

PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION  
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

GAM 238  
ND

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 31, 1945

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

In November large traffic increases were found on all main highways compared to November 1944, these increases being larger in most States than those found at comparable locations in the previous month. Increases of over 80 percent were found in California, and traffic in several other States increased around 60 percent.

On local roads, increases over November 1944 were found at all points except one in Wisconsin. In general, however, these increases were smaller than those on main highways.

Traffic in the two western regions was 5.1 percent above corresponding 1941 counts, while that in the four central regions was 15.4 percent below, and that in the three eastern regions 21.0 percent below the 1941 figures. For the United States as a whole, the traffic was 39.7 percent above the 1944 levels but still 2.4 percent below that of 1940, and 13.9 percent below that of 1941.

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

6 stations in Chicago, Illinois +20.1 percent.  
3 stations in Detroit, Michigan + 9.9 percent.  
1 station in Santa Fe, New Mexico +20.1 percent.  
5 stations in St. Louis, Missouri +23.9 percent.

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

Attachments

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TABLE 1.--PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR NOVEMBER 1945 INCLUDING 552 STATIONS IN 41 STATES<sup>1</sup>

P-3440

Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from Nov. 1944	Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from Nov. 1944
<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i>			<i>STATE HIGHWAYS (Continued)</i>		
Alabama	8	+30.2	Vermont	7	+47.9
Arizona	5	+56.9	Virginia	2	+37.5
Arkansas	13	+44.4	Washington	10	+42.7
California	6	+84.3	West Virginia	11	+37.6
Colorado	6	+35.0	Wisconsin	9	+27.4
Connecticut	17	+57.9	Wyoming	5	+58.2
Delaware	6	+30.7			
Florida	17	+40.8	<i>TOTAL - 41 STATES</i>	523	+45.0
Idaho	8	+32.2	<i>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Illinois	5	+29.2	Alabama	2	+21.6
Indiana	21	+43.3	Connecticut	3	+19.9
Iowa	25	+36.8	Delaware	2	+42.9
Kansas <sup>2</sup>	13	+19.7	Indiana	1	+19.5
Kentucky	12	+53.3	Iowa	9	+15.4
Maine	10	+38.7	Michigan	2	+39.6
Michigan	26	+32.9	Montana	2	+28.4
Mississippi	10	+34.6	Nebraska	1	+23.9
Montana	12	+31.9	North Dakota	2	+11.0
Nebraska	11	+52.9	Ohio	2	+17.1
Nevada	16	+60.3	Oregon	1	+40.3
New Hampshire	14	+56.7	Rhode Island	1	+25.0
New Mexico	12	+43.2	Wisconsin	1	-18.4
New York	2	+56.6			
North Carolina	20	+46.6	<i>TOTAL - 13 STATES</i>	29	+26.7
North Dakota	8	+54.6	<i>ALL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Ohio	21	+38.5	<i>41 STATES</i>	552	+39.7
Oklahoma	20	+48.1	<i>3 EASTERN REGIONS</i>	144	+38.2
Oregon	4	+55.0	<i>4 CENTRAL REGIONS</i>	312	+36.4
Pennsylvania	29	+39.0	<i>2 WESTERN REGIONS</i>	96	+52.7
Rhode Island	2	+19.1			
South Carolina	1	+38.6			
South Dakota	10	+45.2			
Tennessee	7	+37.5			
Texas	73	+32.1			
Utah	9	+22.9			

<sup>1</sup>Includes all States except Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, and New Jersey.

<sup>2</sup>Abnormal conditions in 1944 or 1945 affected 1 count in Kansas, excluding station 10, the increase is 42.6 percent.

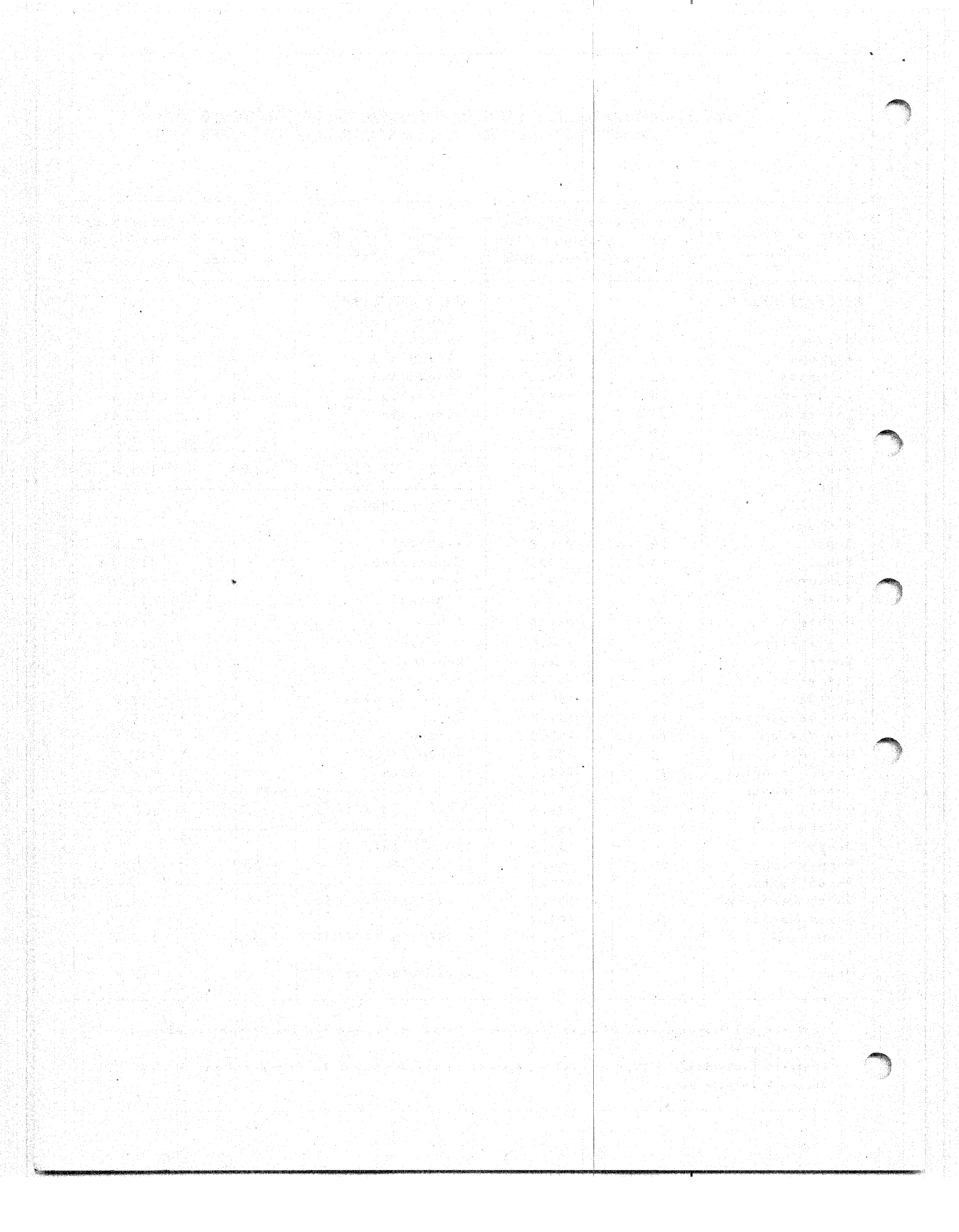


TABLE 2.--REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR  
OCTOBER 1945 INCLUDING 638 STATIONS IN 47 STATES<sup>1</sup>

P-5440

Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from Oct. 1944	Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from Oct. 1944
<b>NEW ENGLAND</b>			<b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>		
Connecticut	20	+58.7	Alabama	10	+22.7
Maine	10	+37.1	Kentucky	11	+45.3
Massachusetts	9	+40.4	Mississippi	10	+29.5
New Hampshire	15	+54.4	Tennessee	8	+31.6
Rhode Island	3	+28.2	Subtotal	39	+32.5
Vermont	9	+52.1			
Subtotal	66	+49.8	<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>		
<b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC</b>			Arkansas	20	+39.2
New Jersey	1	+61.7	Louisiana	6	+12.8
New York	3	+56.2	Oklahoma	20	+37.8
Pennsylvania	29	+40.3	Texas	73	+24.5
Subtotal	33	+43.5	Subtotal	119	+26.9
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC</b>			<b>MOUNTAIN</b>		
Delaware	8	+28.8	Arizona	5	+56.0
Maryland	18	+32.7	Colorado	6	+26.5
Virginia	1	+66.9	Idaho	8	+36.4
West Virginia	11	+32.1	Montana	14	+34.9
Subtotal north portion	38	+32.6	Nevada	16	+67.4
Florida	19	+37.0	New Mexico	12	+40.9
Georgia	11	+34.4	Utah	8	+41.6
North Carolina	20	+38.3	Wyoming	5	+51.0
South Carolina	4	+24.0	Subtotal	74	+43.3
Subtotal south portion	54	+36.1	<b>PACIFIC</b>		
Subtotal region	92	+34.5	California	6	+61.7
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL</b>			Oregon	4	+57.2
Illinois	5	+22.3	Washington	10	+48.4
Indiana	22	+40.7	Subtotal	20	+54.2
Michigan	28	+22.7	<b>TOTAL ALL STATES<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>638</b>	<b>+37.7</b>
Ohio	22	+31.5	<b>STATE HIGHWAYS<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>601</b>	<b>+43.6</b>
Wisconsin	10	+33.8	<b>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>+23.1</b>
Subtotal	87	+29.5	<b>3 EASTERN REGIONS</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>+40.2</b>
<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL</b>			<b>4 CENTRAL REGIONS</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>+31.9</b>
Iowa	34	+41.0	<b>2 WESTERN REGIONS</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>+50.5</b>
Kansas <sup>3</sup>	13	+14.4			
Missouri	27	+43.2			
Nebraska	12	+46.7			
North Dakota	12	+50.1			
South Dakota	10	+58.2			
Subtotal	108	+41.0			

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes all States except Minnesota.

<sup>3</sup>Abnormal conditions in 1944 or 1945 affected 1 count in Kansas. Excluding station 10, the increase is 34.7 percent.

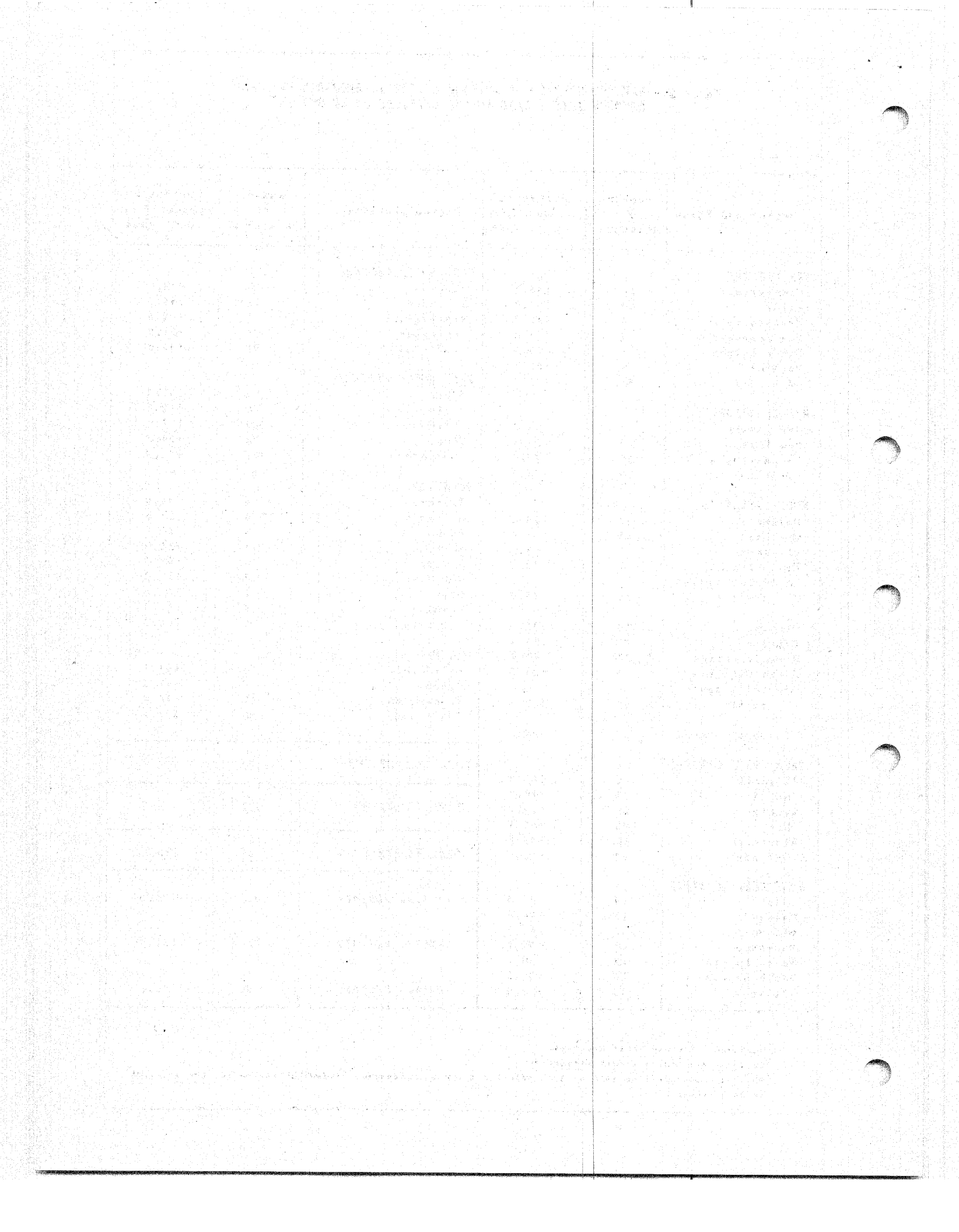


TABLE 3.--NUMBER OF VEHICLES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPES, USING TOLL FACILITIES IN NOVEMBER 1945 COMPARED WITH THOSE IN NOVEMBER 1944 AND 1941.

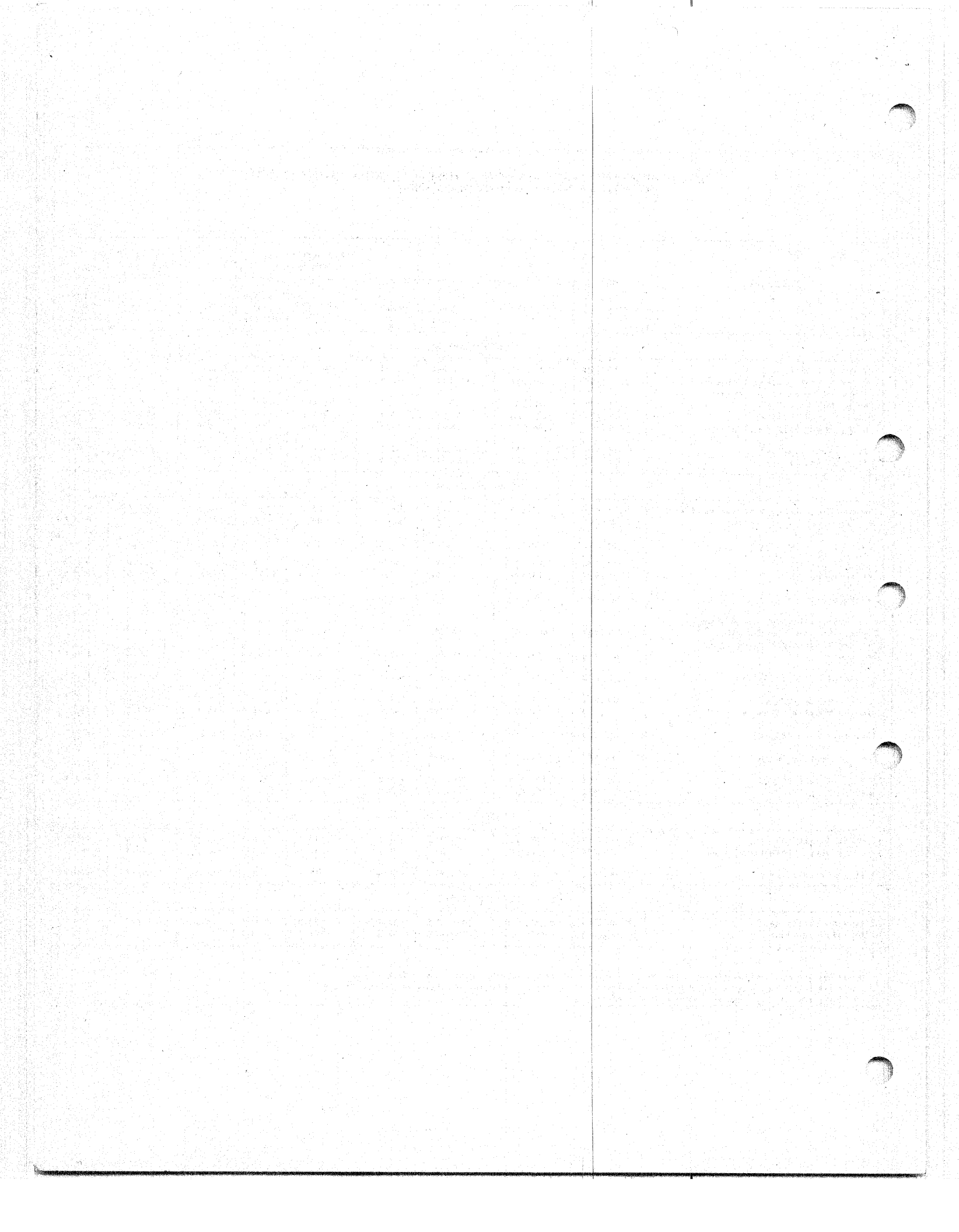
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Facilities	1945			Percentage change from 1944			Percentage change from 1941		
	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses
<b>EASTERN REGIONS</b>									
3 in the New England States	40,229	37,221	3,008	+27.1	+28.9	+ 8.3	- 6.4	- 7.0	+ 1.6
15 in the Middle Atlantic States	7,231,525	6,194,111	1,037,414	+27.9	+33.9	+ 1.0	-13.9	-16.7	+ 7.6
1 Fleetwood Viaduct, Westchester County, New York	330,203	330,203	--	+109.1	+109.1	--	- 4.4	- 4.4	--
1 Pennsylvania Turnpike	160,671	133,753	26,918	+91.0	+131.8	+ 1.8	-11.5	-13.5	- 0.1
8 in the South Atlantic States	437,471	364,443	73,028	+41.5	+54.2	+ 0.3	- 1.0	- 1.1	- 0.4
<b>TOTAL - 28 facilities<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>8,200,099</b>	<b>7,059,731</b>	<b>1,140,368</b>	<b>+31.5</b>	<b>+38.2</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>-12.9</b>	<b>-15.4</b>	<b>+ 6.9</b>
<b>TOTAL - 31 facilities</b>	<b>8,911,294</b>	<b>7,683,277</b>	<b>1,228,017</b>	<b>+31.5</b>	<b>+38.1</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>			
<b>CENTRAL REGIONS</b>									
2 on the Great Lakes Canadian Border <sup>2</sup>	84,076	76,659	7,417	+66.3	+72.5	+21.7	+80.9	+81.6	+74.1
2 in the Great Lakes Region	107,562	90,122	17,440	+63.8	+90.1	- 4.6	+15.6	+11.6	+41.4
<b>Subtotal - 4 facilities</b>	<b>191,638</b>	<b>166,781</b>	<b>24,857</b>	<b>+64.9</b>	<b>+81.6</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>+37.3</b>	<b>+35.7</b>	<b>+49.8</b>
7 on the Ohio River <sup>3</sup>	481,705	406,714	74,991	+34.8	+39.9	+12.6	- 6.3	- 7.0	- 2.3
2 in Kentucky	19,986	14,258	5,728	+41.0	+44.6	+32.6	+52.0	+51.6	+53.0
<b>Subtotal - 9 facilities</b>	<b>501,691</b>	<b>420,972</b>	<b>80,719</b>	<b>+35.0</b>	<b>+40.0</b>	<b>+13.6</b>	<b>- 4.8</b>	<b>- 5.2</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>
10 on the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers, St. Louis and north	545,921	468,667	77,254	+25.5	+29.5	+ 5.5	-19.9	-19.9	-19.7
3 on the Mississippi River south of St. Louis	92,902	70,041	22,861	+33.4	+41.7	+13.2	+20.1	+25.4	+ 6.4
<b>Subtotal - 13 facilities</b>	<b>638,823</b>	<b>538,708</b>	<b>100,115</b>	<b>+26.6</b>	<b>+31.0</b>	<b>+ 7.1</b>	<b>-15.8</b>	<b>-15.9</b>	<b>+15.0</b>
5 on the Missouri River	400,011	329,993	70,018	+42.9	+48.3	+22.0	+15.3	+17.0	+ 7.9
1 in the Missouri River area	1,692	1,375	317	+93.6	+149.5	- 1.9	+18.4	+19.2	+15.3
<b>Subtotal - 6 facilities</b>	<b>401,703</b>	<b>331,368</b>	<b>70,335</b>	<b>+43.1</b>	<b>+48.3</b>	<b>+21.9</b>	<b>+15.3</b>	<b>+17.0</b>	<b>+ 7.9</b>
on the Mexican Border	59,859	52,870	6,989	+22.7	+33.0	-22.6			
<b>TOTAL - 32 facilities<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,733,855</b>	<b>1,457,829</b>	<b>276,026</b>	<b>+36.2</b>	<b>+42.0</b>	<b>+12.0</b>	<b>- 2.2</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>
<b>TOTAL - 37 facilities</b>	<b>1,871,558</b>	<b>1,563,829</b>	<b>307,729</b>	<b>+35.8</b>	<b>+40.7</b>	<b>+15.1</b>			
<b>WESTERN REGIONS</b>									
2 in California	2,330,594	2,131,388	199,206	+37.8	+42.8	+ 0.4	+16.6	+15.8	+26.0
4 in the Oregon-Washington area	270,816	237,151	33,665	+44.2	+49.3	+16.4	+37.8	+34.4	+67.0
<b>TOTAL - 6 facilities</b>	<b>2,601,410</b>	<b>2,368,539</b>	<b>232,871</b>	<b>+38.4</b>	<b>+43.4</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>	<b>+18.5</b>	<b>+17.4</b>	<b>+30.7</b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>									
<b>TOTAL - 66 facilities<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>12,535,364</b>	<b>10,886,099</b>	<b>1,649,265</b>	<b>+33.5</b>	<b>+39.8</b>	<b>+ 2.9</b>	<b>- 6.3</b>	<b>- 8.2</b>	<b>+ 8.1</b>
<b>TOTAL - 74 facilities</b>	<b>13,384,262</b>	<b>11,615,645</b>	<b>1,768,617</b>	<b>+33.4</b>	<b>+39.5</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>			

<sup>1</sup>These facilities have comparative data for 1943, 1944, and 1941 and are included in the larger total below.

<sup>2</sup>1 of these facilities is in Western New York and, therefore is related to similar facilities in the Central States.

<sup>3</sup>5 of these facilities are between Ohio and West Virginia.





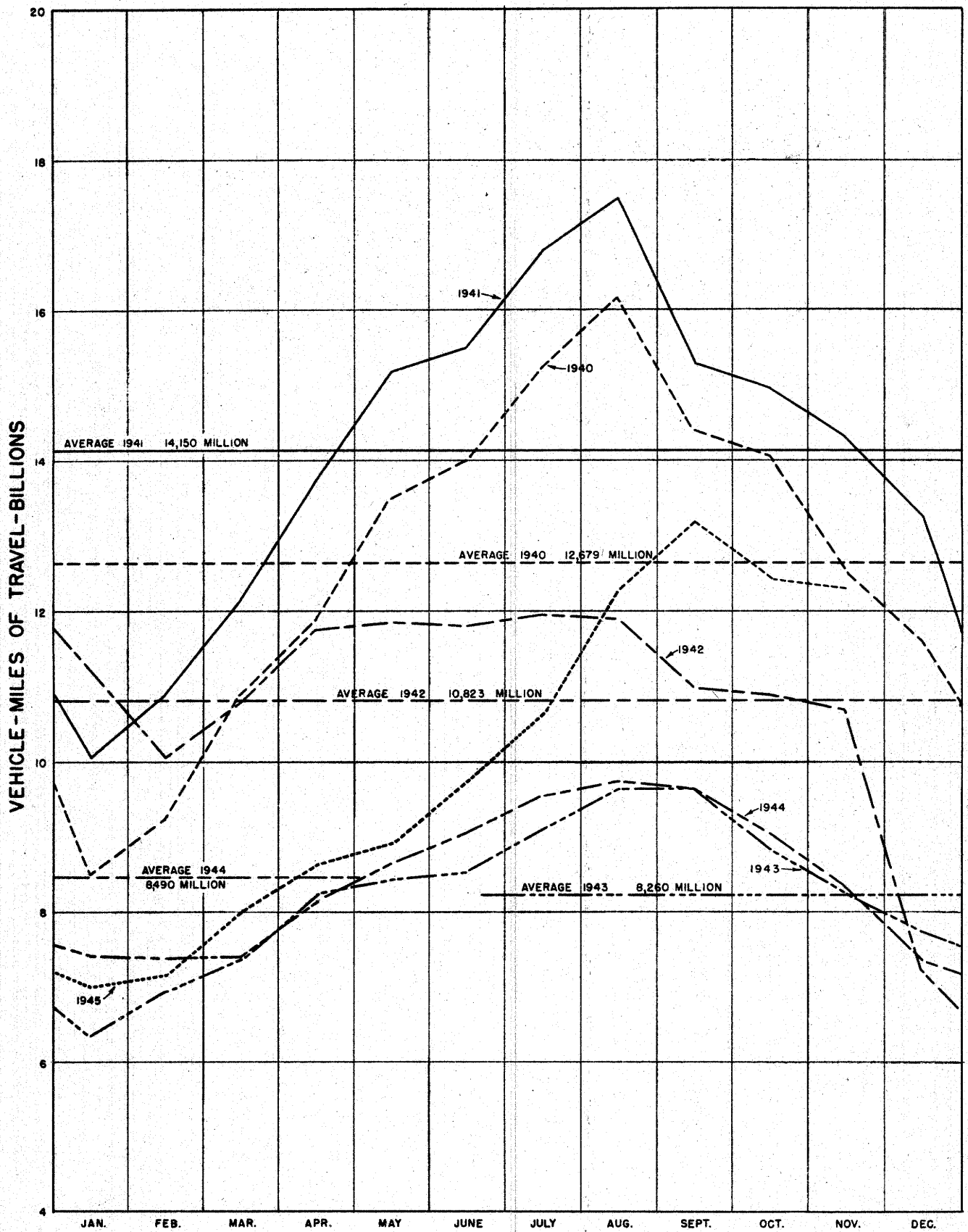
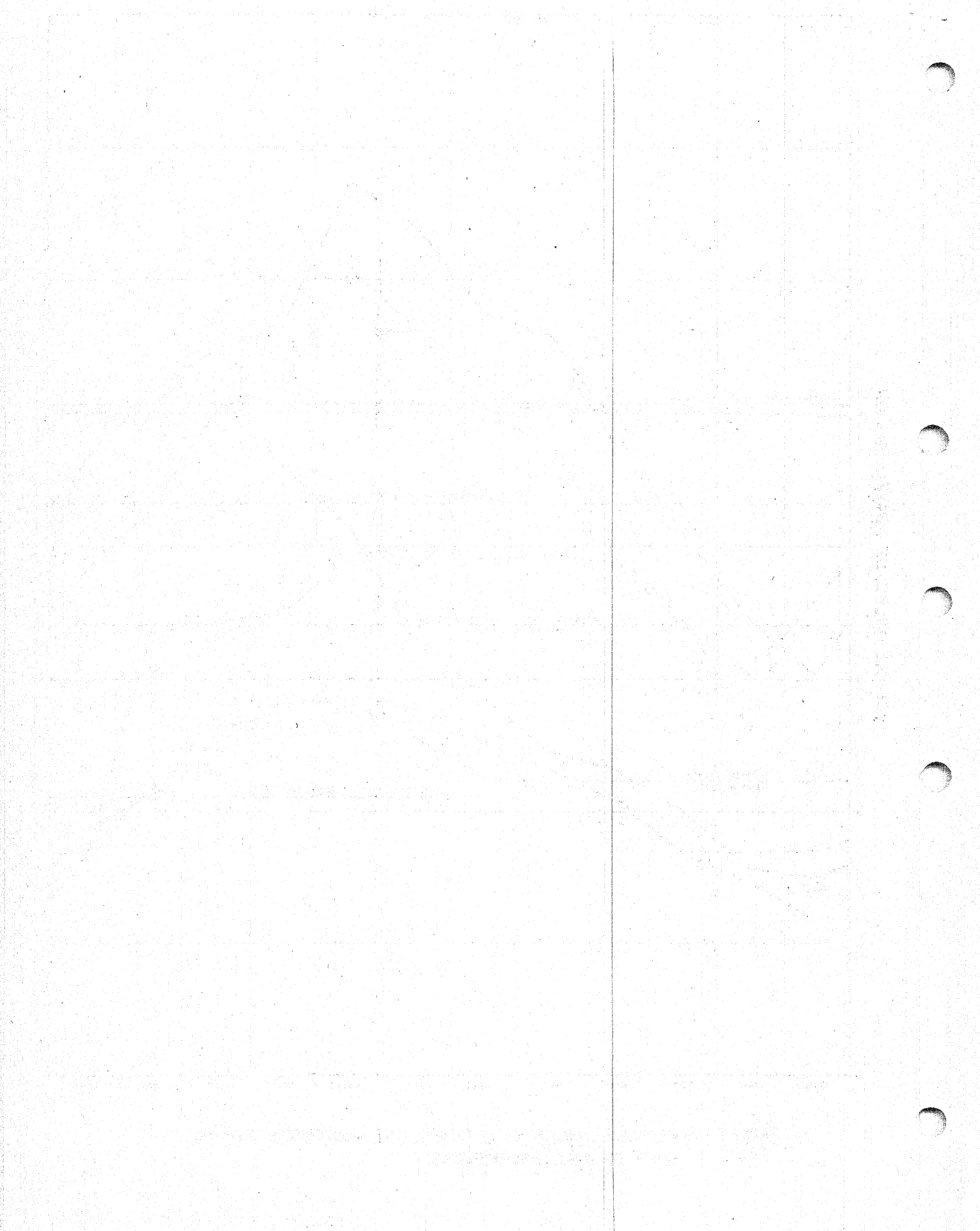


FIGURE I.- VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS

1940 TO 1945 BY MONTHS.

PS 44-0



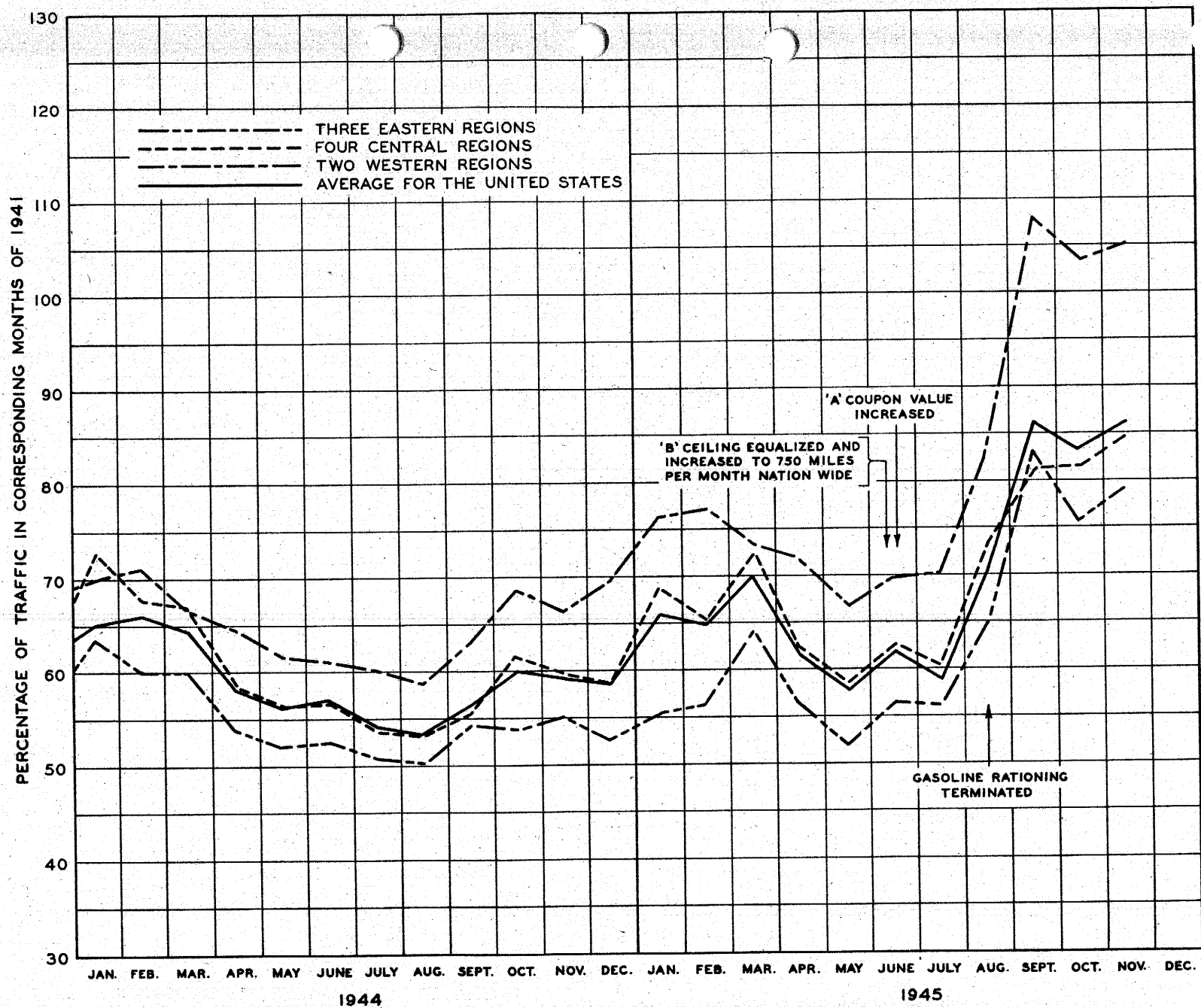


FIGURE 2.- PERCENTAGE RELATIONS OF RURAL TRAFFIC IN MONTHS OF 1944 1945 AND 1946 WITH THAT IN CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1941

