

PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 1945

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

Immediately after gasoline rationing was removed on August 15, the States were requested through our Division Engineers to submit promptly, as the data became available, information concerning the total traffic counted by automatic recorders for the week preceding the removal of restrictions, the week of removal, and the three weeks following.

A large amount of information has been received from all sections of the country. Comparisons of traffic in the first two post-rationing weeks and on Labor Day with traffic at the same locations in comparable preceding periods are given in the attached tables.

H. S. FAIRBANK, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Attachment

PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 28, 1945

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

The news of the Japanese surrender and the ending of gasoline rationing spurred traffic during August in all sections of the country. Although rationing was not removed until the middle of the month, large traffic increases were found on all main highways on which recorders were operated except one lightly traveled section in Louisiana. Substantial increases likewise were found at all local road locations except two, one in Missouri and one in Rhode Island, where small decreases were found. In the eastern States traffic increased 24.2 percent over the 1944 estimates; in the central States the increase was 23.9 percent; in the mountain and western States it was 36.0 percent. Traffic in the entire country increased 26.0 percent, but still was 30.0 percent below the figures recorded for August 1941, the month of highest recorded traffic.

Labor Day traffic at 180 stations throughout the country was 58.7 percent greater than on Labor Day in 1944, but 27.3 percent less than on Labor Day 1941.

Comparisons of city traffic in August 1945 with corresponding traffic in August 1944 are as follows:

6 stations in Chicago, Illinois	+15.4
3 stations in Detroit, Michigan	+ 6.5
1 station in Santa Fe, New Mexico	+25.2
6 stations in St. Louis, Missouri	+ 4.9
13 stations in Washington, D. C.	+18.6

H. S. FAIRBANK, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Attachments

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

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The Adjutant General's Office is responsible for the management and control of the Army's personnel files. This includes the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of personnel information. The office also provides administrative support to the Adjutant General and his staff.

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TABLE 1.--PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR AUGUST 1945 INCLUDING 578 STATIONS IN 45 STATES¹

P-3116

Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from August 1944	Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from August 1944
<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i>			<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i>		
Alabama	8	+21.0	(Continued)		
Arizona	5	+31.1	Utah	10	+14.2
Arkansas	18	+38.0	Vermont	7	+40.1
California	4	+41.2	Virginia	3	+27.9
Colorado	5	+44.0	Washington	10	+33.7
Connecticut	17	+37.0	West Virginia	11	+20.7
Delaware	6	+16.1	Wisconsin	9	+30.7
Florida	14	+14.3	Wyoming	3	+20.0
Georgia	7	+19.3			
Idaho	7	+20.5	<i>TOTAL - 45 STATES</i>	<i>547</i>	<i>+28.7</i>
Illinois	4	+25.9			
Iowa	26	+24.5	<i>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Kansas	13	+15.4	Alabama	2	+ 9.8
Kentucky	12	+26.5	Connecticut	3	+19.6
Louisiana	1	-37.0	Delaware	2	+25.3
Maine	10	+34.9	Georgia	4	+15.6
Maryland	17	+18.6	Iowa	8	+11.7
Massachusetts	9	+27.7	Maryland	1	+13.7
Michigan	26	+27.5	Michigan	2	+26.6
Mississippi	10	+22.4	Missouri	1	- 1.1
Missouri	18	+28.2	Montana	2	+ 8.3
Montana	12	+14.5	North Dakota	1	+ 3.3
Nebraska	11	+28.0	Ohio	1	+14.6
Nevada	16	+45.9	Oregon	1	+ 1.7
New Hampshire	14	+38.6	Rhode Island	1	- 2.6
New Mexico	12	+28.0	Tennessee	1	+93.6
New York	4	+33.0	Wisconsin	1	+ 6.1
North Carolina	14	+29.3			
North Dakota	9	+27.8	<i>TOTAL - 15 STATES</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>+19.5</i>
Ohio	20	+24.7			
Oklahoma	20	+21.8	<i>ALL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Oregon	4	+62.6	<i>45 STATES</i>	<i>578</i>	<i>+26.0</i>
Pennsylvania	29	+23.8			
Rhode Island	3	+16.9	<i>3 EASTERN REGIONS</i>	<i>179</i>	<i>+24.2</i>
South Carolina	3	+12.7	<i>4 CENTRAL REGIONS</i>	<i>308</i>	<i>+23.9</i>
South Dakota	9	+26.3	<i>2 WESTERN REGIONS</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>+36.0</i>
Tennessee	5	+32.5			
Texas	72	+15.9			

¹Includes all States except Indiana, Minnesota, and New Jersey.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1950-01-01
1950-01-02
1950-01-03
1950-01-04
1950-01-05
1950-01-06
1950-01-07
1950-01-08
1950-01-09
1950-01-10
1950-01-11
1950-01-12
1950-01-13
1950-01-14
1950-01-15
1950-01-16
1950-01-17
1950-01-18
1950-01-19
1950-01-20
1950-01-21
1950-01-22
1950-01-23
1950-01-24
1950-01-25
1950-01-26
1950-01-27
1950-01-28
1950-01-29
1950-01-30
1950-01-31

TABLE 2.--REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR
JULY 1945 INCLUDING 622 STATIONS IN 45 STATES¹

P-3116

Region and State.	Number of stations	Percentage change from July 1944	Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from July 1944
<i>NEW ENGLAND</i>			<i>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL</i>		
Connecticut	20	+14.1	Alabama	9	+12.2
Maine	10	+15.5	Kentucky	11	+ 9.0
Massachusetts	9	+15.9	Mississippi	10	+12.5
New Hampshire	14	+17.8	Tennessee	8	+14.5
Rhode Island	4	+10.5	Subtotal	38	+11.8
Vermont	7	+21.8			
Subtotal	64	+15.4	<i>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL</i>		
<i>MIDDLE ATLANTIC</i>			Arkansas ³	17	+25.0
New York	3	+12.3	Oklahoma	20	+ 9.7
Pennsylvania	29	+12.4	Texas	72	+ 6.0
Subtotal	32	+12.3	Subtotal	109	+ 8.1
<i>SOUTH ATLANTIC</i>			<i>MOUNTAIN</i>		
Delaware	8	+ 4.9	Arizona	5	+21.1
Maryland	18	+ 6.1	Colorado	6	+30.7
Virginia	4	+16.1	Idaho	8	+12.0
West Virginia	10	+13.5	Montana	14	+10.0
Subtotal north portion	40	+ 8.0	Nevada	16	+16.9
Florida	16	+13.4	New Mexico	12	+18.5
Georgia	11	+ 9.4	Utah	10	- 0.8
North Carolina	20	+11.9	Wyoming	4	+10.0
South Carolina	4	+ 5.8	Subtotal	75	+14.7
Subtotal south portion	51	+11.3	<i>PACIFIC</i>		
Subtotal region	91	+ 9.8	California	6	+23.8
<i>EAST NORTH CENTRAL</i>			Oregon	4	+18.3
Illinois	5	+ 9.0	Washington	10	+12.1
Indiana	22	+11.1	Subtotal	20	+16.9
Michigan	28	+ 8.8	<i>TOTAL ALL STATES</i> ²	622	+11.5
Ohio	22	+ 6.4	<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i> ²	588	+12.6
Wisconsin	11	+16.1	<i>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</i>	34	+ 8.7
Subtotal	88	+ 9.7	<i>3 EASTERN REGIONS</i>	187	+11.6
<i>WEST NORTH CENTRAL</i>			<i>4 CENTRAL REGIONS</i>	340	+ 9.9
Iowa	33	+ 8.0	<i>2 WESTERN REGIONS</i>	95	+16.1
Kansas	13	+ 6.2			
Missouri	26	+13.8			
Nebraska	11	+17.0			
North Dakota	12	- 4.2			
South Dakota	10	+17.9			
Subtotal	105	+11.0			

¹Combined State and local highways.

²Includes all States except Louisiana, Minnesota, and New Jersey.

³Abnormal conditions in 1944 or 1945 affected counts in the following States: Arkansas, excluding station 21, the increase is 12.1 percent.

Name	Address	City	State
John Doe	123 Main St	New York	NY
Jane Smith	456 Elm St	Los Angeles	CA
Bob Johnson	789 Oak St	Chicago	IL
Alice Brown	101 Pine St	Houston	TX
Charlie White	202 Cedar St	Phoenix	AZ
Diana Green	303 Birch St	Philadelphia	PA
Ethan Black	404 Walnut St	San Francisco	CA
Fiona Grey	505 Maple St	Dallas	TX
George King	606 Spruce St	Austin	TX
Helen Lee	707 Ash St	Jacksonville	FL
Ivan Miller	808 Hickory St	Portland	OR
Julia Ward	909 Redwood St	San Jose	CA
Kevin Young	1010 Sycamore St	Denver	CO
Lara Hall	1111 Cypress St	Seattle	WA
Michael King	1212 Dogwood St	Boston	MA
Nancy Baker	1313 Magnolia St	Nashville	TN
Oscar Hill	1414 Poplar St	New Orleans	LA
Pamela Green	1515 Tulip St	San Diego	CA
Quinn White	1616 Violet St	Miami	FL
Randy Black	1717 Zinnia St	Las Vegas	NV
Sara Grey	1818 Camellia St	San Antonio	TX
Timothy King	1919 Gardenia St	Houston	TX

TABLE 3.--NUMBER OF VEHICLES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPES, USING TOLL FACILITIES
IN AUGUST 1945 COMPARED WITH THOSE IN AUGUST 1944 AND 1941

P-3116

Facilities	1945			Percentage change from 1944			Percentage change from 1941		
	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses
THREE EASTERN REGIONS									
3 in the New England States	58,420	54,810	3,610	+48.9	+52.4	+10.3	-56.0	-57.2	-26.3
8 in the Middle Atlantic States	3,027,286	2,675,674	351,612	+17.9	+20.6	+ 0.5	-22.2	-24.2	- 2.1
5 in the South Atlantic States	404,586	334,192	90,394	+17.4	+24.5	- 7.7	-30.0	-33.2	- 9.7
TOTAL - 16 facilities ¹	3,490,292	3,064,676	425,616	+18.2	+21.5	- 0.9	-24.1	-26.3	- 3.7
TOTAL - 22 facilities	4,388,894	3,856,135	532,759	+17.5	+21.5	- 2.9			
FOUR CENTRAL REGIONS									
1 on the Great Lakes Canadian Border ²	722,267	675,112	47,155	+53.0	+56.5	+15.6	+11.4	+ 8.4	+84.9
2 in the Great Lakes Region	166,835	145,551	21,284	+62.2	+77.3	+ 2.5	-36.7	-39.8	- 2.2
Subtotal - 6 facilities	889,102	820,663	68,439						
9 on the Ohio River ³	590,114	490,178	99,936	+29.8	+33.4	+14.6	-22.2	-25.5	- 0.9
2 in Kentucky	20,051	14,408	5,643	+24.6	+31.4	+10.0	+27.1	+20.4	+48.3
Subtotal - 11 facilities	610,165	504,586	105,578						
1 on the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers St. Louis and North	1,069,316	871,991	197,325	+16.3	+22.4	- 4.7	-41.6	-43.3	-32.9
3 on the Mississippi River south of St. Louis	91,269	69,275	21,994	+14.4	+21.5	- 3.3	+ 3.4	+ 5.3	- 2.2
Subtotal - 12 facilities	1,160,585	941,266	219,319						
3 on the Missouri River	132,739	107,549	25,190	+20.6	+22.5	+12.8	- 6.9	- 8.1	- 1.6
1 in the Missouri River Area	3,169	2,768	401	+83.1	+101.2	+13.0	-23.4	-25.0	- 9.9
Subtotal - 4 facilities	135,908	110,317	25,591						
3 on the Mexican Border	56,441	49,893	6,548	+ 7.6	+18.0	-35.7			
TOTAL - 33 facilities ¹	2,795,760	2,376,832	418,928	+29.6	+35.8	+ 3.1	-25.5	-27.0	-15.3
TOTAL - 40 facilities	3,054,274	2,600,345	453,929	+28.6	+34.5	+ 1.6			
TWO WESTERN REGIONS									
1 in California	1,852,721	1,672,739	179,982	+31.1	+34.3	+ 7.4	+ 4.9	+ 2.5	+35.0
4 in the Oregon-Washington Area	326,642	285,449	41,193	+46.7	+52.6	+15.6	+20.1	+18.2	+35.0
TOTAL - 5 facilities	2,179,363	1,958,188	221,175	+33.2	+36.7	+ 8.8	+ 6.9	+ 4.5	+35.0
UNITED STATES									
TOTAL - 54 facilities ¹	8,465,415	7,399,696	1,065,719	+25.5	+29.7	+ 2.6	-18.5	-20.4	- 3.1
TOTAL - 67 facilities	9,622,531	8,414,668	1,207,863	+24.2	+28.5	+ 0.8			
SUPPLEMENTAL DATA									
3 facilities reporting only total traffic	171,226			+ 4.0					

¹These facilities have comparative data for 1945, 1944, and 1941 and are included in the larger total below.

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

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

Date	Description	Amount
1950-01-01	Balance	100.00
1950-01-15	Deposit	50.00
1950-02-01	Withdrawal	25.00
1950-02-15	Deposit	75.00
1950-03-01	Withdrawal	30.00
1950-03-15	Deposit	60.00
1950-04-01	Withdrawal	40.00
1950-04-15	Deposit	80.00
1950-05-01	Withdrawal	50.00
1950-05-15	Deposit	90.00
1950-06-01	Withdrawal	60.00
1950-06-15	Deposit	100.00
1950-07-01	Withdrawal	70.00
1950-07-15	Deposit	110.00
1950-08-01	Withdrawal	80.00
1950-08-15	Deposit	120.00
1950-09-01	Withdrawal	90.00
1950-09-15	Deposit	130.00
1950-10-01	Withdrawal	100.00
1950-10-15	Deposit	140.00
1950-11-01	Withdrawal	110.00
1950-11-15	Deposit	150.00
1950-12-01	Withdrawal	120.00
1950-12-15	Deposit	160.00
1951-01-01	Balance	170.00

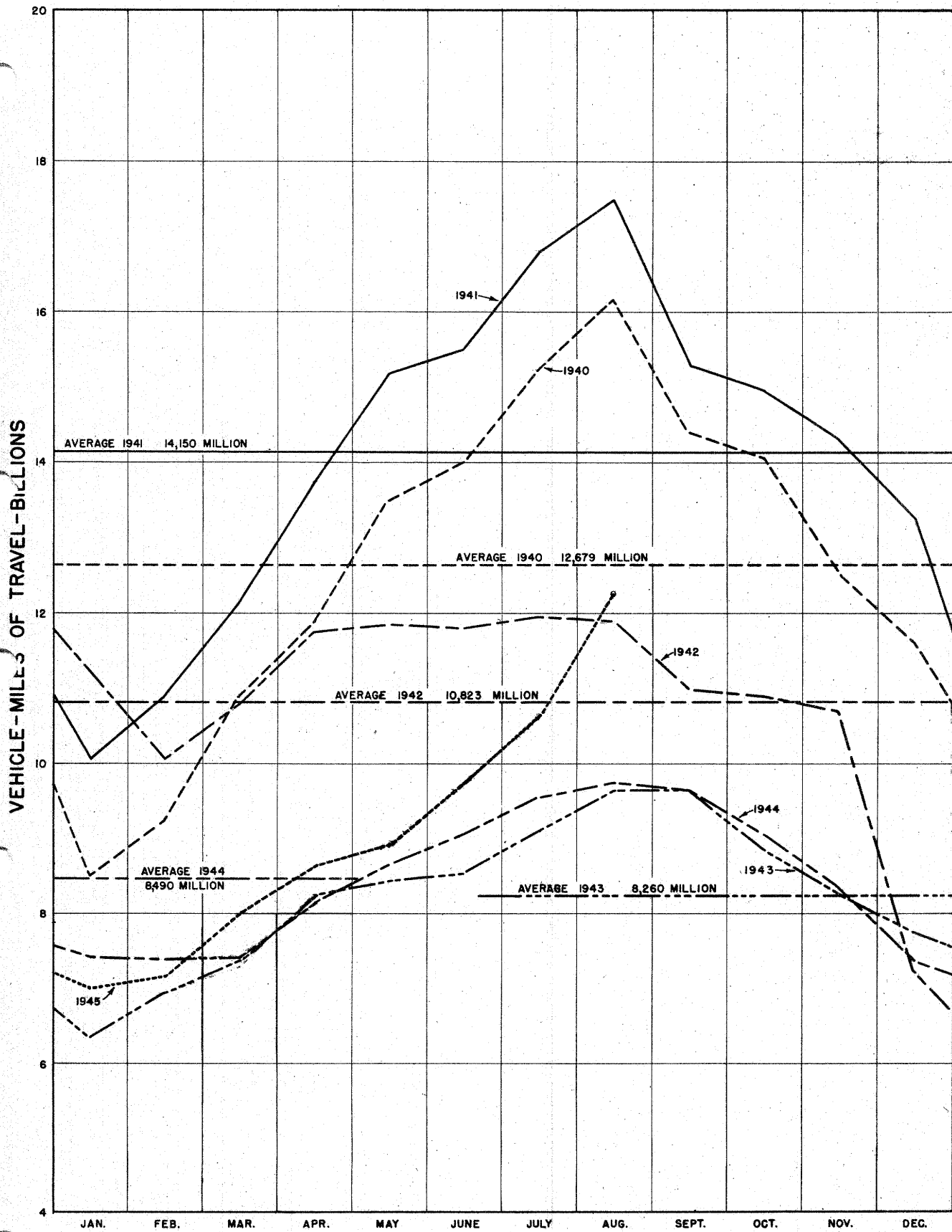


FIGURE I.—VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS
1940 TO 1945 BY MONTHS.

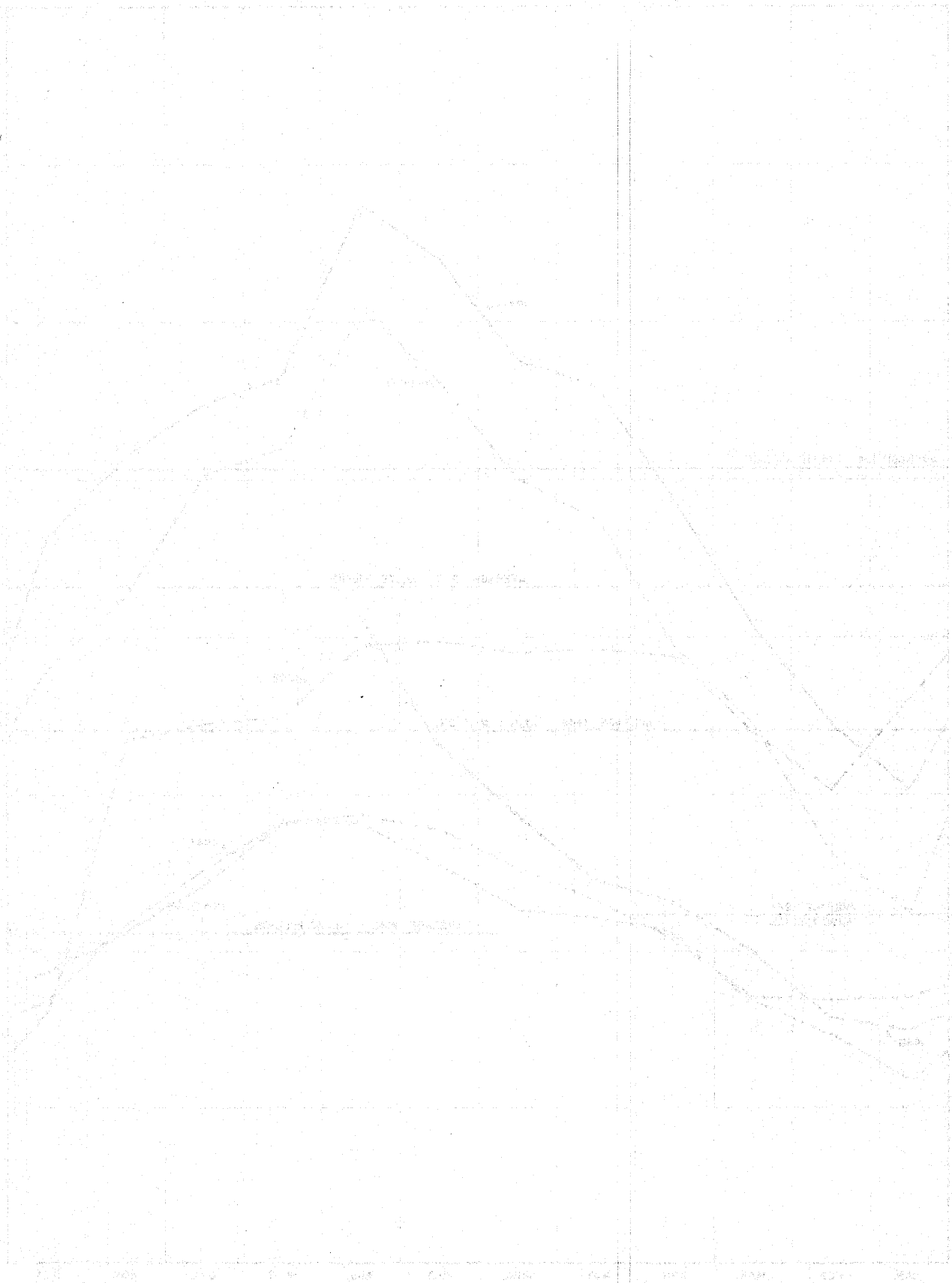


FIGURE 1 - MONTHLY VALUES OF TRAVEL BY ALL-STATE ROADS
 AND TO 1948 BY WEIGHT

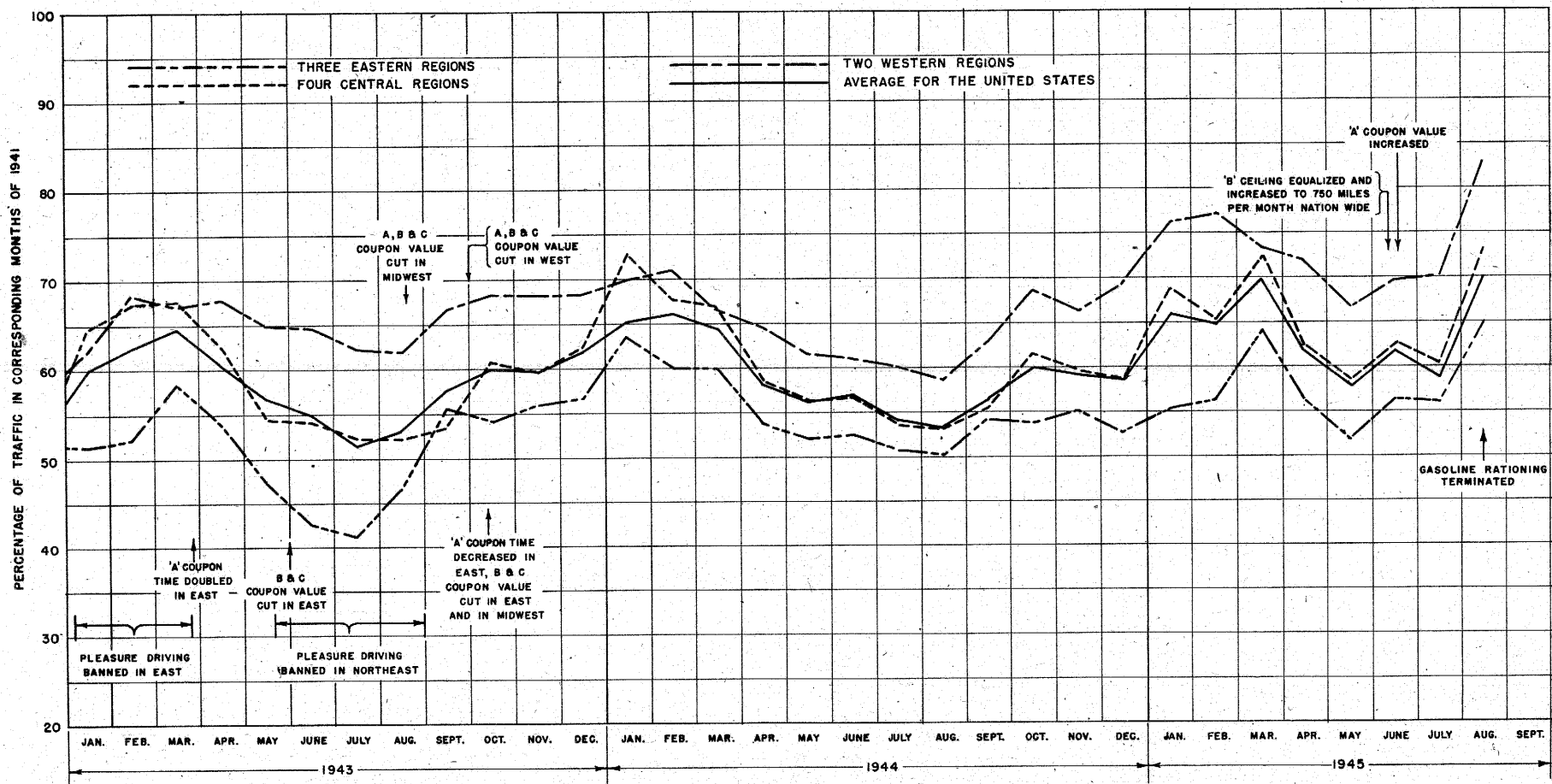
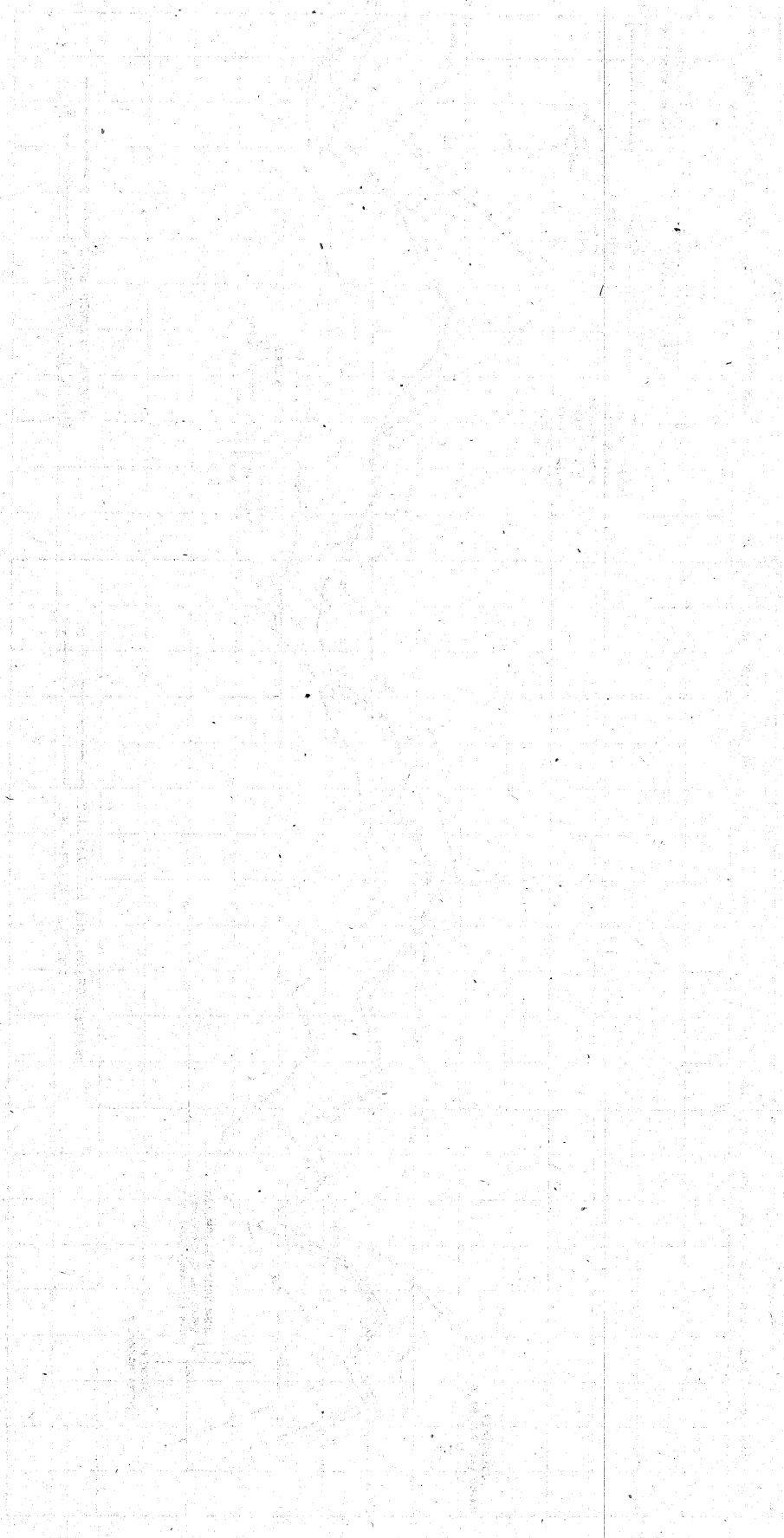


FIGURE 2.- PERCENTAGE RELATIONS OF RURAL TRAFFIC IN MONTHS OF 1943 1944 AND 1945 WITH THAT IN CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1941



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