

PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 30, 1946

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

During March 1946 traffic continued at a level slightly above that established in 1941, the previous all-time high. On the basis of preliminary estimates, total travel during March 1946 on rural roads exceeded the amount of such traffic in March of 1941 by one percent. Traffic on main highways was 4 percent above while that on local roads was 6 percent below the 1941 figures.

Traffic in the two western regions was 18 percent above corresponding 1941 counts; that in the central regions was one percent below; and that in the eastern regions was 6 percent below 1941 levels. In comparison with 1945 figures, traffic in the western regions increased 58 percent, that in the central regions 44 percent, and that in the eastern regions 52 percent.

Comparisons of city traffic in March 1946 with corresponding traffic in March 1945 are as follows:

6 stations in Chicago, Illinois +35.9 percent.
3 stations in Detroit, Michigan +24.4 percent.
1 station in Santa Fe, New Mexico +33.1 percent.
5 stations in St. Louis, Missouri +35.0 percent.
8 stations in Washington, D. C. +37.6 percent.

H. S. FAIRBANK, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Attachments

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
DATE: 10/15/54

Subject: [Illegible]

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TABLE 1.--PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA
FOR MARCH 1946 INCLUDING 514 STATIONS IN 38 STATES¹

Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from March 1945	Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from March 1945
<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i>			<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i>		
Alabama	8	+38.1	(Continued)		
Arizona	5	+55.7	Washington	10	+56.9
Arkansas	13	+38.7	West Virginia	11	+59.3
California	9	+69.6	Wisconsin	9	+47.1
Colorado	5	+38.5	Wyoming	5	+45.8
Connecticut	17	+74.6			
Delaware	6	+40.2	<i>TOTAL - 38 STATES</i>	481	+51.2
Georgia	5	+80.5			
Idaho	8	+52.9	<i>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Illinois	4	+40.2	Alabama	2	+55.5
Iowa	26	+50.1	Connecticut	3	+45.8
Kentucky	10	+46.7	Delaware	2	+26.6
Louisiana	8	+35.0	Georgia	4	+23.4
Maine	10	+62.2	Iowa	9	+22.2
Maryland	17	+48.0	Maryland	1	+23.5
Massachusetts	9	+52.6	Michigan	2	+35.2
Michigan	26	+33.2	Montana	2	+15.5
Mississippi	10	+47.2	Nebraska	1	+26.4
Montana	12	+55.6	North Dakota	2	-13.1
Nebraska	11	+43.2	Ohio	2	+46.0
Nevada	16	+65.1	Oregon	1	+73.9
New Mexico	14	+45.4	Rhode Island	1	+48.0
New York	2	+39.5	Wisconsin	1	+32.4
North Dakota	11	+93.8			
Ohio	22	+47.2	<i>TOTAL - 14 STATES</i>	33	+40.7
Oklahoma	20	+63.0			
Oregon	4	+86.8	<i>ALL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Pennsylvania	29	+46.6	<i>38 STATES</i>	514	+48.2
Rhode Island	3	+31.2			
South Dakota	10	+44.8	<i>3 EASTERN REGIONS</i>	132	+51.9
Texas	74	+41.1	<i>4 CENTRAL REGIONS</i>	281	+42.8
Utah	10	+39.4	<i>2 WESTERN REGIONS</i>	101	+58.5
Vermont	9	+53.7			
Virginia	3	+28.7			

¹Includes all States except Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
1/1/20	Opening Balance		100.00
1/5/20	Deposit	50.00	150.00
1/10/20	Withdrawal	20.00	130.00
1/15/20	Deposit	30.00	160.00
1/20/20	Withdrawal	10.00	150.00
1/25/20	Deposit	40.00	190.00
1/30/20	Withdrawal	15.00	175.00
2/5/20	Deposit	25.00	200.00
2/10/20	Withdrawal	35.00	165.00
2/15/20	Deposit	15.00	180.00
2/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	155.00
2/25/20	Deposit	35.00	190.00
2/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	180.00
3/5/20	Deposit	20.00	200.00
3/10/20	Withdrawal	30.00	170.00
3/15/20	Deposit	15.00	185.00
3/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	160.00
3/25/20	Deposit	35.00	195.00
3/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	185.00
4/5/20	Deposit	25.00	210.00
4/10/20	Withdrawal	35.00	175.00
4/15/20	Deposit	15.00	190.00
4/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	165.00
4/25/20	Deposit	35.00	200.00
4/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	190.00
5/5/20	Deposit	20.00	210.00
5/10/20	Withdrawal	30.00	180.00
5/15/20	Deposit	15.00	195.00
5/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	170.00
5/25/20	Deposit	35.00	205.00
5/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	195.00
6/5/20	Deposit	25.00	220.00
6/10/20	Withdrawal	35.00	185.00
6/15/20	Deposit	15.00	200.00
6/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	175.00
6/25/20	Deposit	35.00	210.00
6/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	200.00
7/5/20	Deposit	20.00	220.00
7/10/20	Withdrawal	30.00	190.00
7/15/20	Deposit	15.00	205.00
7/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	180.00
7/25/20	Deposit	35.00	215.00
7/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	205.00
8/5/20	Deposit	25.00	230.00
8/10/20	Withdrawal	35.00	195.00
8/15/20	Deposit	15.00	210.00
8/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	185.00
8/25/20	Deposit	35.00	220.00
8/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	210.00
9/5/20	Deposit	20.00	230.00
9/10/20	Withdrawal	30.00	200.00
9/15/20	Deposit	15.00	215.00
9/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	190.00
9/25/20	Deposit	35.00	225.00
9/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	215.00
10/5/20	Deposit	25.00	240.00
10/10/20	Withdrawal	35.00	205.00
10/15/20	Deposit	15.00	220.00
10/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	195.00
10/25/20	Deposit	35.00	230.00
10/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	220.00
11/5/20	Deposit	20.00	240.00
11/10/20	Withdrawal	30.00	210.00
11/15/20	Deposit	15.00	225.00
11/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	200.00
11/25/20	Deposit	35.00	235.00
11/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	225.00
12/5/20	Deposit	25.00	250.00
12/10/20	Withdrawal	35.00	215.00
12/15/20	Deposit	15.00	230.00
12/20/20	Withdrawal	25.00	205.00
12/25/20	Deposit	35.00	240.00
12/30/20	Withdrawal	10.00	230.00

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TABLE 2.--REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR
FEBRUARY 1946 INCLUDING 613 STATIONS IN 45 STATES¹

Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from Feb. 1945	Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from Feb. 1945
NEW ENGLAND			EAST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Connecticut	20	+67.5	Alabama	9	+41.7
Maine	10	+48.3	Kentucky	12	+58.3
Massachusetts	9	+45.4	Mississippi	10	+50.7
New Hampshire	8	+66.1	Tennessee	4	+77.9
Rhode Island	4	+25.8	Subtotal	35	+54.6
Vermont	9	+67.4			
Subtotal	60	+57.4	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL		
MIDDLE ATLANTIC			Arkansas	13	+84.5
New York	3	+39.0	Louisiana	8	+35.5
Pennsylvania	29	+61.5	Oklahoma	20	+67.8
Subtotal	32	+58.4	Texas	74	+41.9
			Subtotal	115	+47.1
SOUTH ATLANTIC			MOUNTAIN		
Delaware	8	+48.8	Arizona	5	+69.8
Maryland	18	+49.1	Colorado	6	+46.4
Virginia	3	+43.9	Idaho	8	+48.0
West Virginia	11	+64.4	Montana	14	+48.1
Subtotal north portion	40	+52.0	Nevada	16	+66.9
Florida	18	+85.4	New Mexico	13	+46.1
Georgia	9	+76.3	Utah	10	+39.6
North Carolina	20	+74.5	Wyoming	5	+57.9
Subtotal south portion	47	+79.3	Subtotal	77	+52.3
Subtotal region	87	+69.3	PACIFIC		
EAST NORTH CENTRAL			California	6	+81.4
Illinois	4	+47.8	Oregon	5	+75.7
Indiana	22	+59.1	Washington	10	+57.2
Michigan	28	+31.6	Subtotal	21	+69.0
Ohio	22	+52.0			
Wisconsin	10	+48.1	TOTAL ALL STATES²	613	+52.0
Subtotal	86	+44.9	STATE HIGHWAYS²	580	+57.4
WEST NORTH CENTRAL			LOCAL HIGHWAYS	33	+38.9
Iowa	35	+62.4			
Kansas ³	14	+43.8	3 EASTERN REGIONS	179	+54.3
Missouri	20	+84.0	4 CENTRAL REGIONS	336	+48.4
Nebraska	11	+50.3	2 WESTERN REGIONS	98	+58.3
North Dakota	12	+39.5			
South Dakota	8	+42.3			
Subtotal	100	+63.1			

¹Combined State and local highways

²Includes all States except the following: Minnesota, New Jersey, and South Carolina.

³Abnormal conditions in 1945 or 1946 affected 1 count in Kansas: excluding station 10, the increase is 67.7 percent.

TABLE 3.--NUMBER OF VEHICLES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPES, USING TOLL FACILITIES IN MARCH 1946 COMPARED WITH THOSE IN MARCH 1945 AND 1941.

Facilities	1946			Percentage change from 1945			Percentage change from 1941		
	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses
EASTERN REGIONS									
2 in the New England States	35,818	32,160	3,658	+30.2	+31.8	+17.7	+24.1	+21.7	+50.1
17 in the Middle Atlantic States	8,725,912	7,551,835	1,174,077	+53.0	+63.0	+9.8	+33.7	+34.5	+29.1
Fleetwood Viaduct, Westchester County, New York	355,445	355,445	--	+150.9	+150.9	--	+7.8	+7.8	--
Pennsylvania Turnpike	156,763	124,075	32,688	+87.1	+129.8	+9.6	+27.0	+23.6	+41.8
5 in the South Atlantic States	356,302	293,591	62,711	+73.6	+102.0	+4.8	+16.9	+18.2	+10.8
AL - 26 facilities ¹	9,630,250	8,357,116	1,273,134	+56.3	+67.1	+9.5	+31.7	+32.2	+28.4
AL - 30 facilities	10,154,820	8,825,446	1,329,374	+55.6	+66.3	+9.0			
CENTRAL REGIONS									
4 on the Great Lakes Canadian Border ²	348,684	306,391	42,293	+26.5	+29.6	+8.0	+92.9	+94.8	+80.1
2 in the Great Lakes Region	84,643	64,206	20,437	+57.4	+96.6	-3.2	+11.2	+26.6	-19.6
Subtotal - 6 facilities	433,327	370,597	62,730	+31.6	+37.7	+4.1	+68.7	+78.2	+28.3
on the Ohio River ³	473,717	398,158	75,559	+42.7	+49.3	+16.0	+21.5	+25.7	+3.4
in Kentucky	22,691	16,790	5,901	+85.1	+110.2	+38.2	+78.9	+87.4	+58.4
Subtotal - 8 facilities	496,408	414,948	81,460	+44.2	+51.0	+17.3	+23.3	+27.3	+6.1
9 on the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers St. Louis and North	1,008,368	819,226	189,142	+33.0	+42.6	+3.0	-7.5	-3.5	-21.4
2 on the Mississippi River south of St. Louis	52,415	40,039	12,376	+39.3	+60.0	-1.7	+14.0	+30.0	-18.5
Subtotal - 11 facilities	1,060,783	859,265	201,518	+33.3	+43.3	+2.7	-6.6	-2.4	-21.3
on the Missouri River	139,749	110,352	29,397	+40.9	+48.0	+19.3	+51.5	+58.6	+29.5
in the Missouri River area	3,833	3,127	706	+96.9	+105.6	+65.7	+5.4	+5.9	+3.1
Subtotal - 5 facilities	143,582	113,479	30,103	+41.9	+49.1	+20.1	+49.7	+56.5	+28.9
TOTAL - 30 facilities ¹	2,134,100	1,758,289	375,811	+35.9	+44.2	+7.1	+12.8	+18.3	-7.2
TOTAL - 35 facilities	2,313,065	1,904,150	408,915	+36.7	+44.2	+9.9			
WESTERN REGIONS									
1 in California	1,962,199	1,794,164	168,035	+35.4	+39.9	+0.6	+33.8	+31.3	+68.0
5 in the Oregon-Washington area	414,318	365,760	48,558	+95.2	+102.7	+52.8	+133.3	+132.4	+140.1
TOTAL - 6 facilities	2,376,517	2,159,924	216,593	+43.0	+47.7	+9.0	+44.6	+41.7	+80.1
UNITED STATES									
TOTAL - 62 facilities ¹	14,140,867	12,275,329	1,865,538	+50.5	+59.8	+8.9	+30.4	+31.6	+23.0
TOTAL - 71 facilities	14,844,402	12,889,520	1,954,882	+50.2	+59.3	+9.1			

¹These facilities have comparative data for 1946, 1945, and 1941 and are included in the larger total below.

²Two of these facilities are in Western New York and therefore are related to similar facilities in the Central States.

³Four of these facilities are between Ohio and West Virginia.

Year	Month	Day	Time	Location	Remarks
1950	Jan	1	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	2	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	3	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	4	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	5	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	6	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	7	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	8	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	9	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	10	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	11	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	12	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	13	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	14	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	15	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	16	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	17	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	18	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	19	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	20	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	21	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	22	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	23	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	24	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	25	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	26	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	27	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	28	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	29	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	30	10:00	...	...
1950	Jan	31	10:00	...	...

Year	Month	Day	Time	Location	Remarks
1950	Jan	1	10:00
1950	Jan	2	10:00
1950	Jan	3	10:00
1950	Jan	4	10:00
1950	Jan	5	10:00
1950	Jan	6	10:00
1950	Jan	7	10:00
1950	Jan	8	10:00
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1950	Jan	14	10:00
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1950	Jan	24	10:00
1950	Jan	25	10:00
1950	Jan	26	10:00
1950	Jan	27	10:00
1950	Jan	28	10:00
1950	Jan	29	10:00
1950	Jan	30	10:00
1950	Jan	31	10:00

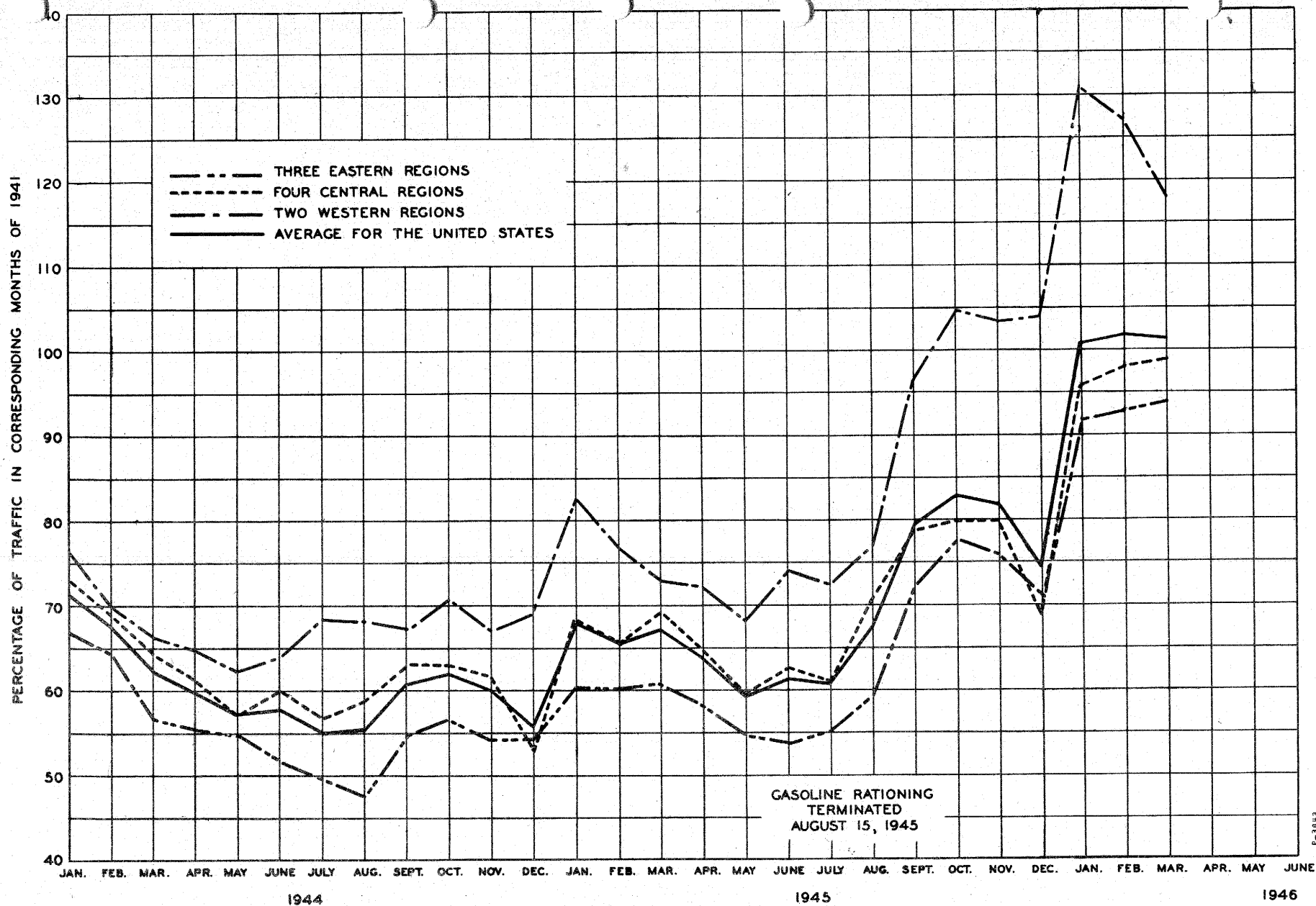
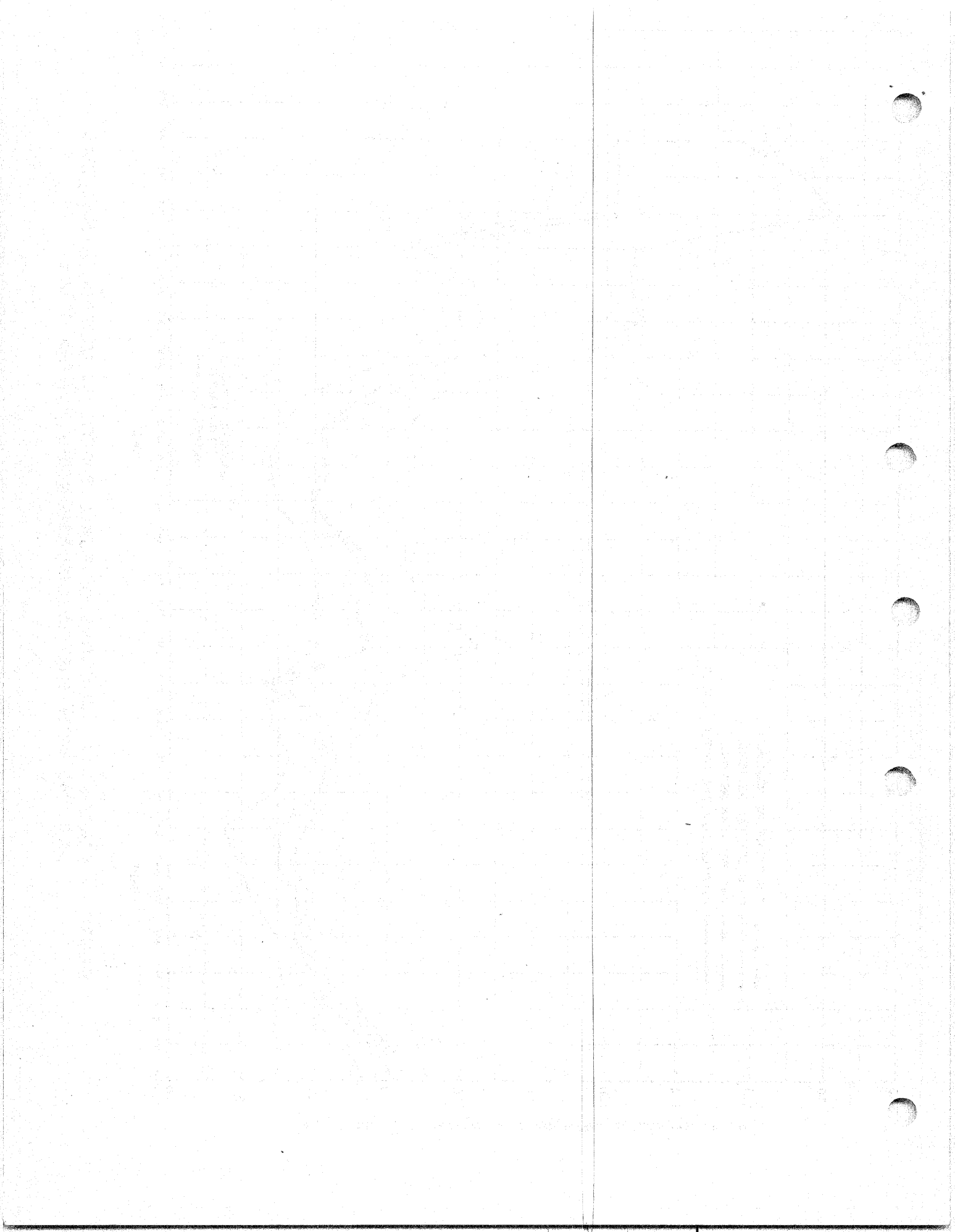


FIGURE 1.— PERCENTAGE RELATIONS OF RURAL TRAFFIC IN MONTHS OF 1944, 1945 AND 1946 WITH THAT IN CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1941.



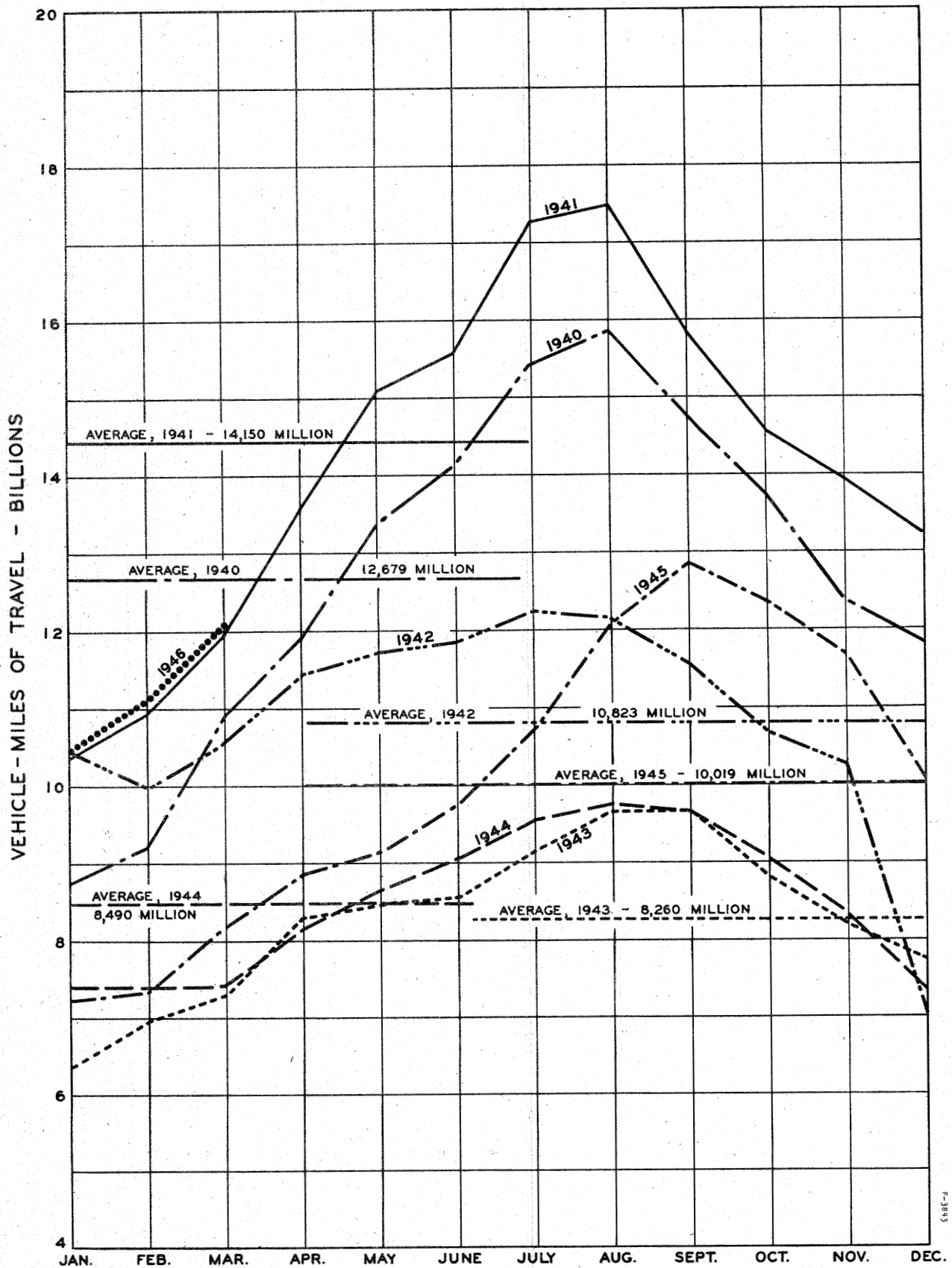
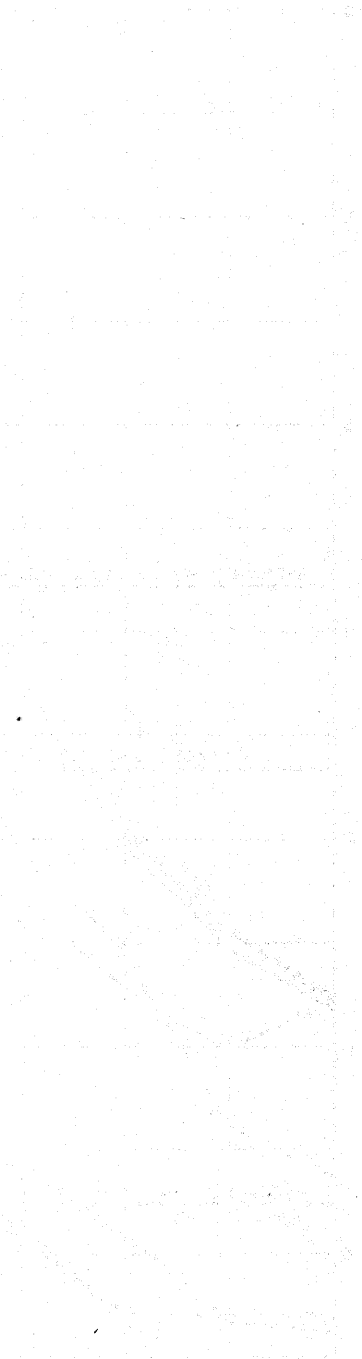
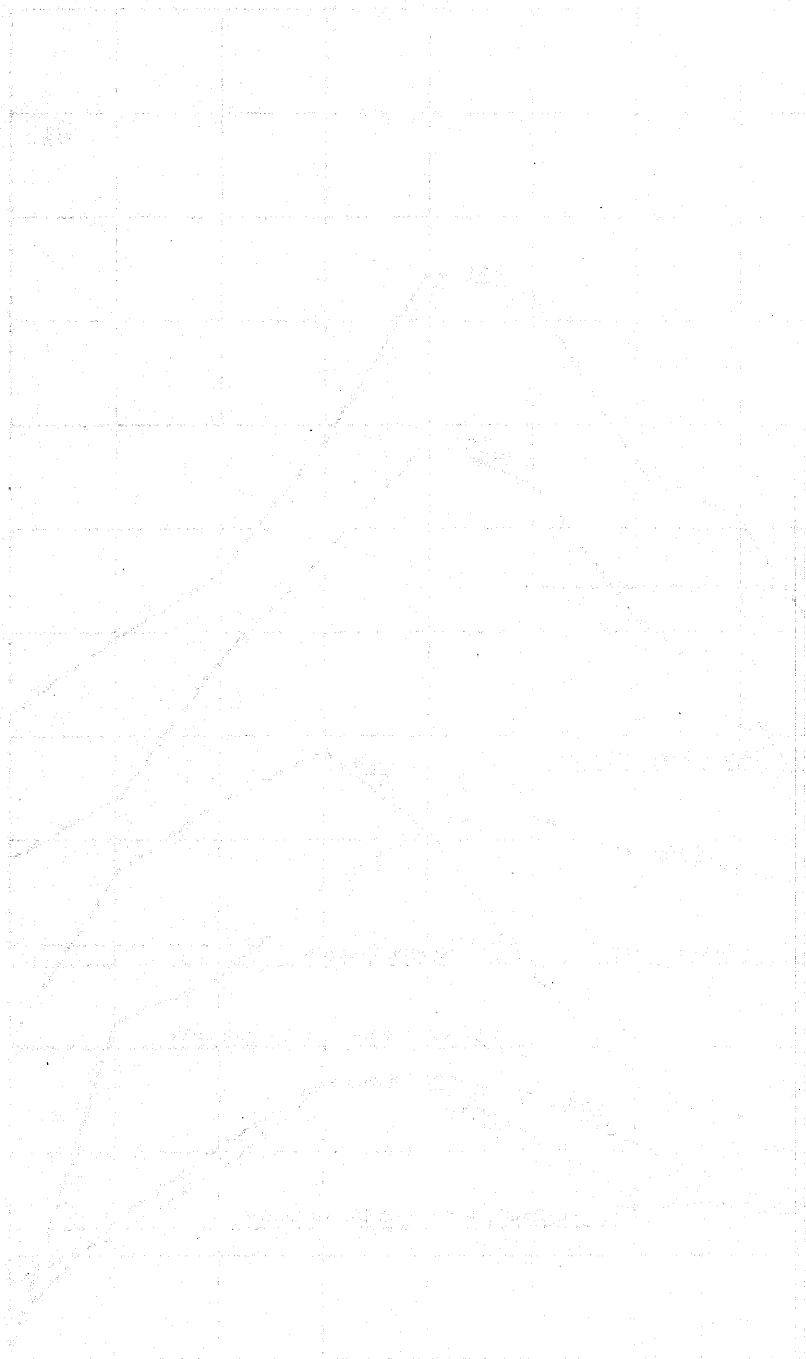


FIGURE 2.- VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS 1940 TO 1946 BY MONTHS.



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