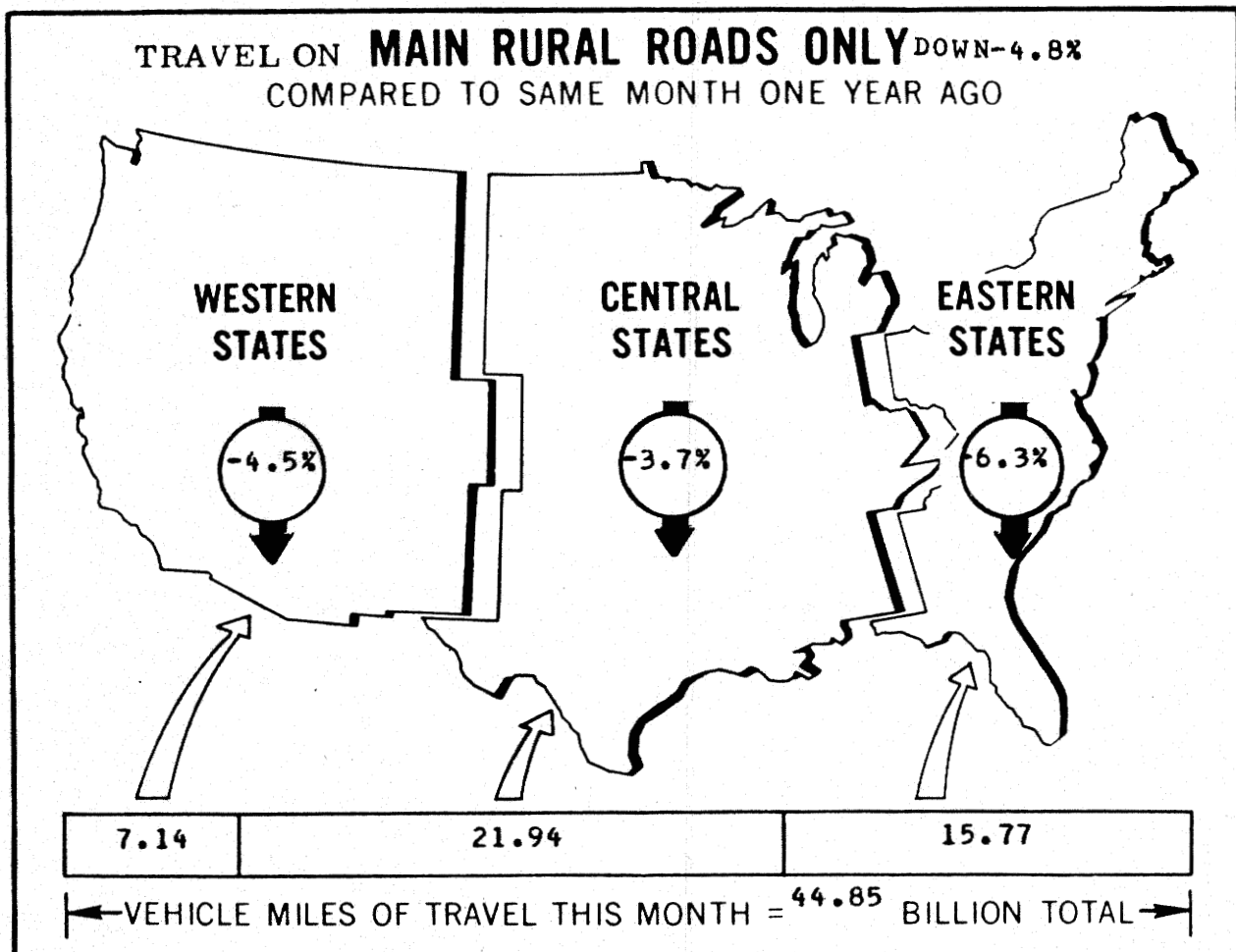


TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

SEPTEMBER 1979 ^{1/}

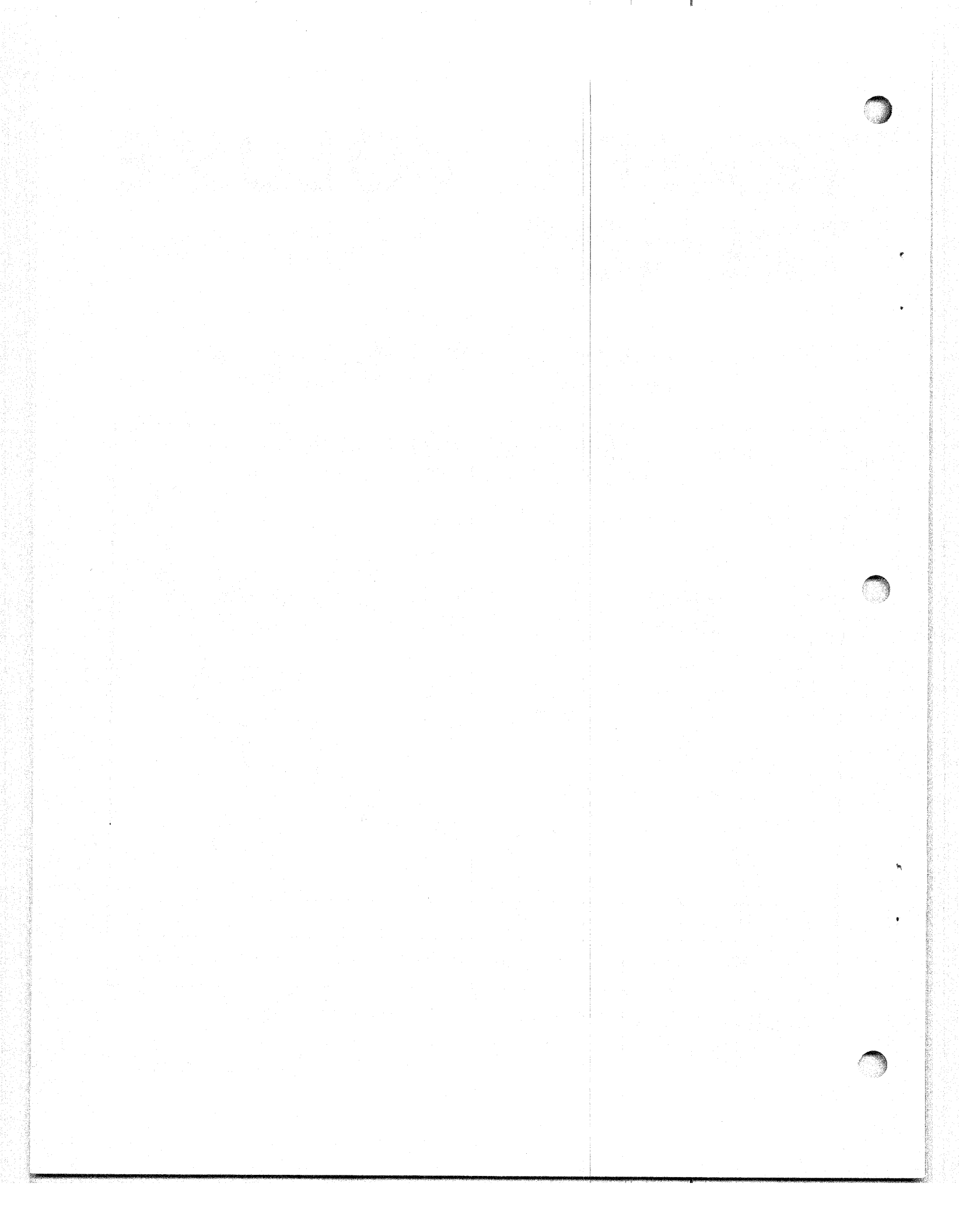
TRAVEL ON **ALL ROADS AND STREETS** DOWN-2.7%
COMPARED TO SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO



^{1/} ALL DATA FOR THIS MONTH ARE PRELIMINARY, REVISED VALUES FOR PREVIOUS MONTH ARE SHOWN IN TABLES 1 and 2.

NOTE: ALL VEHICLE MILES OF TRAVEL HAVE BEEN COMPUTED WITH 1976 VM-2 DATA AS A BASE.

FOR OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION



TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS - September 1979

Based on preliminary reports from the state highway agencies, travel during September 1979 on all roads and streets in the nation decreased by -2.7 percent as compared to September 1978, resulting in estimated travel for the month at 126,439 million vehicle miles. This total includes 45,135 million vehicle miles on main rural roads, 12,826 million vehicle miles on other rural roads, and 68,478 million vehicle miles on city streets.

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

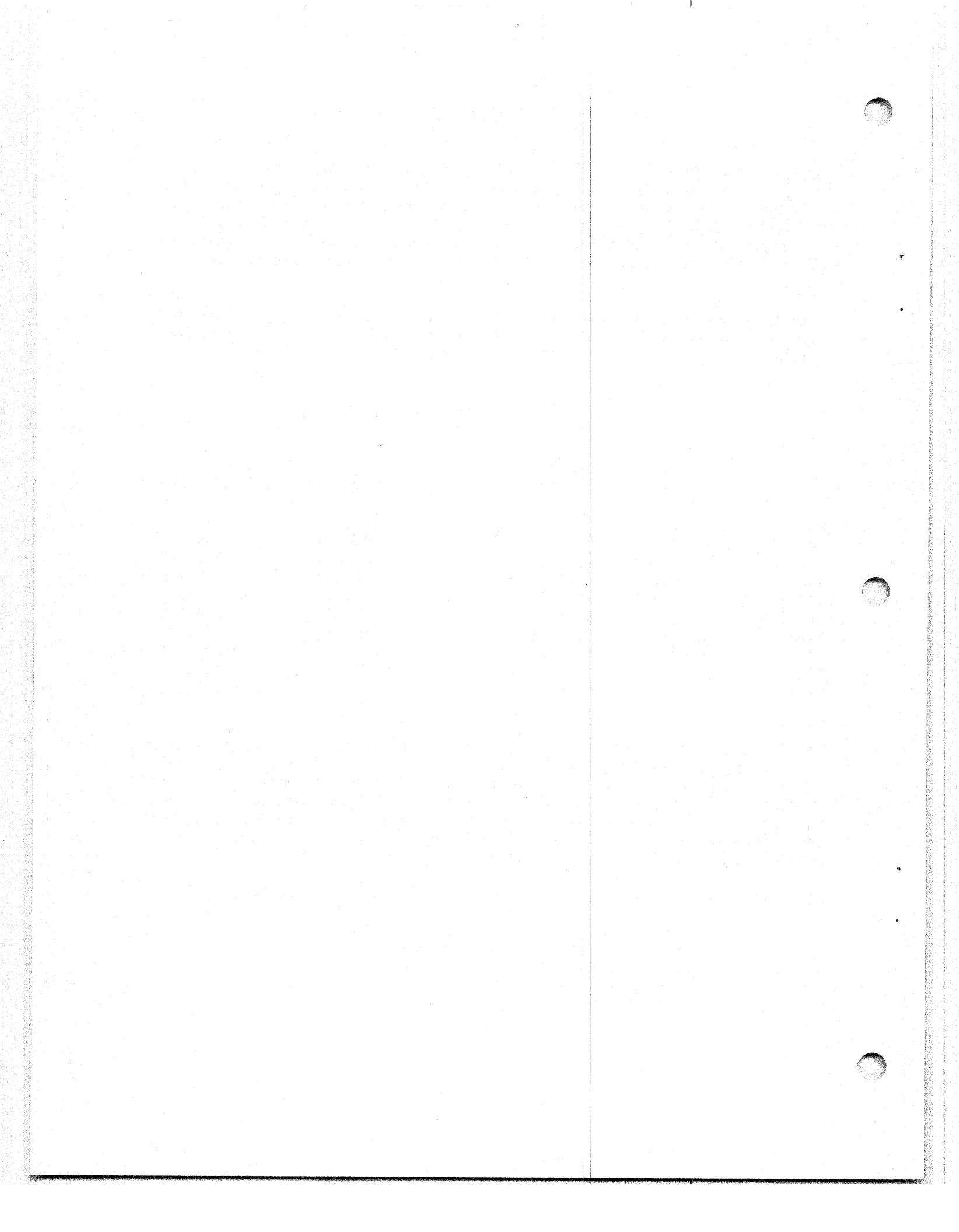
TRAVEL IN MILLIONS

	Main Rural Roads		All Roads and Streets	
	September	Year to Date	September	Year to Date
1970	35,839	313,166	95,254	844,416
1971	37,626	329,547	101,290	892,020
1972	39,163	341,113	108,072	957,690
1973	39,592	353,663	110,332	991,962
1974	37,920	336,019	109,125	966,911
1975	39,012	351,987	111,399	999,890
1976	42,828	379,919	119,431	1,061,927
1977	44,972	395,974	124,203	1,101,278
1978	47,370	413,528	129,917	1,138,232
1979	45,135	405,405	126,439	1,125,053

Traffic Volume Trends is a monthly report prepared by the Planning Services Branch, Highway Statistics Division, 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 period in the previous year to obtain travel for the current period.

For extra copies, or to be put on the monthly mailing list, contact:

Federal Highway Administration
 Office of Public Affairs, Room 4208
 400 7th Street, SW.
 Washington, D.C. 20590
 Phone (202) 426-0677.



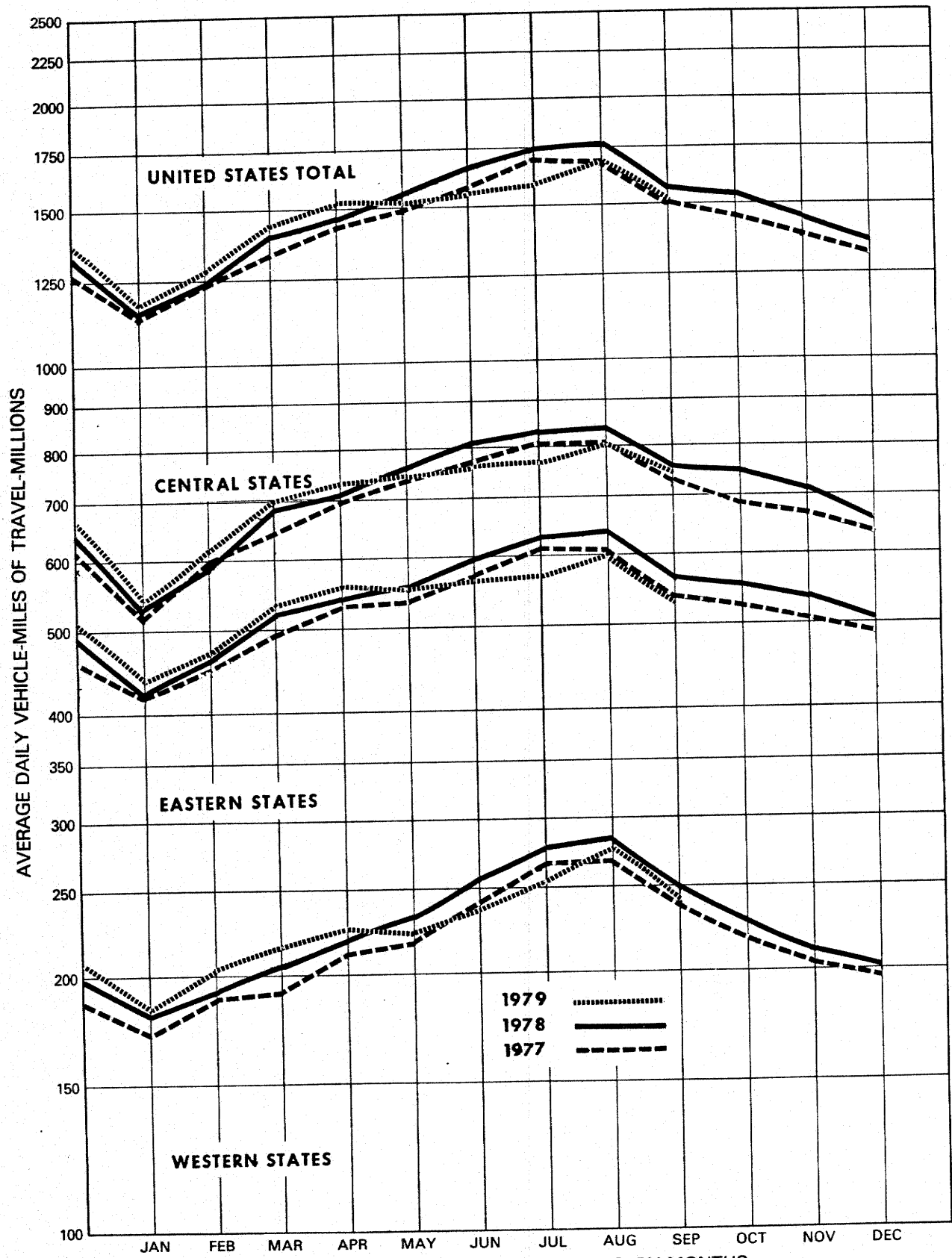
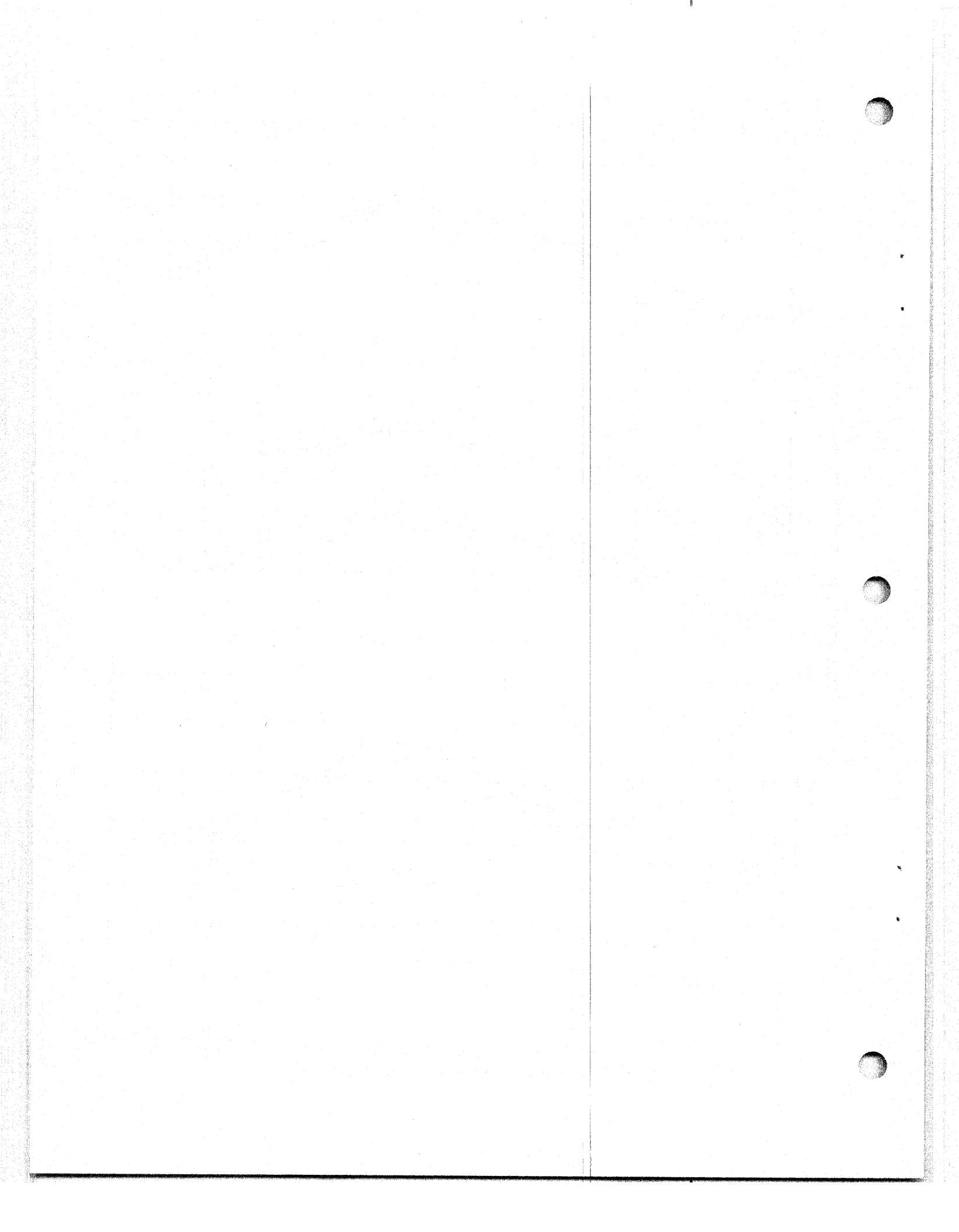


FIGURE 1 - TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS, BY MONTHS



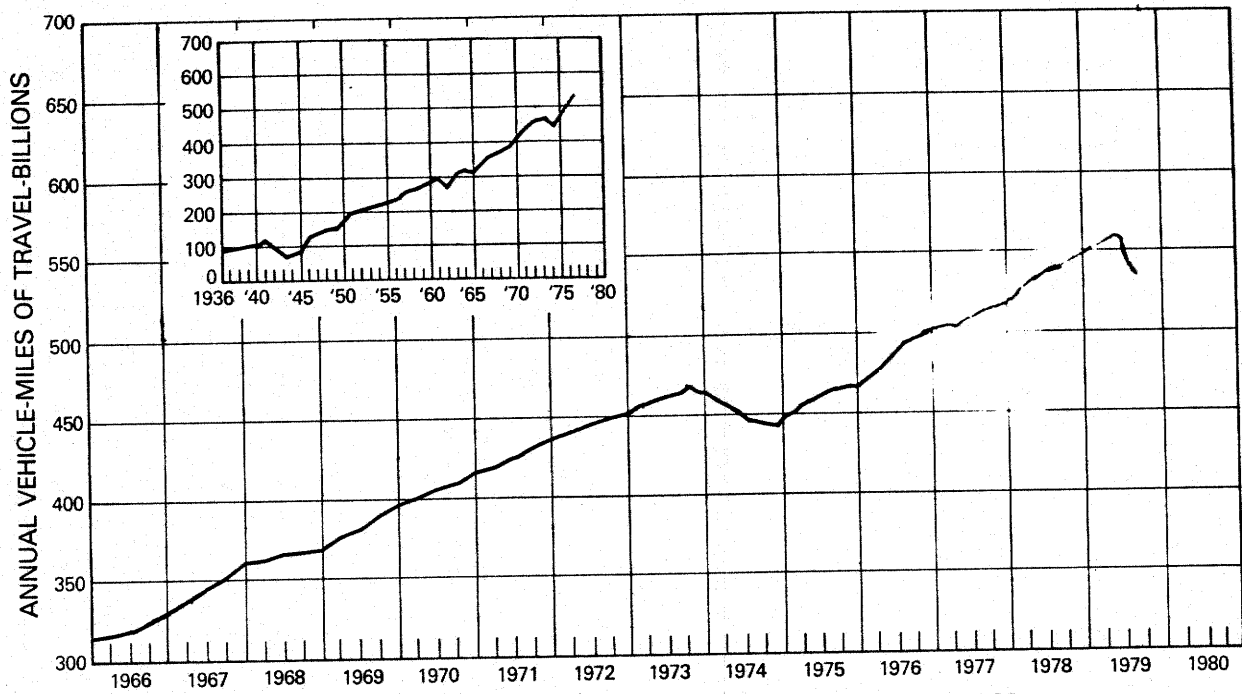


FIGURE 2 - ANNUAL TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS FOR 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING IN MONTH SHOWN

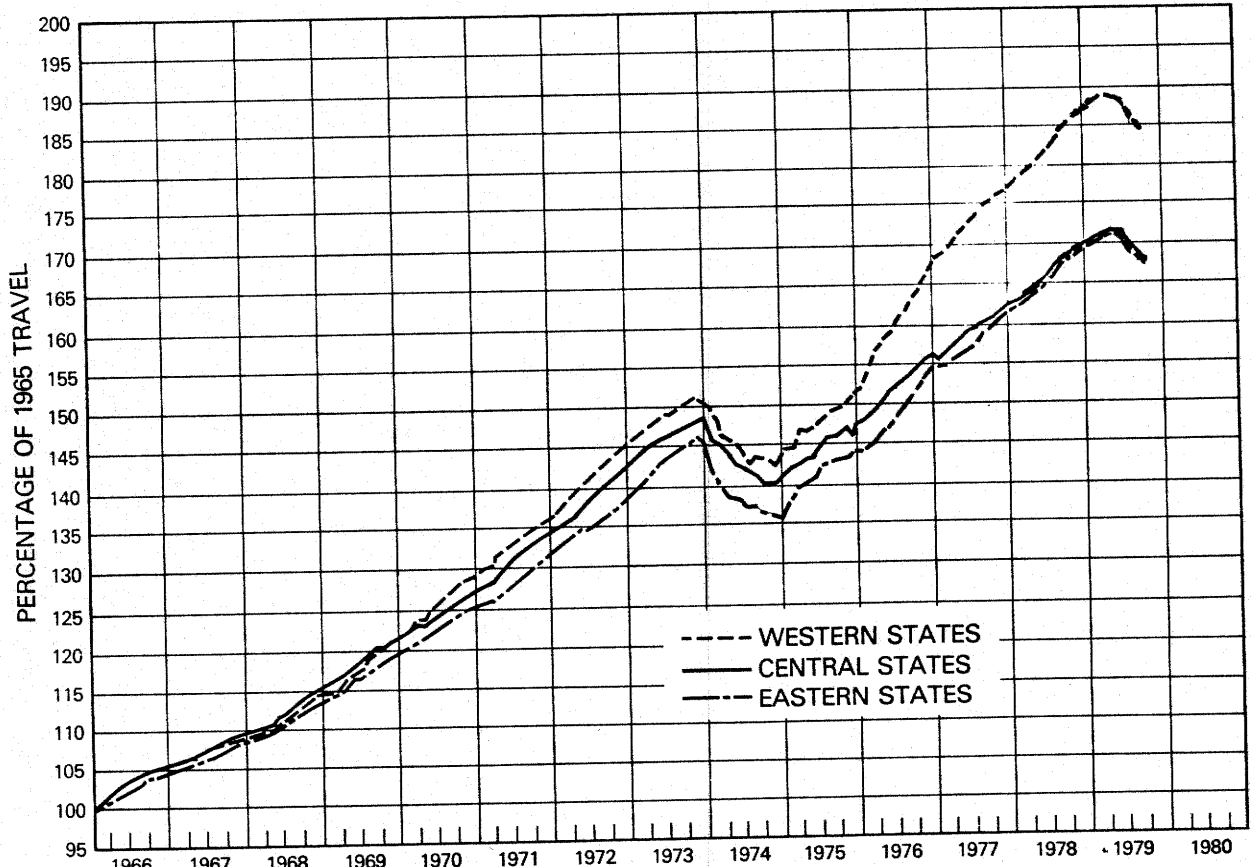


FIGURE 3 - ANNUAL TRAVEL ON MAIN RURAL ROADS AS PERCENTAGE OF YEAR 1965

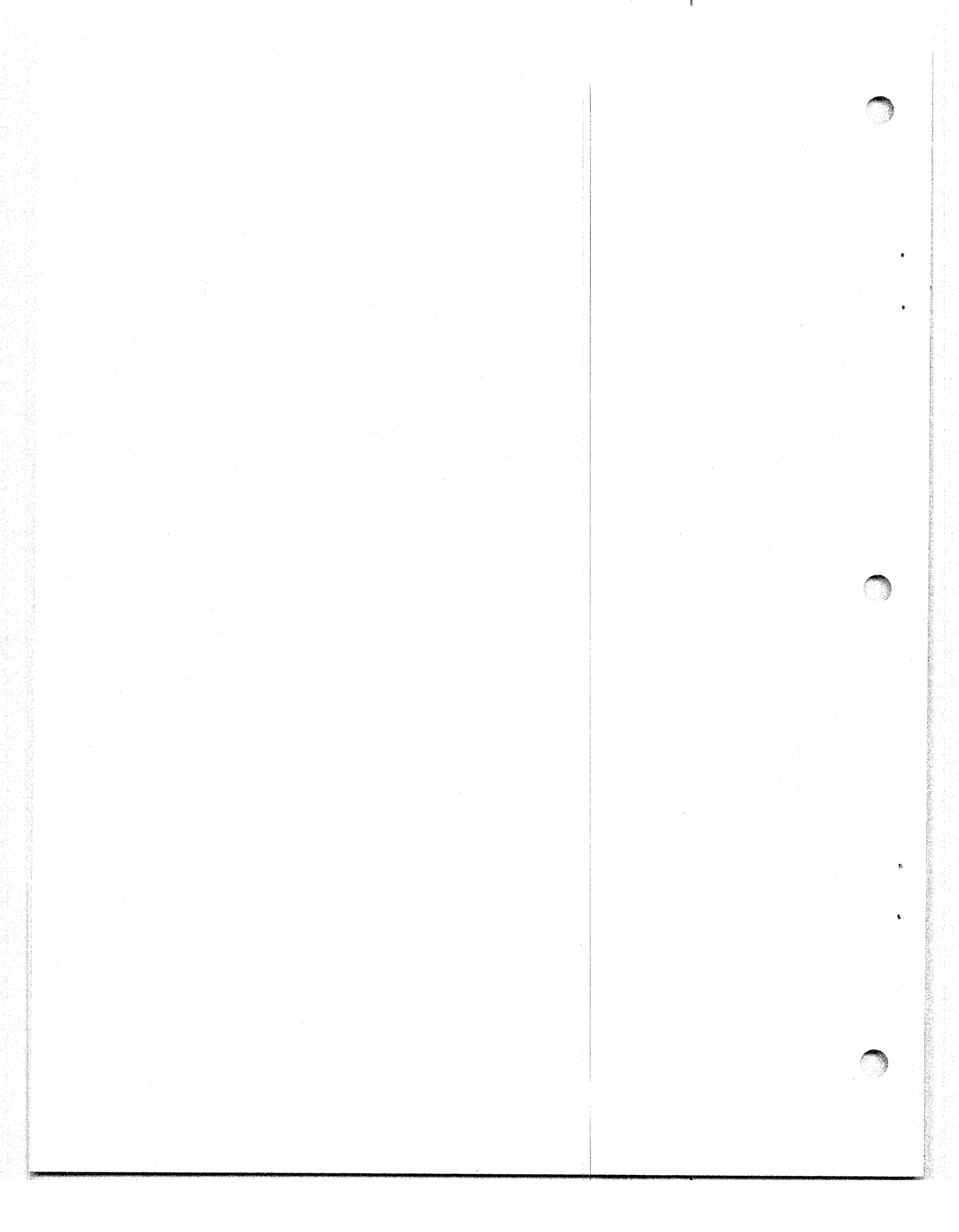


TABLE 1.-SUMMARY BY ROAD CLASS AND BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

CLASS OF ROAD, ALL STATES:	PRELIMINARY DATA FOR SEPTEMBER			REVISED DATA FOR AUGUST		
	VEHICLE-MILES (MILLIONS)		PERCENTAGE CHANGE	VEHICLE-MILES (MILLIONS)		PERCENTAGE CHANGE
	1979	1978		1979	1978	
MAIN RURAL ROADS.....	45,135	47,370	-4.7	52,290	54,952	-4.8
LOCAL RURAL ROADS.....	12,826	13,222	-3.0	14,080	14,438	-2.5
ALL RURAL ROADS.....	57,961	60,592	-4.3	66,371	69,390	-4.4
CITY STREETS.....	68,478	69,325	-1.2	71,139	73,304	-3.0
ALL ROADS AND STREETS.....	126,439	129,917	-2.7	137,509	142,695	-3.6
48 STATES (MAIN RURAL ONLY):						
EASTERN REGION.....	15,774	16,839	-6.3	18,553	19,619	-5.4
CENTRAL REGION.....	21,944	22,787	-3.7	24,976	26,186	-4.6
WESTERN REGION.....	7,137	7,473	-4.5	8,449	8,819	-4.2
TOTAL.....	44,855	47,099	-4.8	51,978	54,624	-4.8

TABLE 2.-CHANGES ON MAIN RURAL ROADS BY STATES

DIVISION AND STATE	SEPTEMBER (PRELIMINARY)		AUGUST (REVISED)		DIVISION AND STATE	SEPTEMBER (PRELIMINARY)		AUGUST (REVISED)	
	NUMBER OF STATIONS	PER-CENTAGE CHANGE	NUMBER OF STATIONS	PER-CENTAGE CHANGE		NUMBER OF STATIONS	PER-CENTAGE CHANGE	NUMBER OF STATIONS	PER-CENTAGE CHANGE
NEW ENGLAND:					EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:				
CONNECTICUT.....	-	-	6	- 7.4	ALABAMA.....	47	- 3.6	52	- 3.6
MAINE.....	20	- 7.3	21	- 7.2	KENTUCKY.....	37	- 3.2	37	- 4.8
MASSACHUSETTS.....	6	- 9.7	6	- 7.2	MISSISSIPPI.....	42	- 4.9	40	- 3.8
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	-	-	59	- 6.3	TENNESSEE.....	33	- 4.0	33	- 2.2
RHODE ISLAND.....	-	-	-	-	WEST NORTH CENTRAL:				
VERMONT.....	39	- 5.4	38	- 6.0	IOWA.....	36	- 2.8	36	- 6.3
MIDDLE ATLANTIC:					KANSAS.....	67	- 4.2	70	- 5.9
NEW JERSEY.....	-	-	15	- 5.1	MINNESOTA.....	29	- 4.4	30	- 5.9
NEW YORK.....	28	- 8.5	28	- 8.0	MISSOURI.....	73	- 5.1	74	- 5.9
PENNSYLVANIA.....	52	- 5.0	52	- 8.4	NEBRASKA.....	17	- 5.4	19	- 9.8
SOUTH ATLANTIC (NORTH):					NORTH DAKOTA.....	31	- 6.2	31	- 6.8
DELAWARE.....	13	- 5.8	18	- 4.3	SOUTH DAKOTA.....	35	- 7.6	35	-11.4
MARYLAND.....	32	- 1.8	32	- 2.1	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:				
VIRGINIA.....	-	- 2.5	-	- 4.2	ARKANSAS.....	20	- 3.3	25	- 4.2
WEST VIRGINIA.....	-	-	-	-	LOUISIANA.....	-	-	44	0.1
SOUTH ATLANTIC (SOUTH):					OKLAHOMA.....	-	-	34	0.8
FLORIDA.....	17	- 8.9	14	- 3.9	TEXAS.....	118	- 1.2	118	- 2.1
GEORGIA.....	-	-	-	-	MOUNTAIN:				
NORTH CAROLINA.....	43	- 4.3	46	- 4.1	ARIZONA.....	19	- 2.0	18	- 3.1
SOUTH CAROLINA.....	10	-10.3	10	- 3.4	COLORADO.....	41	- 2.6	42	- 4.5
EAST NORTH CENTRAL:					IDAHO.....	-	-	61	- 6.8
ILLINOIS.....	-	-	32	- 7.3	MONTANA.....	23	- 4.3	26	- 8.7
INDIANA.....	22	- 3.6	22	- 5.6	NEVADA.....	28	- 3.7	28	- 6.4
MICHIGAN.....	60	- 5.4	60	- 5.3	NEW MEXICO.....	-	-	30	- 5.9
OHIO.....	17	- 4.2	19	- 5.7	UTAH.....	-	-	46	- 5.0
WISCONSIN.....	46	- 3.8	46	- 6.2	WYOMING.....	37	- 0.4	36	- 3.8
ALASKA.....	-	-	-	-	PACIFIC:				
HAWAII.....	3	6.4	3	- 4.1	CALIFORNIA.....	16	- 2.9	16	- 1.6
					OREGON.....	-	-	-	-
					WASHINGTON.....	11	- 5.5	24	- 6.6

NOTE: 1-RURAL MILEAGE OF EACH MAJOR TOLL ROUTE IS CONSIDERED AS ONE OR MORE STATIONS, DEPENDING ON STATES' METHOD OF REPORTING.

2-WHERE THE NUMBER OF STATIONS IS SHOWN AS A DASH AND A VALUE FOR PERCENTAGE CHANGE IS INDICATED, THE LATTER VALUE IS BASED ON A STATEWIDE ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY THE HIGHWAY AGENCY DETERMINED FROM EXTENSIVE TRAFFIC SAMPLING SURVEYS.

3-WHERE THE NUMBER OF STATIONS AND THE PERCENTAGE CHANGE ARE SHOWN AS DASHES, SUFFICIENT INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE TO DETERMINE AN ESTIMATE.



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HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION
400 - 7TH STREET, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

TABLE 3.

ESTIMATED INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY MOTOR VEHICLE TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES ***

SYSTEM	MONTH											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
1978 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS*												
MAIN RURAL	34.6	35.0	44.2	44.3	48.5	50.3	54.3	55.0	47.4	48.0	44.0	42.8
LOCAL RURAL	9.5	9.4	11.2	12.3	13.6	13.6	14.4	14.4	13.2	13.4	12.0	11.1
URBAN	59.4	57.9	68.9	68.5	71.8	71.6	72.4	73.3	69.3	72.0	66.9	67.7
ALL SYSTEMS	103.5	102.3	124.4	125.0	133.9	135.4	141.2	142.7	129.9	133.4	122.8	121.6
1979 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS**												
MAIN RURAL	36.3	36.1	45.1	45.8	47.7	47.2	49.7	52.3	45.1			
LOCAL RURAL	9.6	9.6	11.6	12.5	13.5	13.2	14.0	14.1	12.8			
URBAN	61.9	60.0	71.2	69.1	70.0	68.5	68.5	71.1	68.5			
ALL SYSTEMS	107.8	105.7	127.9	127.4	131.1	128.9	132.2	137.5	126.4			
PERCENT CHANGE IN INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY TRAVEL 1979 VS. 1978												
MAIN RURAL	4.8	3.3	2.1	3.4	-1.6	-6.1	-8.5	-4.8	-4.7			
LOCAL RURAL	1.7	2.0	3.1	2.2	-1.1	-2.7	-3.0	-2.5	-3.0			
URBAN	4.3	3.6	3.4	0.8	-2.5	-4.4	-5.4	-3.0	-1.2			
ALL SYSTEMS	4.2	3.3	2.9	1.9	-2.0	-4.8	-6.3	-3.6	-2.7			

* THESE ARE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES WHICH WILL BE REVISED TO AGREE WITH FINAL ESTIMATES OF 1978 ANNUAL TRAVEL PROVIDED BY STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS.

** TO BE REVISED BASED ON 1978 FINAL TRAVEL ESTIMATES.

*** SYSTEM ENTRIES MAY NOT ADD TO TOTAL *ALL SYSTEMS* DUE TO ROUNDING.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT KENNETH WELTY, HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, 202-426-0160.



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TABLE 4.

ESTIMATED CUMULATIVE MONTHLY MOTOR VEHICLE TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES ***

SYSTEM	MONTH											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
1978 CUMULATIVE MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS*												
MAIN RURAL	34.6	69.6	113.8	158.1	206.6	256.9	311.2	366.2	413.5	461.6	505.6	548.4
LOCAL RURAL	9.5	18.9	30.1	42.4	56.0	69.5	84.0	98.4	111.6	125.0	137.0	148.1
URBAN	59.4	117.3	186.2	254.7	326.5	398.1	470.5	543.8	613.1	685.1	752.0	819.6
ALL SYSTEMS	103.5	205.8	330.1	455.1	589.0	724.5	865.6	1008.3	1138.2	1271.7	1394.5	1516.1
1979 CUMULATIVE MONTHLY VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL IN BILLIONS**												
MAIN RURAL	36.3	72.4	117.5	163.3	211.1	258.3	308.0	360.3	405.4			
LOCAL RURAL	9.6	19.2	30.8	43.3	56.8	70.0	84.0	98.1	110.9			
URBAN	61.9	121.9	193.1	262.2	332.1	400.6	469.2	540.3	608.8			
ALL SYSTEMS	107.8	213.5	341.5	468.9	600.0	728.9	861.1	998.6	1125.1			
PERCENT CHANGE IN CUMULATIVE MONTHLY TRAVEL 1979 VS. 1978												
MAIN RURAL	4.8	4.0	3.3	3.3	2.2	0.5	-1.0	-1.6	-2.0			
LOCAL RURAL	1.7	1.8	2.3	2.3	1.5	0.6	0.0	-0.3	-0.7			
URBAN	4.3	3.9	3.7	2.9	1.7	0.6	-0.3	-0.6	-0.7			
ALL SYSTEMS	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.0	1.9	0.6	-0.5	-1.0	-1.2			

* THESE ARE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES WHICH WILL BE REVISED TO AGREE WITH FINAL ESTIMATES OF 1978 ANNUAL TRAVEL PROVIDED BY STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS.

** TO BE REVISED BASED ON 1978 FINAL TRAVEL ESTIMATES.

*** SYSTEM ENTRIES MAY NOT ADD TO TOTAL "ALL SYSTEMS" DUE TO ROUNDING.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT KENNETH MELTY, HIGHWAY STATISTICS DIVISION, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION. 202-426-0160.

