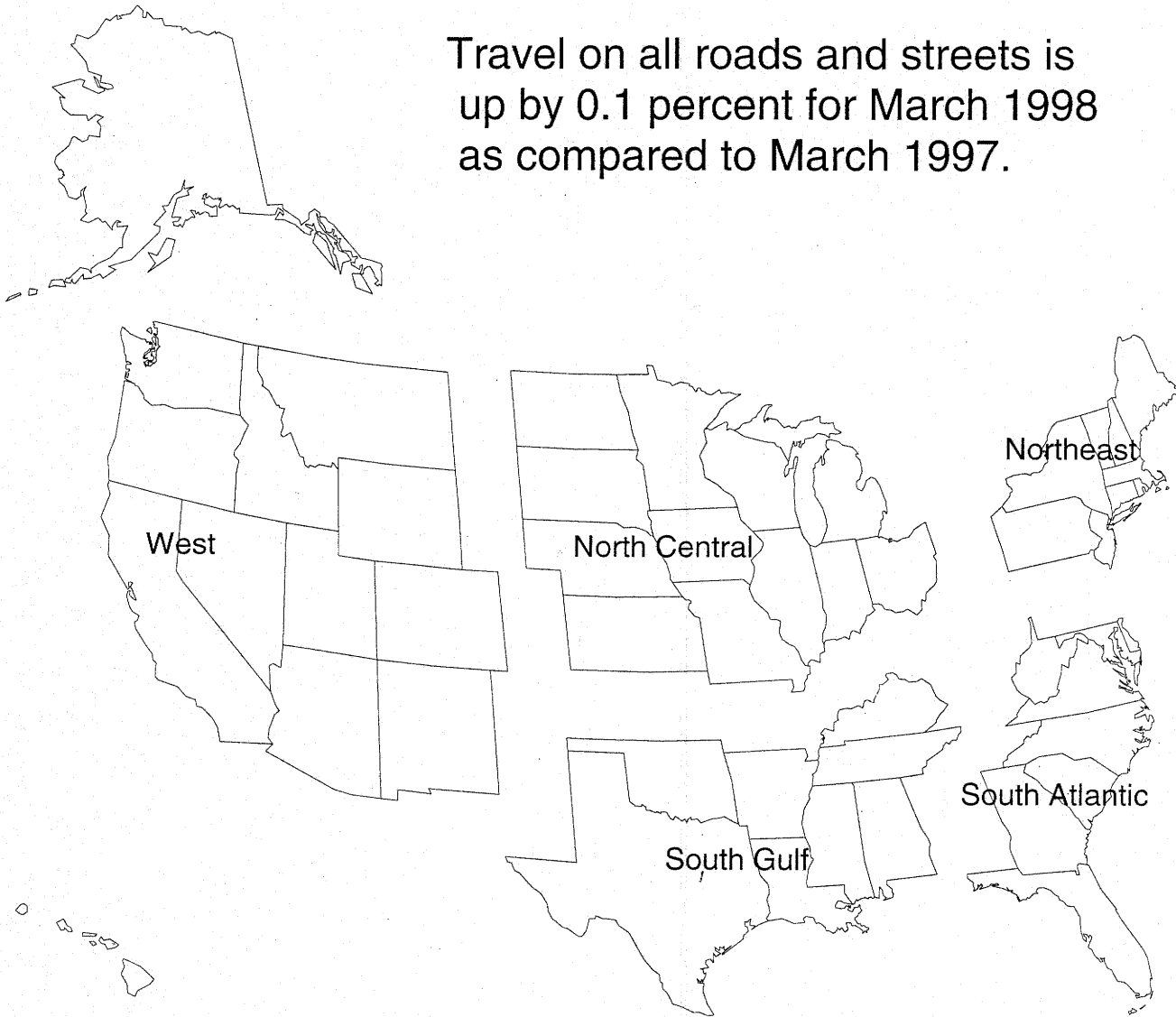


U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

# TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

## March 1998

Travel on all roads and streets is  
up by 0.1 percent for March 1998  
as compared to March 1997.



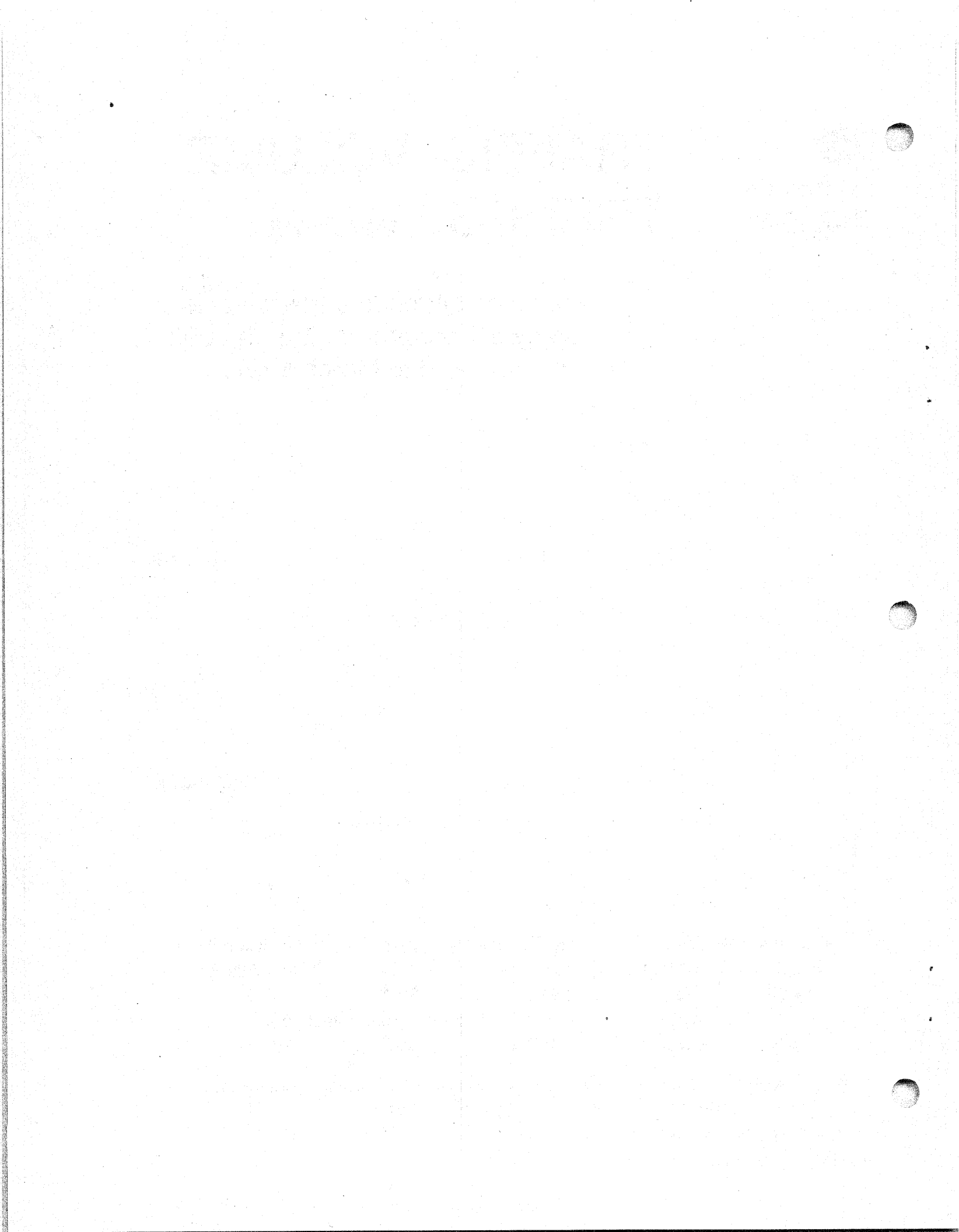
Estimated Vehicle-Miles of Travel by Region - March 1998 - (in Billions)

West	North Central	South Gulf	Northeast	South Atlantic
<b>44.9</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>41.9</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>42.8</b>
<b>-1.3%</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>+0.3%</b>	<b>+2.5%</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>

Change in Traffic as compared to the same month last year.

Note: All data for this month are preliminary. Revised values for the previous month are shown in Tables 1 and 2.  
All vehicle-miles of travel computed with 1996 Table VM-2 as a base

Compiled with data on hand as of May 18, 1998.



### Traffic Volume Trends - March 1998

Based on preliminary reports from the State Highway Agencies, travel during March 1998 on all roads and streets in the nation increased by 0.1 percent as compared to March 1997 resulting in estimated travel for the month at 211.0 billion vehicle-miles. This total includes 80.2 billion vehicle-miles on rural roads and 130.8 billion vehicle-miles on urban roads and streets.

Travel for the current month as well the cumulative yearly total on all roads and streets is shown below. Similar totals for each year since 1970 are also included.

Travel in Millions		
All Roads and Streets		
Year	March	Year to Date
1970	90,223	247,837
1971	92,974	258,429
1972	102,926	283,664
1973	107,490	296,721
1974	100,736	282,192
1975	106,070	295,715
1976	114,284	315,272
1977	119,960	324,821
1978	125,035	341,890
1979	131,406	355,410
1980	125,179	348,980
1981	127,798	353,612
1982	128,182	345,451
1983	132,814	364,078
1984	137,307	377,319
1985	144,424	387,912
1986	151,183	407,707
1987	157,573	433,488
1988	167,836	458,463
1989	174,990	481,473
1990	178,771	495,930
1991	179,076	490,316
1992	183,778	511,634
1993	187,869	522,393
1994	196,190	531,948
1995	201,227	566,118
1996	204,172	564,198
1997	210,760	581,652
1998	210,966	593,538

*Traffic Volume Trends* is a monthly report based on hourly traffic count data. These data, collected at approximately 4,000 continuous traffic counting locations nationwide, are used to determine the percent change in traffic for the current month compared to the same month in the previous year. This percent change is applied to the travel for the same month of the previous year to obtain an estimate of travel for the current month.

For additional information, for extra copies, or to be put on the monthly mailing list, write:

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Federal Highway Administration  
Office of Highway Information Management  
400 7th Street, S.W., Room 3300, HPM-30  
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Change of address information should also be sent to the above address. Send the back cover (including your old address) of the most recent issue you have received with the new information clearly printed or typed.

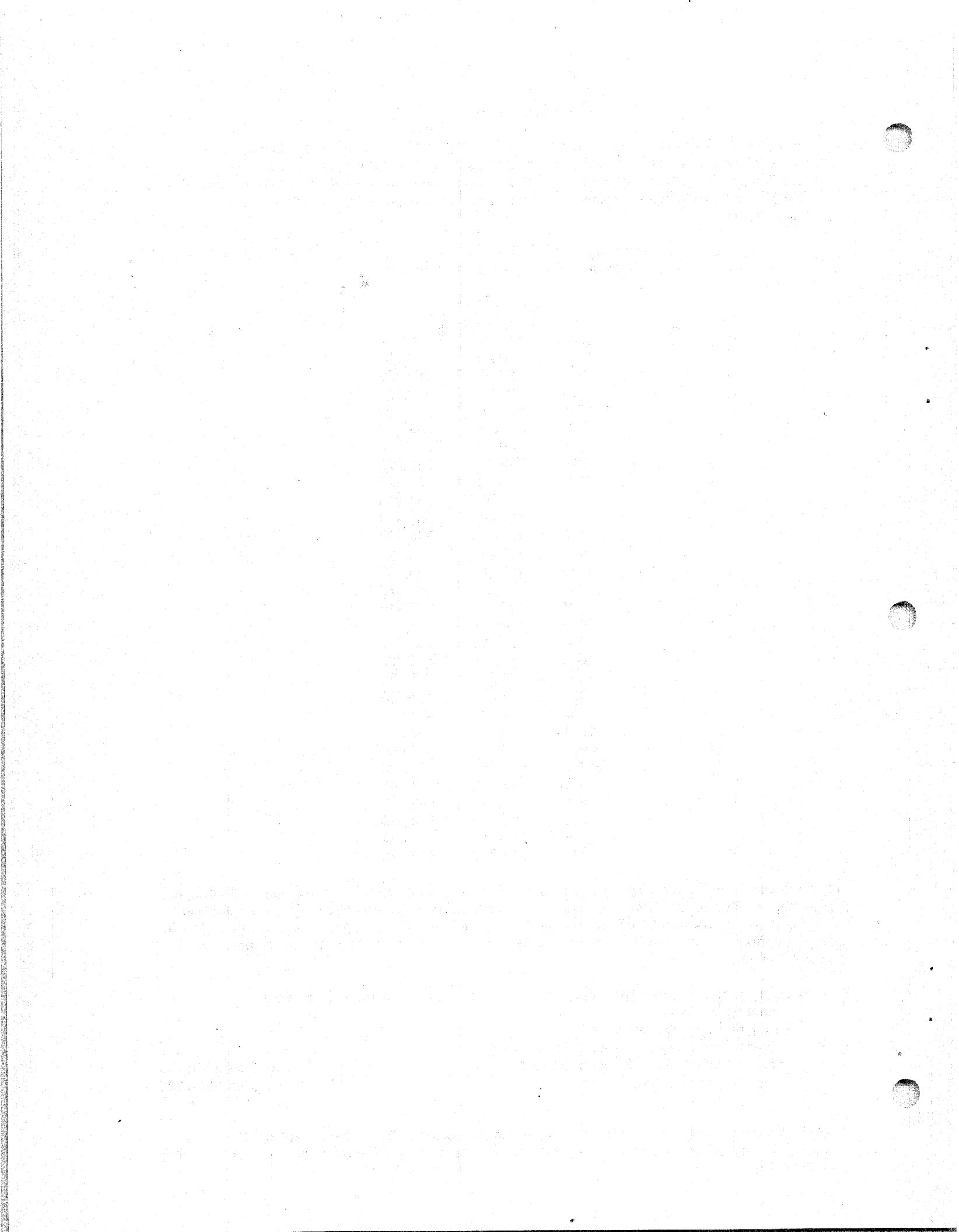


Table 1 - Estimated Individual Monthly Motor Vehicle Travel In The United States

System	Month											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1997 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.7	16.5	19.6	18.8	20.8	21.2	23.2	23.5	19.7	20.6	19.4	19.3
Rural Other Arterial	26.9	26.8	31.4	31.2	34.6	34.7	37.5	37.6	33.3	34.1	30.5	30.6
Other Rural	25.7	24.6	29.3	29.2	31.8	31.7	33.3	33.2	30.2	31.0	27.7	28.2
Urban Interstate	27.3	26.4	30.5	29.6	31.1	30.8	31.9	32.2	29.7	31.1	28.7	30.2
Urban Other Arterial	65.7	63.0	71.1	70.9	73.5	72.1	74.1	74.0	69.3	72.1	67.2	71.2
Other Urban	26.2	25.1	28.8	28.4	29.9	29.3	30.7	30.7	28.4	29.5	27.9	28.3
All Systems	188.5	182.4	210.8	208.1	221.7	219.7	230.7	231.3	210.6	218.5	201.5	207.8
1998 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	18.2	17.2	19.8									
Rural Other Arterial	28.4	27.6	31.3									
Other Rural	26.8	24.6	29.1									
Urban Interstate	28.3	26.8	30.8									
Urban Other Arterial	68.0	63.4	71.2									
Other Urban	27.5	25.6	28.8									
All Systems	197.3	185.3	211.0									
Percent Change In Individual Monthly Travel 1998 vs. 1997												
Rural Interstate	8.9	4.5	0.8									
Rural Other Arterial	5.7	3.1	-0.4									
Other Rural	4.3	-0.3	-0.7									
Urban Interstate	3.7	1.8	0.8									
Urban Other Arterial	3.6	0.7	0.2									
Other Urban	4.9	1.9	0.0									
All Systems	4.7	1.6	0.1									

Table 2 - Estimated Cumulative Monthly Motor Vehicle Travel In The United States

System	Month											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1997 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.7	33.2	52.8	71.6	92.4	113.6	136.8	160.3	180.0	200.7	220.1	239.4
Rural Other Arterial	26.9	53.6	85.1	116.3	150.9	185.6	223.2	260.8	294.1	328.2	358.7	389.3
Other Rural	25.7	50.3	79.6	108.8	140.7	172.4	205.6	238.8	269.0	300.1	327.8	356.0
Urban Interstate	27.3	53.7	84.2	113.8	144.9	175.7	207.6	239.8	269.5	300.6	329.2	359.4
Urban Other Arterial	65.7	128.7	199.7	270.7	344.2	416.2	490.3	564.3	633.6	705.8	773.0	844.2
Other Urban	26.2	51.4	80.2	108.6	138.5	167.7	198.4	229.1	257.5	287.0	314.9	343.2
All Systems	188.5	370.9	581.7	789.8	1011.5	1231.2	1461.9	1693.2	1903.8	2122.4	2323.8	2531.6
1998 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	18.2	35.4	55.2									
Rural Other Arterial	28.4	56.0	87.3									
Other Rural	26.8	51.4	80.5									
Urban Interstate	28.3	55.2	86.0									
Urban Other Arterial	68.0	131.5	202.7									
Other Urban	27.5	53.1	82.0									
All Systems	197.3	382.6	593.5									
Percent Change In Cumulative Monthly Travel 1998 vs. 1997												
Rural Interstate	8.9	6.8	4.6									
Rural Other Arterial	5.7	4.4	2.7									
Other Rural	4.3	2.0	1.0									
Urban Interstate	3.7	2.8	2.1									
Urban Other Arterial	3.6	2.2	1.5									
Other Urban	4.9	3.4	2.2									
All Systems	4.7	3.1	2.0									

\* System entries may not add to give "All Systems" total due to rounding.

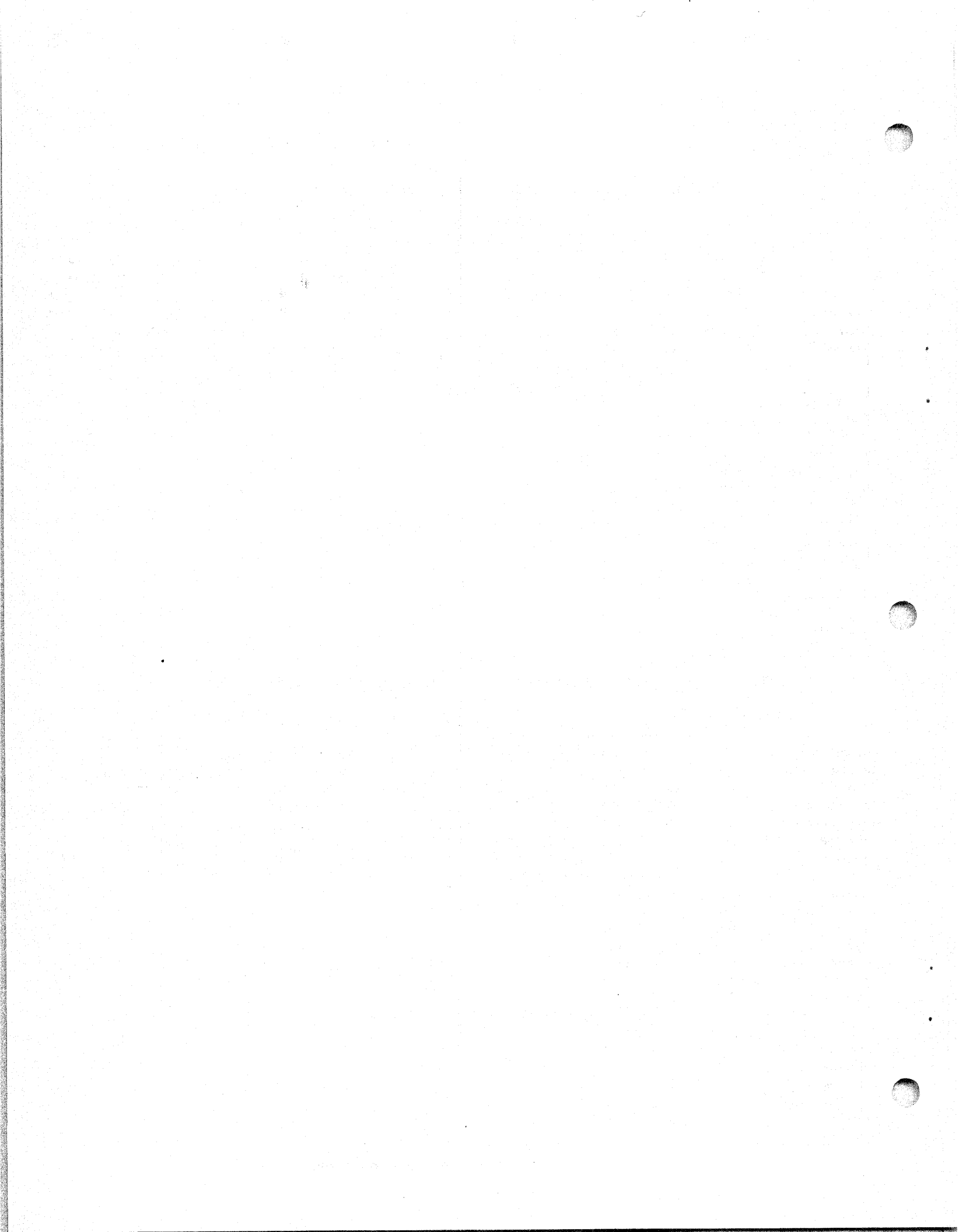


Table 3 - Changes On Rural Arterial Roads By Region and State

Region and State	March				February			
	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change
		1998 (Preliminary)	1997			1998 (Revised)	1997	
<b>Northeast</b>								
Connecticut	21	343	329	4.3	20	309	291	6.2
Maine	-	400	387	3.4	35	363	347	4.5
Massachusetts	15	439	424	3.5	13	372	366	1.8
New Hampshire	-	324	313	3.4	58	301	290	3.8
New Jersey	8	658	634	3.7	6	531	516	3.0
New York	49	1,287	1,262	1.9	50	1,131	1,099	3.0
Pennsylvania	-	2,163	2,144	0.9	-	1,854	1,799	3.1
Rhode Island	12	58	56	4.3	12	51	49	5.0
Vermont	35	213	206	3.1	36	201	195	3.2
		5,885	5,755	2.3		5,115	4,951	3.3
<b>South Atlantic</b>								
Delaware	36	138	134	2.8	36	119	112	7.0
Dist Of Columbia	-	0	0	0.0	-	0	0	0.0
Florida	211	2,534	2,530	0.2	206	2,221	2,166	2.5
Georgia	39	2,039	2,041	-0.1	36	1,773	1,690	4.9
Maryland	-	756	760	-0.6	-	667	649	2.7
North Carolina	-	1,844	1,837	0.4	-	1,694	1,619	4.7
South Carolina	-	1,541	1,544	-0.2	22	1,308	1,258	3.9
Virginia	-	1,769	1,736	1.9	-	1,589	1,567	1.4
West Virginia	14	643	650	-1.2	10	552	541	2.0
		11,262	11,231	0.3		9,923	9,602	3.3
<b>North Central</b>								
Illinois	30	1,513	1,529	-1.1	24	1,340	1,277	4.9
Indiana	-	1,375	1,363	0.9	-	1,323	1,277	3.6
Iowa	129	925	944	-2.0	128	815	776	5.1
Kansas	-	728	764	-4.6	-	678	607	11.8
Michigan	-	1,533	1,513	1.3	-	1,349	1,290	4.6
Minnesota	-	1,067	1,064	0.3	-	983	947	3.9
Missouri	34	1,390	1,449	-4.1	32	1,209	1,167	3.6
Nebraska	31	559	594	-5.8	30	514	474	8.3
North Dakota	-	237	239	-0.6	4	196	213	-7.9
Ohio	49	1,762	1,762	-0.0	45	1,526	1,471	3.7
South Dakota	52	320	329	-2.7	47	286	282	1.6
Wisconsin	141	1,504	1,467	2.6	125	1,348	1,276	5.7
		12,914	13,015	-0.8		11,568	11,056	4.6
<b>South Gulf</b>								
Alabama	-	1,319	1,313	0.4	-	1,140	1,099	3.8
Arkansas	-	1,030	1,039	-0.9	28	851	775	9.8
Kentucky	39	1,173	1,116	5.1	41	938	924	1.5
Louisiana	-	906	891	1.8	-	805	752	7.1
Mississippi	66	1,077	1,061	1.4	66	950	906	4.9
Oklahoma	-	1,006	1,004	0.1	-	871	787	10.7
Tennessee	18	1,476	1,456	1.4	-	1,291	1,230	5.0
Texas	-	3,650	3,648	0.1	-	3,297	2,996	10.0
		11,637	11,529	0.9		10,143	9,469	7.1
<b>West</b>								
Alaska	37	89	85	5.2	47	73	71	3.7
Arizona	39	777	821	-5.3	6	627	673	-6.8
California	24	3,358	3,397	-1.1	24	3,089	3,186	-3.0
Colorado	-	857	890	-3.7	-	749	698	7.2
Hawaii	10	131	126	4.0	10	119	115	3.8
Idaho	147	386	373	3.3	154	321	311	3.1
Montana	34	375	370	1.2	42	328	313	4.7
Nevada	50	288	304	-5.2	50	231	252	-8.4
New Mexico	-	672	710	-5.3	-	524	561	-6.6
Oregon	142	858	838	2.5	136	687	687	0.0
Utah	86	453	461	-1.6	83	366	362	1.3
Washington	-	842	820	2.7	60	725	696	4.1
Wyoming	124	273	281	-2.6	126	235	229	2.6
		9,361	9,475	-1.2		8,073	8,152	-1.0
<b>TOTALS</b>		51,058	51,006	0.1		44,822	43,230	3.7

Note: Where Number of Stations are shown as dashes, the values for Vehicle-Miles and Percent Change are derived from the estimated VMT based on data from surrounding States or the Nationwide average VMT.

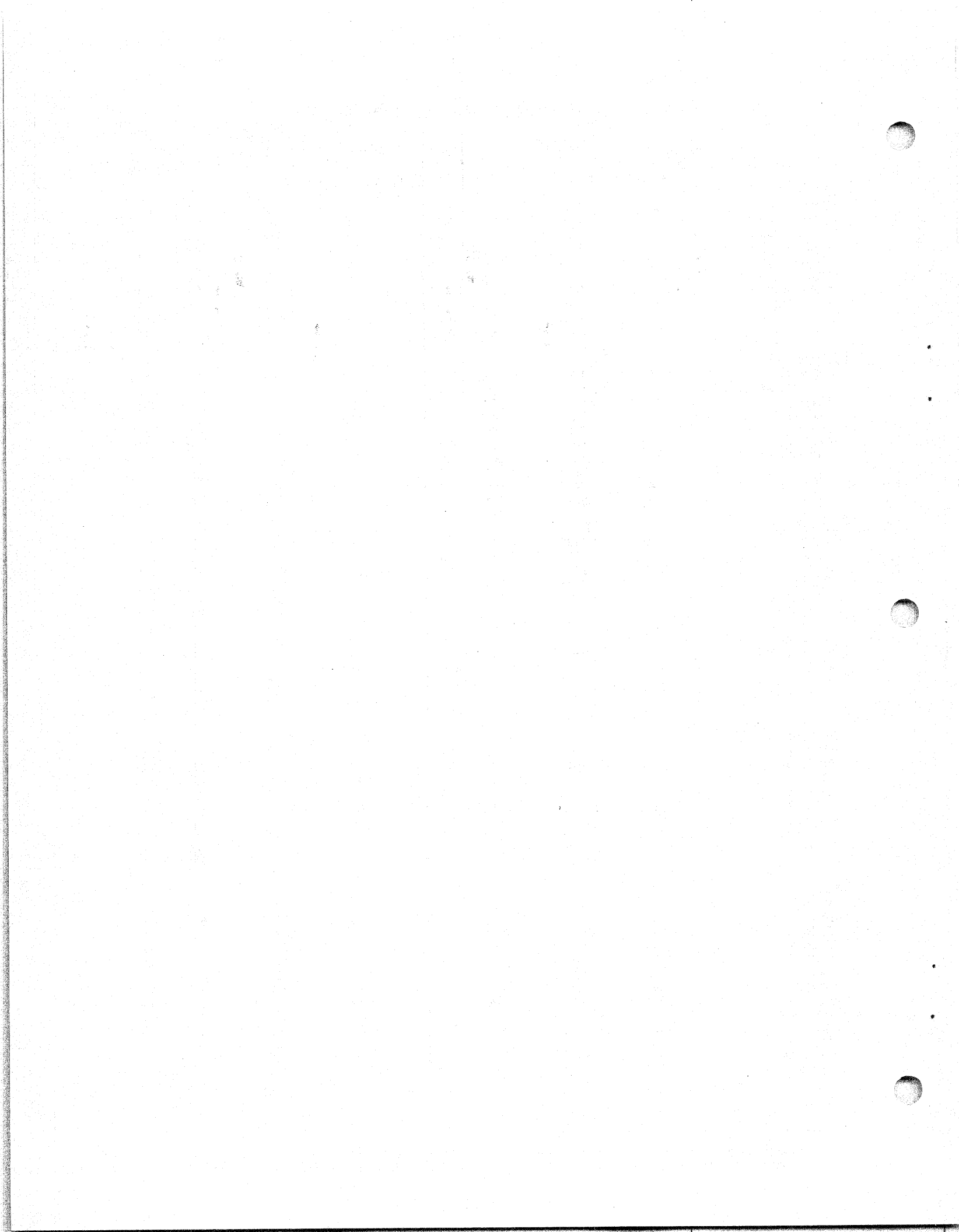
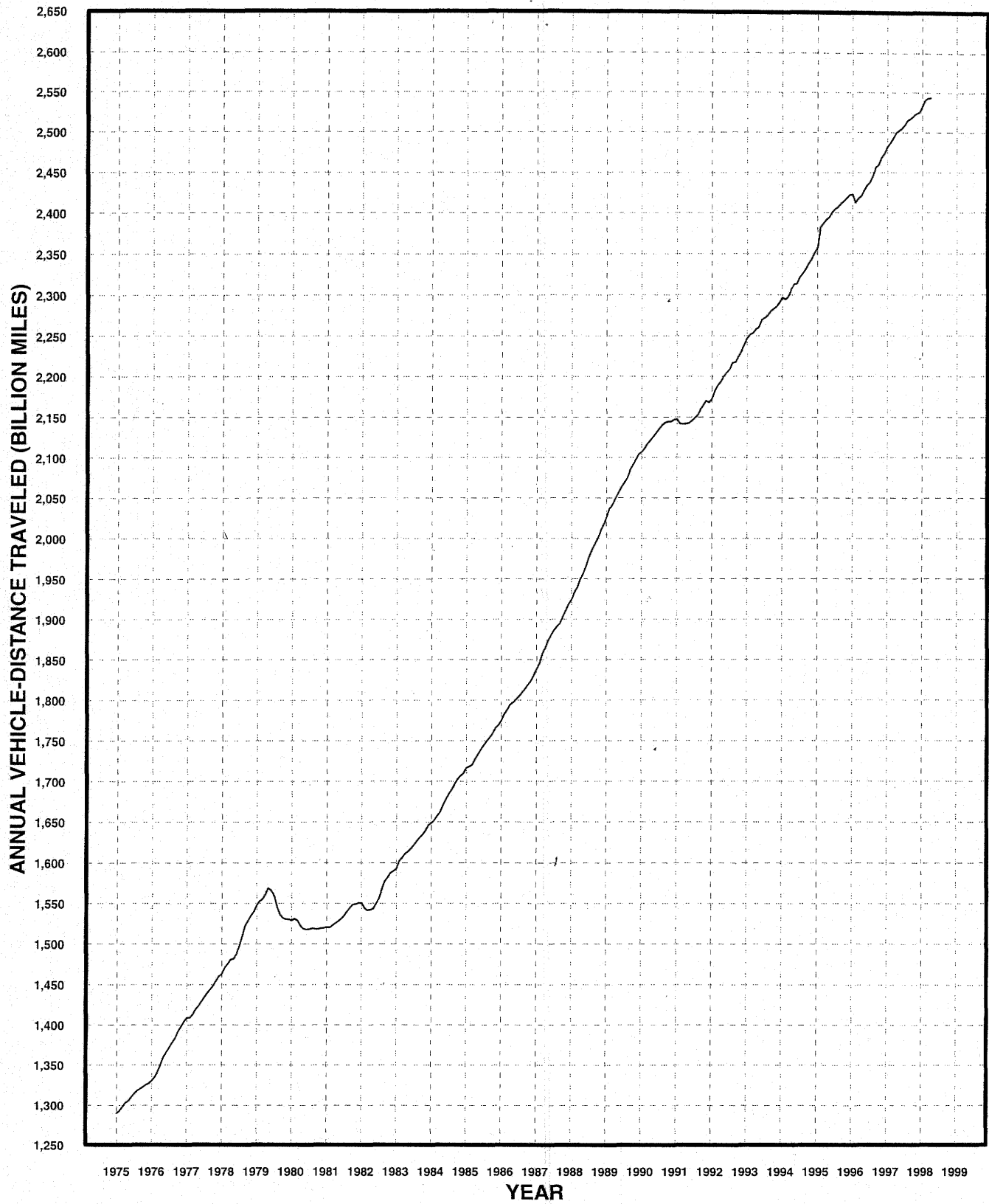




FIGURE 1 - MOVING 12-MONTH TOTAL ON ALL HIGHWAYS



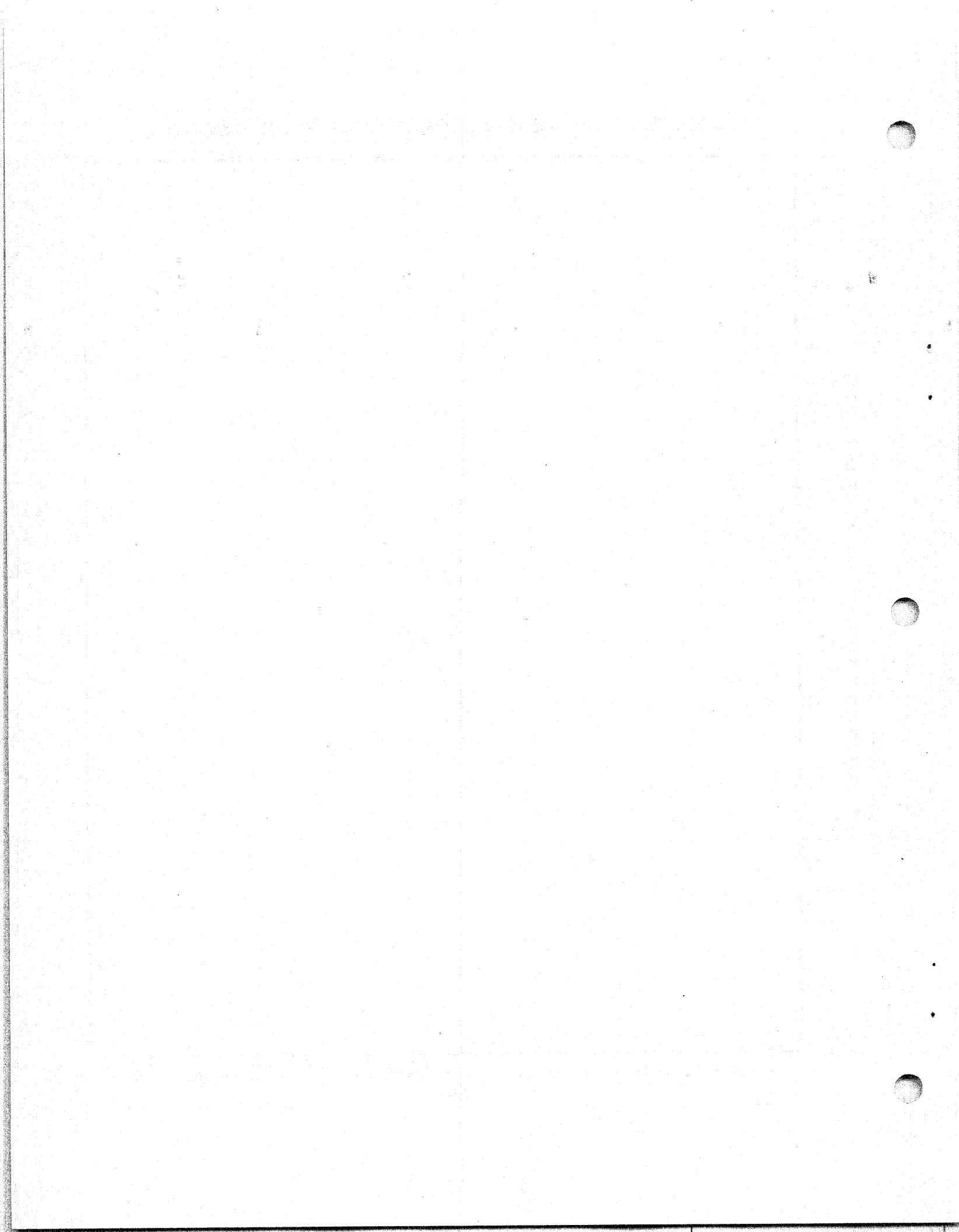
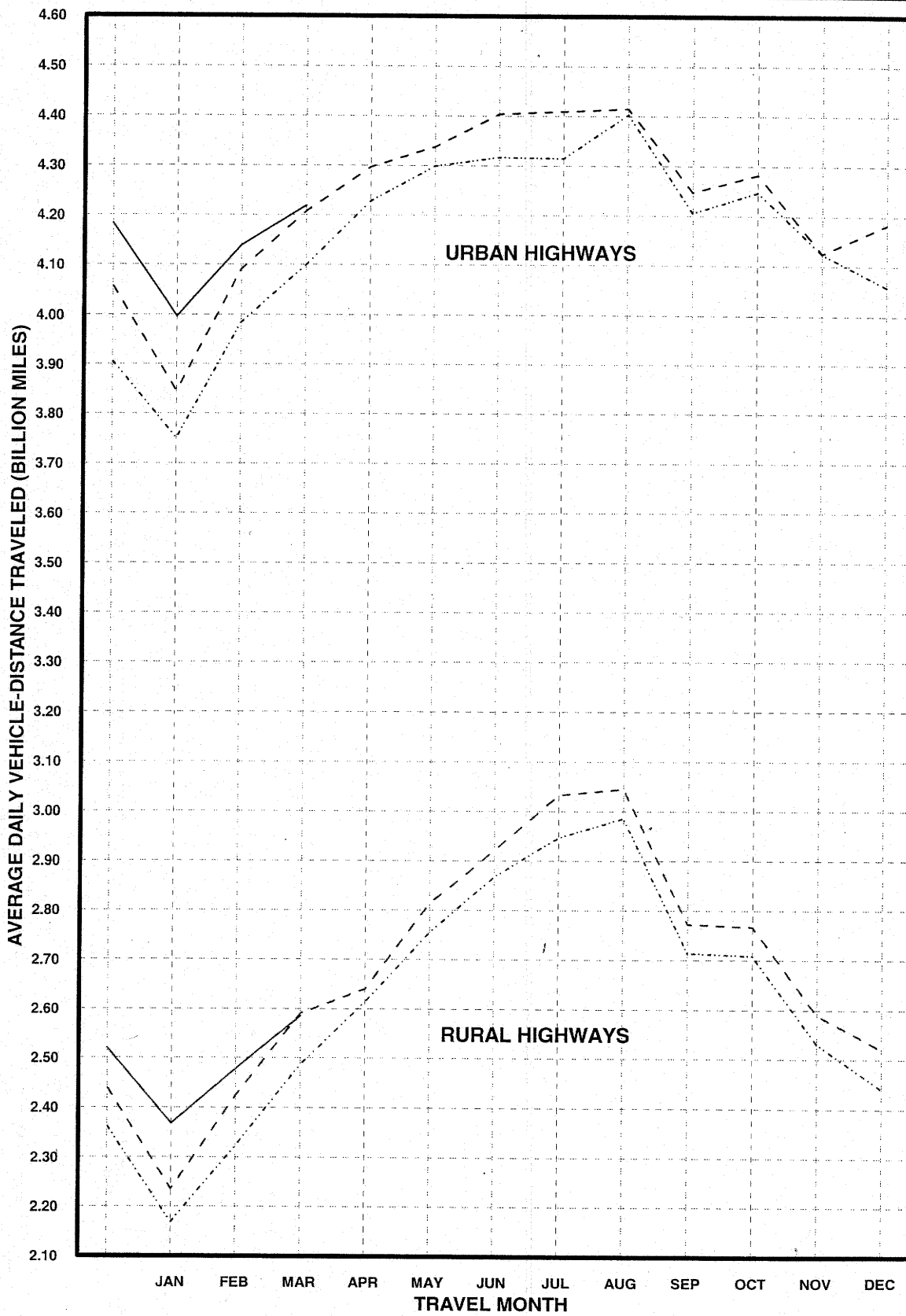
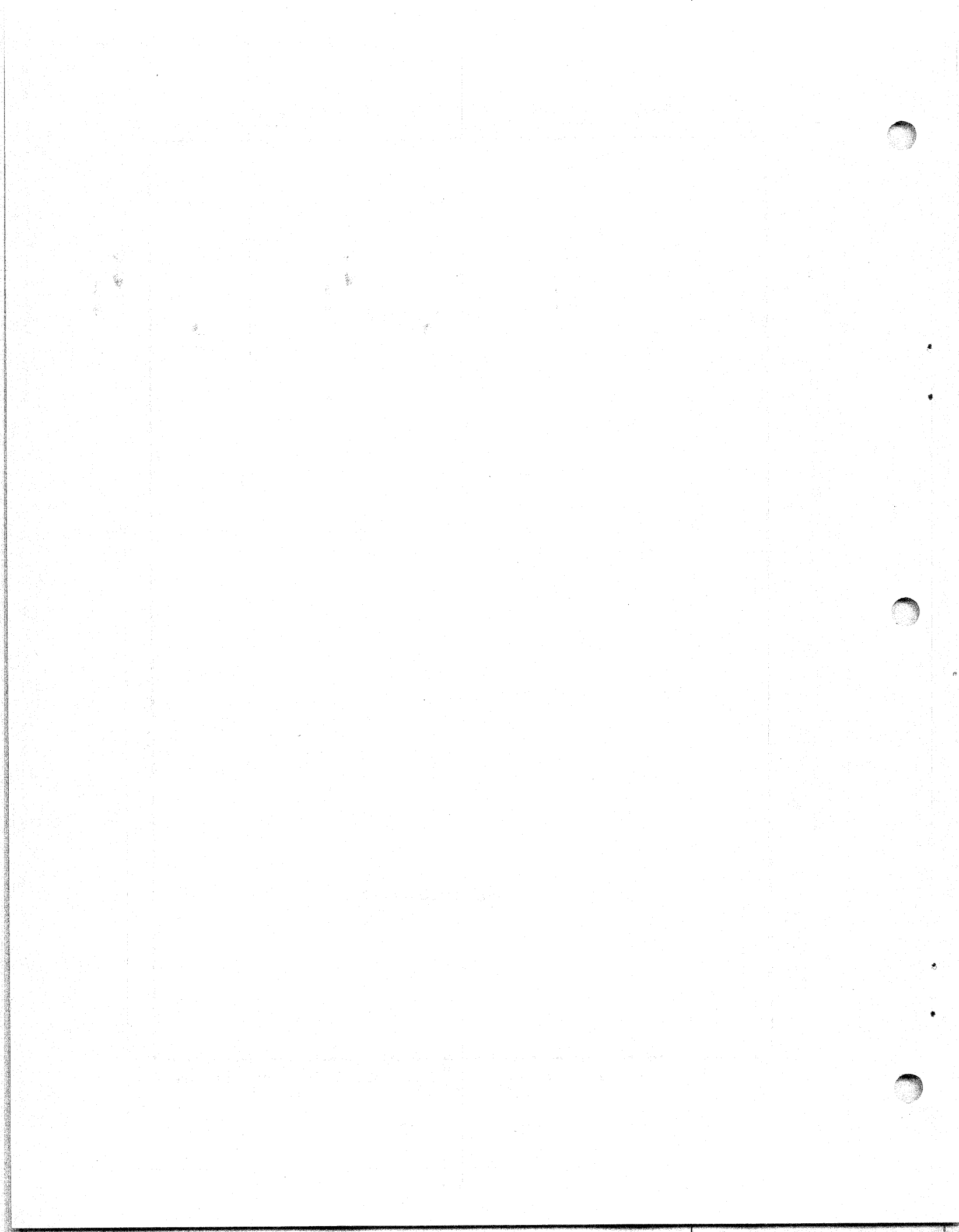


FIGURE 2 - TRAVEL ON U.S. HIGHWAYS BY MONTH



1996 1997 1998

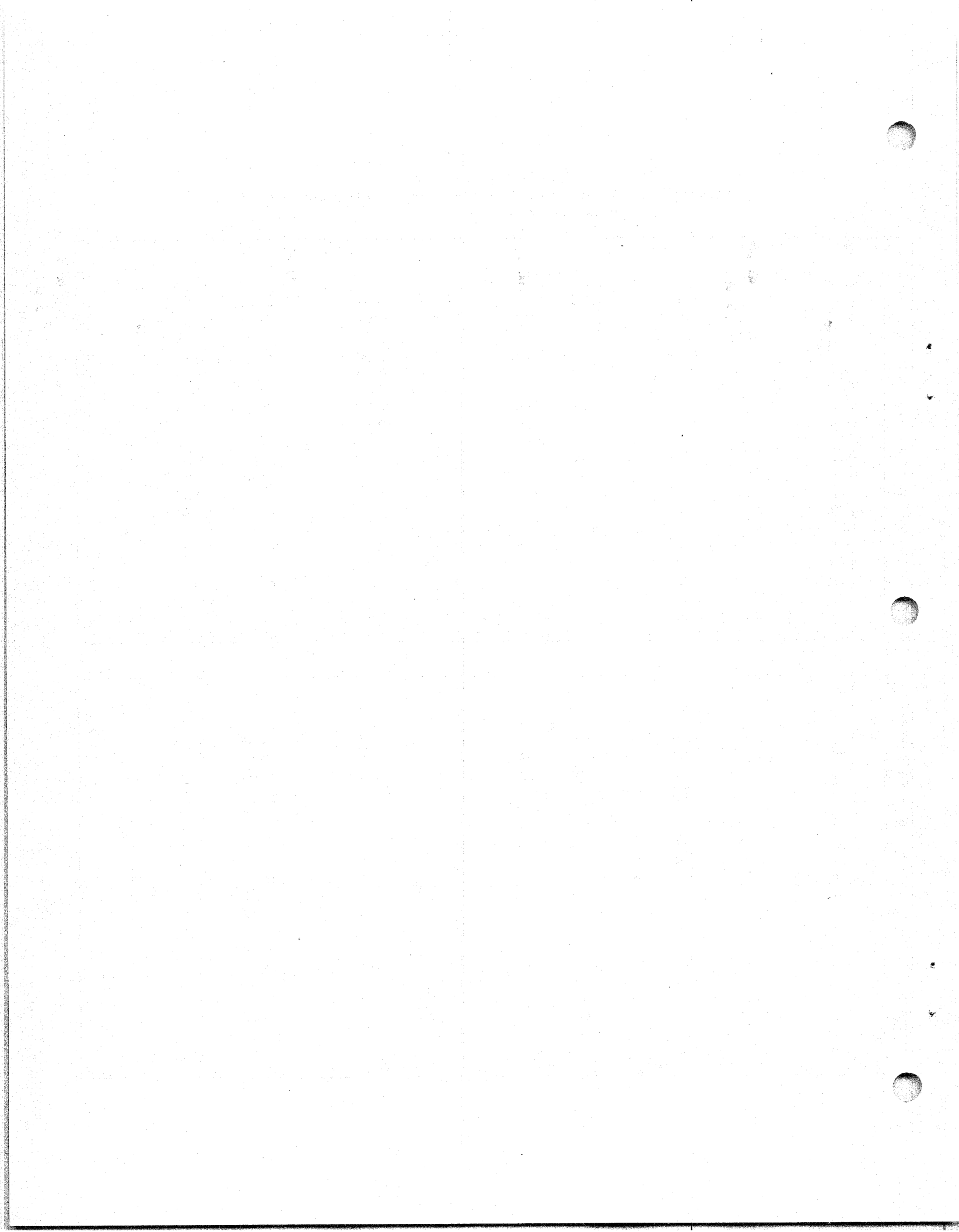


**Traffic Volume Trends Rural\***  
**Estimated Vehicle Miles (Millions) and Percent Change from Same Period Previous Year**  
(Includes Preliminary Data for March 1998)

Year - 1997											
	Rural Interstate	%	Rural Other Arterial	%	Other Rural	%	Total Rural	%	All Systems	%	
Jan	16,696	3.7	Jan 26,889	3.3	Jan 25,707	2.5	Jan 69,292	3.1	Jan 188,506	2.7	
Feb	16,475	5.5	Feb 26,755	4.6	Feb 24,633	3.4	Feb 67,863	4.4	Feb 182,386	3.3	
Mar	19,586	4.5	Mar 31,420	4.1	Mar 29,308	4.0	Mar 80,314	4.2	Mar 210,760	3.2	
Q1	52,757	4.6	Q1 85,064	4.0	Q1 79,648	3.3	Q1 217,469	3.9	Q1 581,652	3.1	
Apr	18,833	-0.2	Apr 31,189	1.3	Apr 29,200	1.5	Apr 79,222	1.0	Apr 208,128	1.4	
May	20,767	2.2	May 34,635	2.5	May 31,849	1.8	May 87,251	2.2	May 221,722	1.4	
Jun	21,240	1.7	Jun 34,718	2.2	Jun 31,663	1.6	Jun 87,621	1.8	Jun 219,746	1.9	
Q2	60,840	1.3	Q2 100,542	2.0	Q2 92,712	1.6	Q2 254,094	1.7	Q2 649,596	1.6	
1st Half	113,597	2.8	1st Half 185,606	2.9	1st Half 172,360	2.4	1st Half 471,563	2.7	1st Half 1,231,248	2.3	
Jul	23,202	3.0	Jul 37,549	3.4	Jul 33,271	2.3	Jul 94,022	2.9	Jul 230,699	2.5	
Aug	23,544	2.7	Aug 37,644	2.1	Aug 33,210	1.4	Aug 94,398	2.0	Aug 231,269	1.0	
Sep	19,684	1.5	Sep 33,308	2.6	Sep 30,185	2.1	Sep 83,177	2.1	Sep 210,586	1.4	
Q3	66,430	2.5	Q3 108,501	2.7	Q3 96,666	1.9	Q3 271,597	2.4	Q3 672,554	1.6	
3 Qs	180,027	2.7	3 Qs 294,107	2.8	3 Qs 269,026	2.2	3 Qs 743,160	2.6	3 Qs 1,903,802	2.1	
Oct	20,626	3.5	Oct 34,107	2.4	Oct 31,039	1.0	Oct 85,772	2.1	Oct 218,549	1.3	
Nov	19,437	5.2	Nov 30,527	2.1	Nov 27,722	0.7	Nov 77,686	2.3	Nov 201,457	0.9	
Dec	19,323	3.5	Dec 30,590	3.3	Dec 28,199	3.0	Dec 78,112	3.2	Dec 207,791	3.1	
Q4	59,386	4.0	Q4 95,224	2.6	Q4 86,960	1.5	Q4 241,570	2.6	Q4 627,797	1.8	
2nd Half	125,816	3.2	2nd Half 203,725	2.7	2nd Half 183,626	1.7	2nd Half 513,167	2.5	2nd Half 1,300,351	1.7	
Year	239,413	3.0	Year 389,331	2.8	Year 355,986	2.1	Year 984,730	2.6	Year 2,531,599	2.0	

Year - 1998											
	Rural Interstate	%	Rural Other Arterial	%	Other Rural	%	Total Rural	%	All Systems	%	
Jan	18,187	8.9	Jan 28,416	5.7	Jan 26,803	4.3	Jan 73,406	5.9	Jan 197,299	4.7	
Feb	17,225	4.5	Feb 27,597	3.1	Feb 24,559	-0.3	Feb 69,381	2.2	Feb 185,273	1.6	
Mar	19,751	0.8	Mar 31,306	-0.4	Mar 29,099	-0.7	Mar 80,156	-0.2	Mar 210,966	0.1	
Q1	55,163	4.6	Q1 87,319	2.7	Q1 80,461	1.0	Q1 222,943	2.5	Q1 593,538	2.0	
Apr	0	-	Apr 0	-	Apr 0	-	Apr 0	-	Apr 0	-	
May	0	-	May 0	-	May 0	-	May 0	-	May 0	-	
Jun	0	-	Jun 0	-	Jun 0	-	Jun 0	-	Jun 0	-	
Q2	0	-	Q2 0	-	Q2 0	-	Q2 0	-	Q2 0	-	
1st Half	55,163	4.6	1st Half 87,319	2.7	1st Half 80,461	1.0	1st Half 222,943	2.5	1st Half 593,538	2.0	
Jul	0	-	Jul 0	-	Jul 0	-	Jul 0	-	Jul 0	-	
Aug	0	-	Aug 0	-	Aug 0	-	Aug 0	-	Aug 0	-	
Sep	0	-	Sep 0	-	Sep 0	-	Sep 0	-	Sep 0	-	
Q3	0	-	Q3 0	-	Q3 0	-	Q3 0	-	Q3 0	-	
3 Qs	55,163	4.6	3 Qs 87,319	2.7	3 Qs 80,461	1.0	3 Qs 222,943	2.5	3 Qs 593,538	2.0	
Oct	0	-	Oct 0	-	Oct 0	-	Oct 0	-	Oct 0	-	
Nov	0	-	Nov 0	-	Nov 0	-	Nov 0	-	Nov 0	-	
Dec	0	-	Dec 0	-	Dec 0	-	Dec 0	-	Dec 0	-	
Q4	0	-	Q4 0	-	Q4 0	-	Q4 0	-	Q4 0	-	
2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half 0	-	2nd Half 0	-	2nd Half 0	-	2nd Half 0	-	
Year	55,163	4.6	Year 87,319	2.7	Year 80,461	1.0	Year 222,943	2.5	Year 593,538	2.0	

\* Table 9B Rural



**Traffic Volume Trends Urban\***  
**Estimated Vehicle Miles (Millions) and Percent Change from Same Period Previous Year**  
(Includes Preliminary Data for March 1998)

Year - 1997														
Urban Interstate		%	Urban Other Arterial		%	Other Urban		%	Total Urban		%	All Systems		%
Jan	27,311	2.9	Jan	65,662	2.6	Jan	26,241	2.0	Jan	119,214	2.5	Jan	188,506	2.7
Feb	26,373	2.8	Feb	63,023	2.7	Feb	25,127	2.4	Feb	114,523	2.7	Feb	182,386	3.3
Mar	30,539	2.5	Mar	71,061	2.6	Mar	28,846	2.9	Mar	130,446	2.7	Mar	210,760	3.2
Q1	84,223	2.7	Q1	199,746	2.6	Q1	80,214	2.5	Q1	364,183	2.6	Q1	581,652	3.1
Apr	29,616	1.7	Apr	70,937	1.8	Apr	28,353	1.0	Apr	128,906	1.6	Apr	208,128	1.4
May	31,099	1.6	May	73,483	0.7	May	29,889	0.8	May	134,471	0.9	May	221,722	1.4
Jun	30,763	2.7	Jun	72,070	1.8	Jun	29,292	1.8	Jun	132,125	2.0	Jun	219,746	1.9
Q2	91,478	2.0	Q2	216,490	1.4	Q2	87,534	1.2	Q2	395,502	1.5	Q2	649,596	1.6
1st Half	175,701	4.9	1st Half	416,236	2.0	1st Half	167,748	1.8	1st Half	759,685	2.0	1st Half	1,231,248	2.3
Jul	31,934	2.6	Jul	74,067	1.6	Jul	30,676	3.3	Jul	136,677	2.2	Jul	230,699	2.5
Aug	32,164	0.6	Aug	74,015	-0.6	Aug	30,692	2.1	Aug	136,871	0.3	Aug	231,269	1.0
Sep	29,660	1.6	Sep	69,321	-0.0	Sep	28,428	2.8	Sep	127,409	1.0	Sep	210,586	1.4
Q3	93,758	1.6	Q3	217,403	0.3	Q3	89,796	2.7	Q3	400,957	1.1	Q3	672,554	1.6
3 Qs	269,459	2.1	3 Qs	633,639	1.4	3 Qs	257,544	2.1	3 Qs	1,160,642	1.7	3 Qs	1,903,802	2.1
Oct	31,133	2.7	Oct	72,142	-0.4	Oct	29,502	1.9	Oct	132,777	0.8	Oct	218,549	1.3
Nov	28,653	1.0	Nov	67,241	-0.4	Nov	27,877	0.1	Nov	123,771	0.0	Nov	201,457	0.9
Dec	30,194	3.0	Dec	71,181	3.3	Dec	28,304	2.7	Dec	129,679	3.1	Dec	207,791	3.1
Q4	89,980	2.3	Q4	210,564	0.8	Q4	85,683	1.6	Q4	386,227	1.3	Q4	627,797	1.8
2nd Half	183,738	1.9	2nd Half	427,967	0.6	2nd Half	175,479	2.2	2nd Half	787,184	1.2	2nd Half	1,300,351	1.7
Year	359,439	2.1	Year	844,203	1.3	Year	343,227	2.0	Year	1,546,869	1.6	Year	2,531,599	2.0

Year - 1998														
Urban Interstate		%	Urban Other Arterial		%	Other Urban		%	Total Urban		%	All Systems		%
Jan	28,315	3.7	Jan	68,044	3.6	Jan	27,534	4.9	Jan	123,893	3.9	Jan	197,299	4.7
Feb	26,848	1.8	Feb	63,449	0.7	Feb	25,595	1.9	Feb	115,892	1.2	Feb	185,273	1.6
Mar	30,793	0.8	Mar	71,178	0.2	Mar	28,839	-0.0	Mar	130,810	0.3	Mar	210,966	0.1
Q1	85,956	2.1	Q1	202,671	1.5	Q1	81,968	2.2	Q1	370,595	1.8	Q1	593,538	2.0
Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-	Apr	0	-
May	0	-	May	0	-	May	0	-	May	0	-	May	0	-
Jun	0	-	Jun	0	-	Jun	0	-	Jun	0	-	Jun	0	-
Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-	Q2	0	-
1st Half	85,956	2.1	1st Half	202,671	1.5	1st Half	81,968	2.2	1st Half	370,595	1.8	1st Half	593,538	2.0
Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-	Jul	0	-
Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-	Aug	0	-
Sep	0	-	Sep	0	-	Sep	0	-	Sep	0	-	Sep	0	-
Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-	Q3	0	-
3 Qs	85,956	2.1	3 Qs	202,671	1.5	3 Qs	81,968	2.2	3 Qs	370,595	1.8	3 Qs	593,538	2.0
Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-	Oct	0	-
Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-	Nov	0	-
Dec	0	-	Dec	0	-	Dec	0	-	Dec	0	-	Dec	0	-
Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-	Q4	0	-
2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-	2nd Half	0	-
Year	85,956	2.1	Year	202,671	1.5	Year	81,968	2.2	Year	370,595	1.8	Year	593,538	2.0

\* Table 9B Urban

