

PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 30, 1947

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

On the basis of preliminary figures, traffic on main roads and city streets during May 1947 was higher than in any previous May. Volumes on local roads and in the eastern regions were lower than in 1941 but were higher than in any other previous year. Comparisons with 1941 and 1943 are as follows:

	Percentage change from		
	1941	1943	1946
Main roads	+ 9.8	+95.0	+10.6
Local roads	- 0.3	+78.6	+ 8.8
All rural roads	+ 6.9	+90.4	+10.1
City streets	+ 2.9	+55.4	+ 2.6
Average	+ 5.0	+72.0	+ 6.4

The changes in rural traffic volumes by geographic regions were as follows:

	Percentage change from		
	1941	1943	1946
Eastern regions	- 5.7	+89.3	+10.5
Central regions	+12.1	+89.7	+10.5
Western regions	+18.4	+93.8	+ 8.2

H. S. FAIRBANK, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Attachments

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF [illegible]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

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TABLE 1.--PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR
MAY 1947 INCLUDING 663 STATIONS IN 46 STATES¹

Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from May, 1946	Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from May 1946
STATE HIGHWAYS			STATE HIGHWAYS		
Alabama	8	+12.2	(Continued)		
Arizona	5	+ 9.2	Texas	76	+11.7
Arkansas	16	+15.5	Utah	11	+11.0
California	9	+10.2	Vermont	10	+10.8
Colorado	4	- 5.0	Washington	10	+ 5.6
Connecticut	16	+11.4	West Virginia	11	+19.7
Delaware	6	+19.3	Wisconsin	9	+ 9.1
Florida	19	+ 8.6	Wyoming	6	+ 7.1
Georgia	7	+ 5.9			
Idaho	8	+11.8	TOTAL - 46 STATES	629	+10.6
Illinois	6	+24.3	LOCAL HIGHWAYS		
Indiana	21	+ 4.4	Alabama	2	+ 4.2
Iowa	26	+11.7	Connecticut	3	+ 9.1
Kansas	13	+11.6	Delaware	2	+20.0
Kentucky	11	+ 9.6	Georgia	3	+ 1.0
Louisiana	8	+ 4.0	Indiana	1	0.0
Maine	10	+ 7.3	Iowa	8	+10.8
Maryland	17	+11.8	Maryland	1	+ 3.7
Massachusetts	9	+13.5	Michigan	2	+20.0
Michigan	26	+14.6	Missouri	2	+ 6.6
Minnesota	27	+12.4	Montana	2	+22.1
Mississippi	10	+16.3	Nebraska	1	+17.0
Missouri	25	+ 7.6	North Dakota	2	+13.6
Montana	12	+10.2	Ohio	2	+ 9.6
Nebraska	10	+10.2	Oregon	1	+ 1.8
Nevada	16	+ 2.8	Rhode Island	1	+ 8.5
New Hampshire	14	+11.7	Wisconsin	1	+21.3
New Jersey	1	+16.7			
New Mexico	15	+ 5.9	TOTAL - 16 STATES	34	+ 8.8
New York	2	+ 9.4	ALL HIGHWAYS		
North Carolina	19	+ 9.7	46 STATES	663	+10.1
North Dakota	9	+ 4.7	3 EASTERN REGIONS		
Ohio	23	+13.8		182	+10.5
Oklahoma	20	+ 2.4	4 CENTRAL REGIONS		
Oregon	4	+11.0		378	+10.5
Pennsylvania	29	+10.2	2 WESTERN REGIONS		
Rhode Island	2	+17.4		103	+ 8.2
South Dakota	10	+ 7.6			
Tennessee	3	+22.0			

¹Includes all States except South Carolina and Virginia.

TABLE 2.--REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR
APRIL 1947 INCLUDING 663 STATIONS IN 48 STATES¹

Region and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from April 1946	Region and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from April 1946
NEW ENGLAND			EAST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Connecticut	19	+10.5	Alabama	10	+11.1
Maine	10	+ 3.3	Kentucky	10	+ 8.1
Massachusetts	9	+ 9.3	Mississippi	10	+16.7
New Hampshire	14	+ 5.3	Tennessee	4	+ 8.3
Rhode Island	2	+ 7.9	Subtotal	34	+11.4
Vermont	10	+ 7.3	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Subtotal	64	+ 8.6	Arkansas	16	+11.4
MIDDLE ATLANTIC			Louisiana	8	+ 8.4
New Jersey	2	+16.8	Oklahoma	20	+ 6.1
New York	2	+ 6.6	Texas	72	+ 9.7
Pennsylvania	29	+ 8.5	Subtotal	118	+ 9.0
Subtotal	33	+ 9.8	MOUNTAIN		
SOUTH ATLANTIC			Arizona	5	+18.0
Delaware	8	+14.5	Colorado	6	+ 6.8
Maryland	18	+14.6	Idaho	8	+13.4
Virginia	2	+11.4	Montana	14	+ 6.7
West Virginia	11	+13.9	Nevada	16	+ 6.5
Subtotal north portion	39	+14.2	New Mexico	15	+ 7.9
Florida	19	+ 8.2	Utah	10	+ 8.1
Georgia	10	+ 5.4	Wyoming	6	+ 6.0
North Carolina	19	+ 8.5	Subtotal	80	+ 9.8
South Carolina	1	+18.0	PACIFIC		
Subtotal south portion	49	+ 8.2	California	8	+16.0
Subtotal region	88	+11.3	Oregon	5	+10.6
EAST NORTH CENTRAL			Washington	10	+12.5
Illinois	6	+ 9.8	Subtotal	23	+13.9
Indiana	22	+ 5.0	TOTAL ALL STATES	663	+ 9.5
Michigan	28	+12.4	STATE HIGHWAYS	628	+10.0
Ohio	25	+15.7	LOCAL HIGHWAYS	35	+ 8.1
Wisconsin	10	+10.5	3 EASTERN REGIONS	185	+10.2
Subtotal	91	+11.5	4 CENTRAL REGIONS	375	+ 9.6
WEST NORTH CENTRAL			2 WESTERN REGIONS	103	+ 7.8
Iowa	34	+11.4			
Kansas	13	+ 5.5			
Minnesota	27	+ 8.1			
Missouri	27	+ 6.6			
Nebraska	12	+ 6.4			
North Dakota	11	- 4.6			
South Dakota	10	+ 6.9			
Subtotal	134	+ 7.5			

¹ Combined State and local highways.

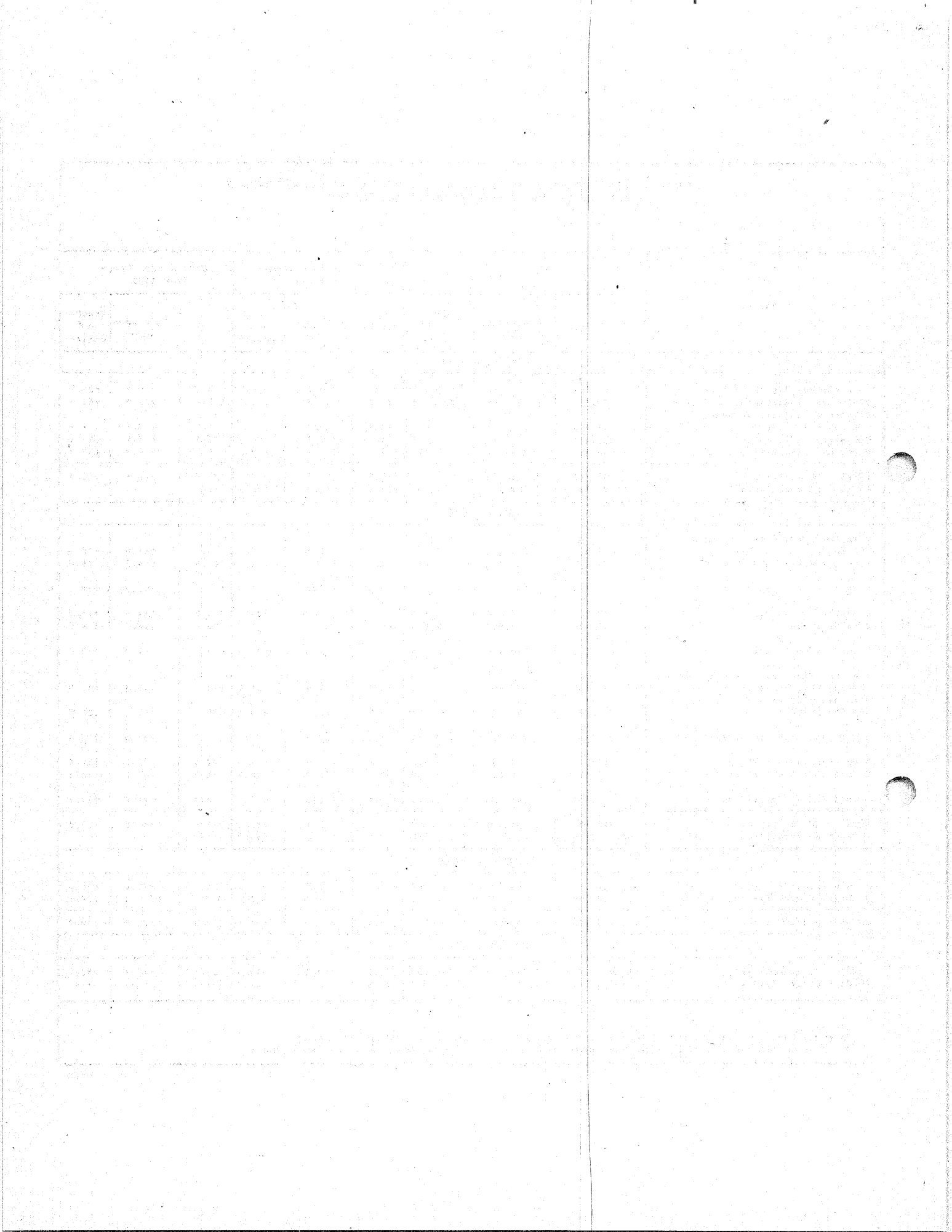
Year	Month	Day	Event	Location	Notes
1947	Jan	1	...	...	...
1947	Jan	2	...	...	...
1947	Jan	3	...	...	...
1947	Jan	4	...	...	...
1947	Jan	5	...	...	...
1947	Jan	6	...	...	...
1947	Jan	7	...	...	...
1947	Jan	8	...	...	...
1947	Jan	9	...	...	...
1947	Jan	10	...	...	...
1947	Jan	11	...	...	...
1947	Jan	12	...	...	...
1947	Jan	13	...	...	...
1947	Jan	14	...	...	...
1947	Jan	15	...	...	...
1947	Jan	16	...	...	...
1947	Jan	17	...	...	...
1947	Jan	18	...	...	...
1947	Jan	19	...	...	...
1947	Jan	20	...	...	...
1947	Jan	21	...	...	...
1947	Jan	22	...	...	...
1947	Jan	23	...	...	...
1947	Jan	24	...	...	...
1947	Jan	25	...	...	...
1947	Jan	26	...	...	...
1947	Jan	27	...	...	...
1947	Jan	28	...	...	...
1947	Jan	29	...	...	...
1947	Jan	30	...	...	...
1947	Jan	31	...	...	...
1947	Feb	1	...	...	...
1947	Feb	2	...	...	...
1947	Feb	3	...	...	...
1947	Feb	4	...	...	...
1947	Feb	5	...	...	...
1947	Feb	6	...	...	...
1947	Feb	7	...	...	...
1947	Feb	8	...	...	...
1947	Feb	9	...	...	...
1947	Feb	10	...	...	...
1947	Feb	11	...	...	...
1947	Feb	12	...	...	...
1947	Feb	13	...	...	...
1947	Feb	14	...	...	...
1947	Feb	15	...	...	...
1947	Feb	16	...	...	...
1947	Feb	17	...	...	...
1947	Feb	18	...	...	...
1947	Feb	19	...	...	...
1947	Feb	20	...	...	...
1947	Feb	21	...	...	...
1947	Feb	22	...	...	...
1947	Feb	23	...	...	...
1947	Feb	24	...	...	...
1947	Feb	25	...	...	...
1947	Feb	26	...	...	...
1947	Feb	27	...	...	...
1947	Feb	28	...	...	...
1947	Feb	29	...	...	...
1947	Mar	1	...	...	...
1947	Mar	2	...	...	...
1947	Mar	3	...	...	...
1947	Mar	4	...	...	...
1947	Mar	5	...	...	...
1947	Mar	6	...	...	...
1947	Mar	7	...	...	...
1947	Mar	8	...	...	...
1947	Mar	9	...	...	...
1947	Mar	10	...	...	...
1947	Mar	11	...	...	...
1947	Mar	12	...	...	...
1947	Mar	13	...	...	...
1947	Mar	14	...	...	...
1947	Mar	15	...	...	...
1947	Mar	16	...	...	...
1947	Mar	17	...	...	...
1947	Mar	18	...	...	...
1947	Mar	19	...	...	...
1947	Mar	20	...	...	...
1947	Mar	21	...	...	...
1947	Mar	22	...	...	...
1947	Mar	23	...	...	...
1947	Mar	24	...	...	...
1947	Mar	25	...	...	...
1947	Mar	26	...	...	...
1947	Mar	27	...	...	...
1947	Mar	28	...	...	...
1947	Mar	29	...	...	...
1947	Mar	30	...	...	...
1947	Mar	31	...	...	...

TABLE 3.--NUMBER OF VEHICLES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPES, USING TOLL FACILITIES IN MAY 1947 COMPARED WITH THOSE IN MAY 1946 AND 1941.

Facilities	1947			Percentage change from 1946			Percentage change from 1941		
	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses
EASTERN REGIONS									
4 in the New England States	64,432	57,476	6,956	+ 5.3	+ 4.9	+ 8.7	- 0.1	- 5.4	+86.9
14 in the Middle Atlantic States	8,711,539	7,957,185	754,354	+16.2	+16.8	+10.4	+23.0	+21.5	+41.6
Fleetwood Viaduct, Westchester County, New York	512,820	512,820	--	+14.1	+14.1	---	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	---
Pennsylvania Turnpike	243,411	198,694	44,717	+18.8	+19.9	+14.2	+12.5	+ 3.4	+84.0
4 in the South Atlantic States	407,539	329,755	77,784	+ 4.6	+ 4.9	+ 3.3	+ 6.1	+ 4.8	+12.3
TOTAL - 24 facilities¹	9,939,741	9,055,930	883,811	+15.6	+16.1	+ 9.9	+20.5	+18.8	+40.3
TOTAL - 28 facilities	10,692,758	9,734,861	957,897	+16.3	+16.9	+10.2	---	---	---
CENTRAL REGIONS									
3 on the Great Lakes Canadian Border ²	349,995	333,662	16,333	+ 7.5	+ 7.9	- 0.4	+68.4	+68.9	+58.4
1 in the Great Lakes Region	21,907	19,672	2,235	+ 5.6	+ 5.4	+ 7.3	+11.6	+ 8.7	+46.6
Subtotal - 4 facilities	371,902	353,334	18,568	+ 7.4	+ 7.8	+ 0.5	+63.5	+63.9	+56.9
6 on the Ohio River	578,932	487,368	91,564	+ 2.8	- 1.2	+31.4	+11.9	+11.0	+16.6
1 in Kentucky	12,820	9,256	3,564	+25.6	+18.1	+50.2	+73.3	+58.6	+128.5
Subtotal - 7 facilities	591,752	496,624	95,128	+ 3.2	- 0.9	+32.0	+12.7	+11.7	+18.7
7 on the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers, St. Louis and North	668,784	577,403	91,381	+16.9	+15.6	+26.0	+30.5	+28.9	+41.3
3 on the Mississippi River south of St. Louis	177,708	95,477	22,231	+12.7	+13.5	+ 9.2	+59.5	+69.9	+26.5
Subtotal - 10 facilities	786,492	672,880	113,612	+16.2	+15.3	+22.3	+34.1	+33.5	+38.1
3 on the Missouri River	165,202	134,160	31,042	+ 8.6	+ 8.0	+11.4	+42.5	+47.0	+25.8
2 in the Missouri River area	7,379	6,330	1,049	+ 7.9	+31.0	-47.7	+41.0	+43.9	+26.1
Subtotal - 5 facilities	172,581	140,490	32,091	+ 8.8	+ 8.9	+ 7.4	+42.4	+46.9	+25.8
TOTAL - 26 facilities¹	1,922,727	1,663,328	259,399	+ 9.5	+ 7.9	+21.6	+31.7	+32.0	+29.9
TOTAL - 33 facilities	2,280,584	1,972,421	308,163	+ 9.6	+ 8.6	+16.0	---	---	---
WESTERN REGIONS									
1 in California	2,141,965	1,942,760	199,205	+ 5.7	+ 5.5	+ 7.8	+36.5	+33.3	+79.3
1 in the Oregon-Washington area	13,508	11,193	2,315	- 5.3	- 5.9	- 2.7	+127.9	+145.3	+69.6
TOTAL - 2 facilities	2,155,473	1,953,953	201,520	+ 5.6	+ 5.4	+ 7.7	+36.9	+33.6	+79.2
UNITED STATES									
TOTAL - 52 facilities¹	14,017,941	12,673,211	1,344,730	+13.1	+13.2	+11.6	+24.2	+22.5	+42.7
TOTAL - 63 facilities	15,128,815	13,661,235	1,467,580	+13.6	+13.9	+11.0	---	---	---

¹These facilities have comparative data for 1947, 1946, 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.



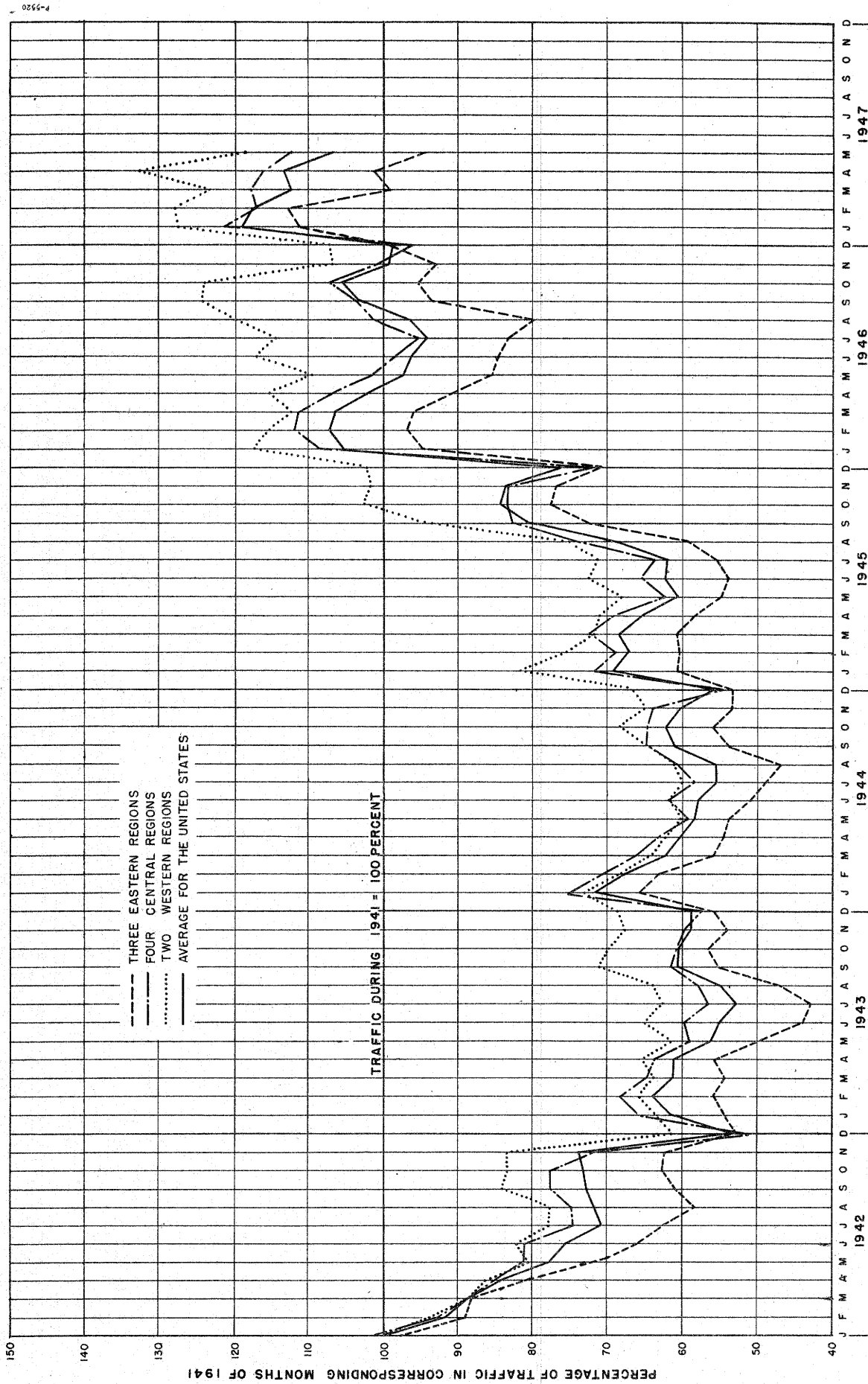
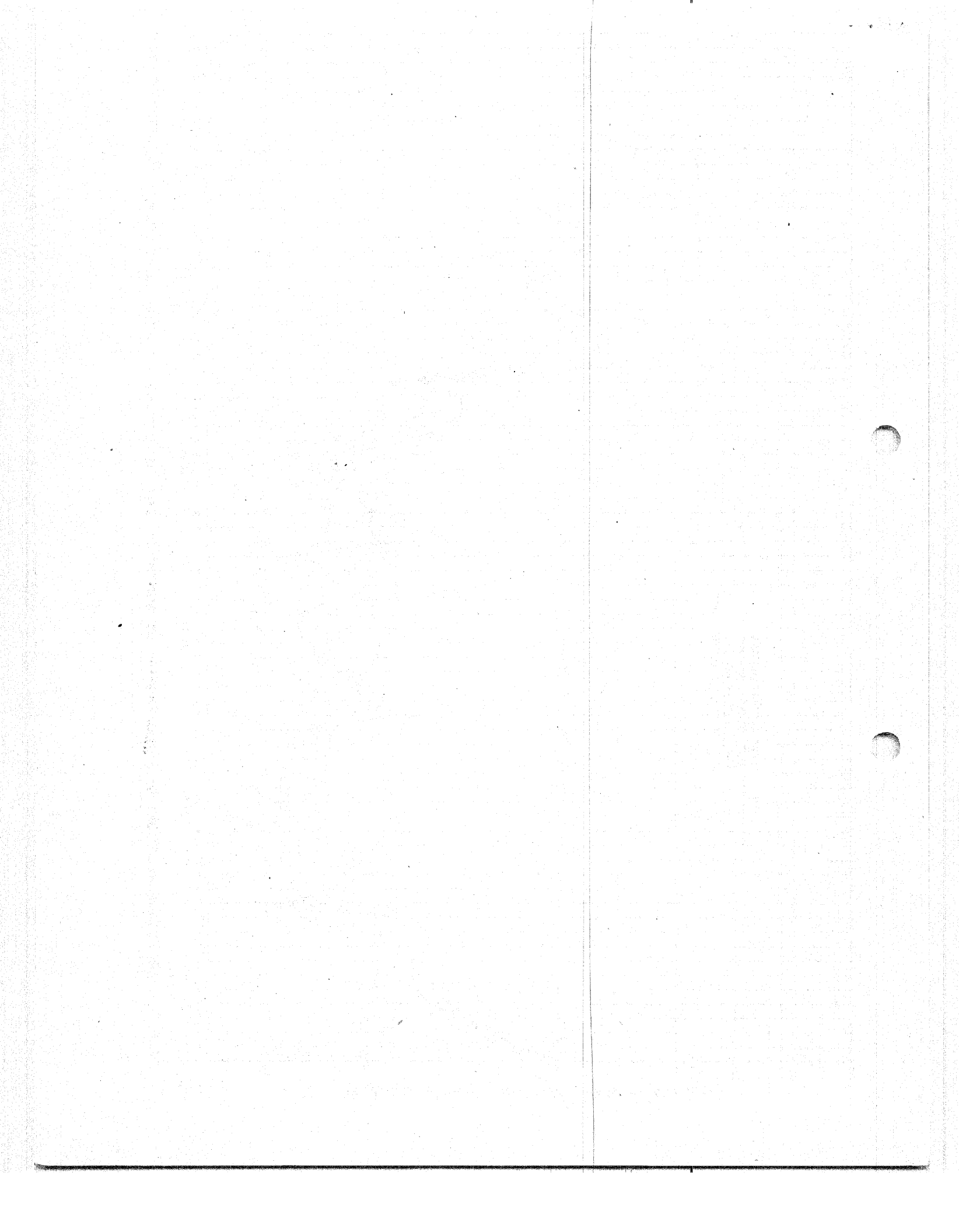


FIGURE 1 — PERCENTAGE RELATIONS OF RURAL TRAFFIC BY MONTHS IN 1942 TO 1947 WITH THAT IN CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1941



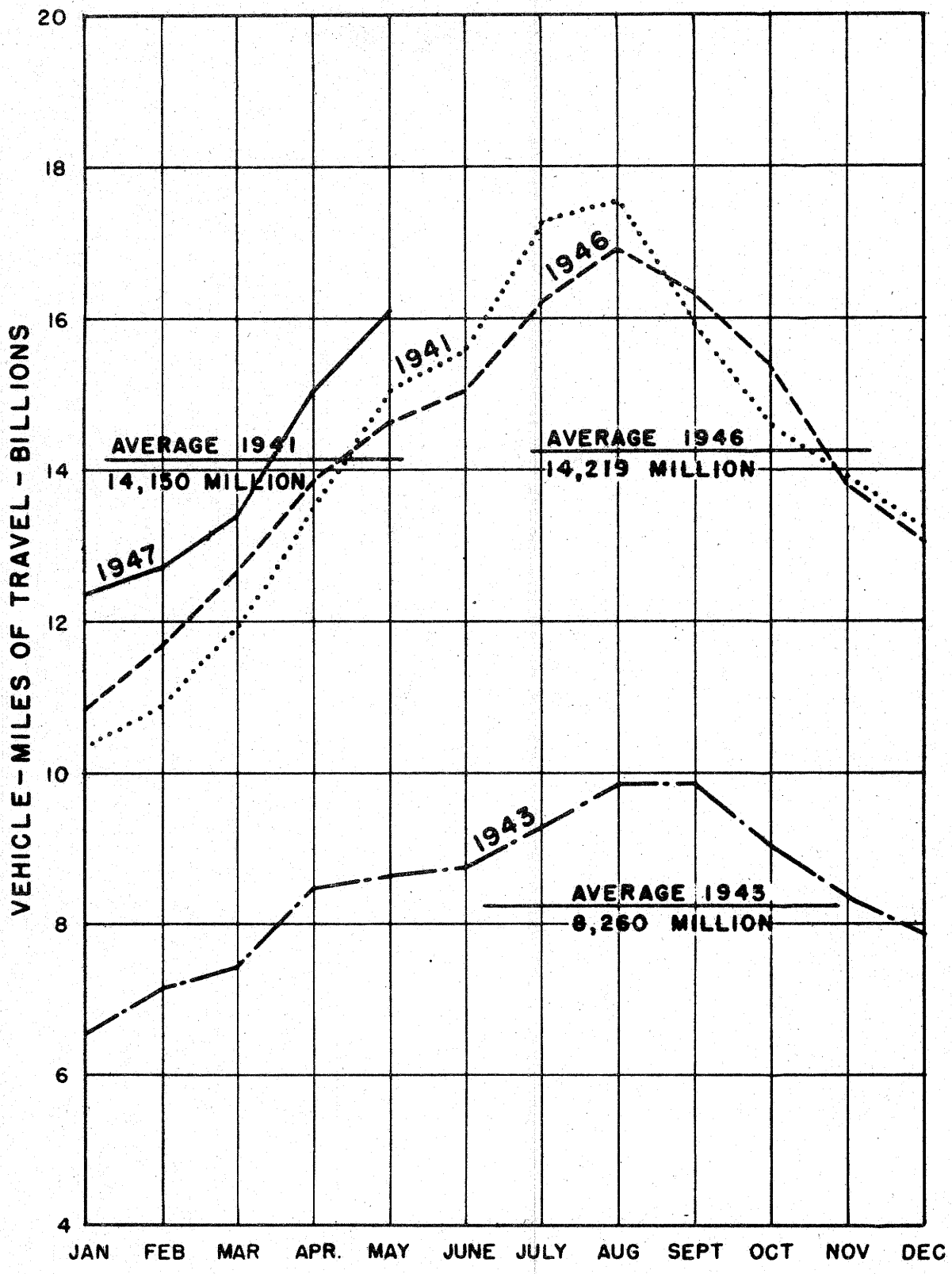
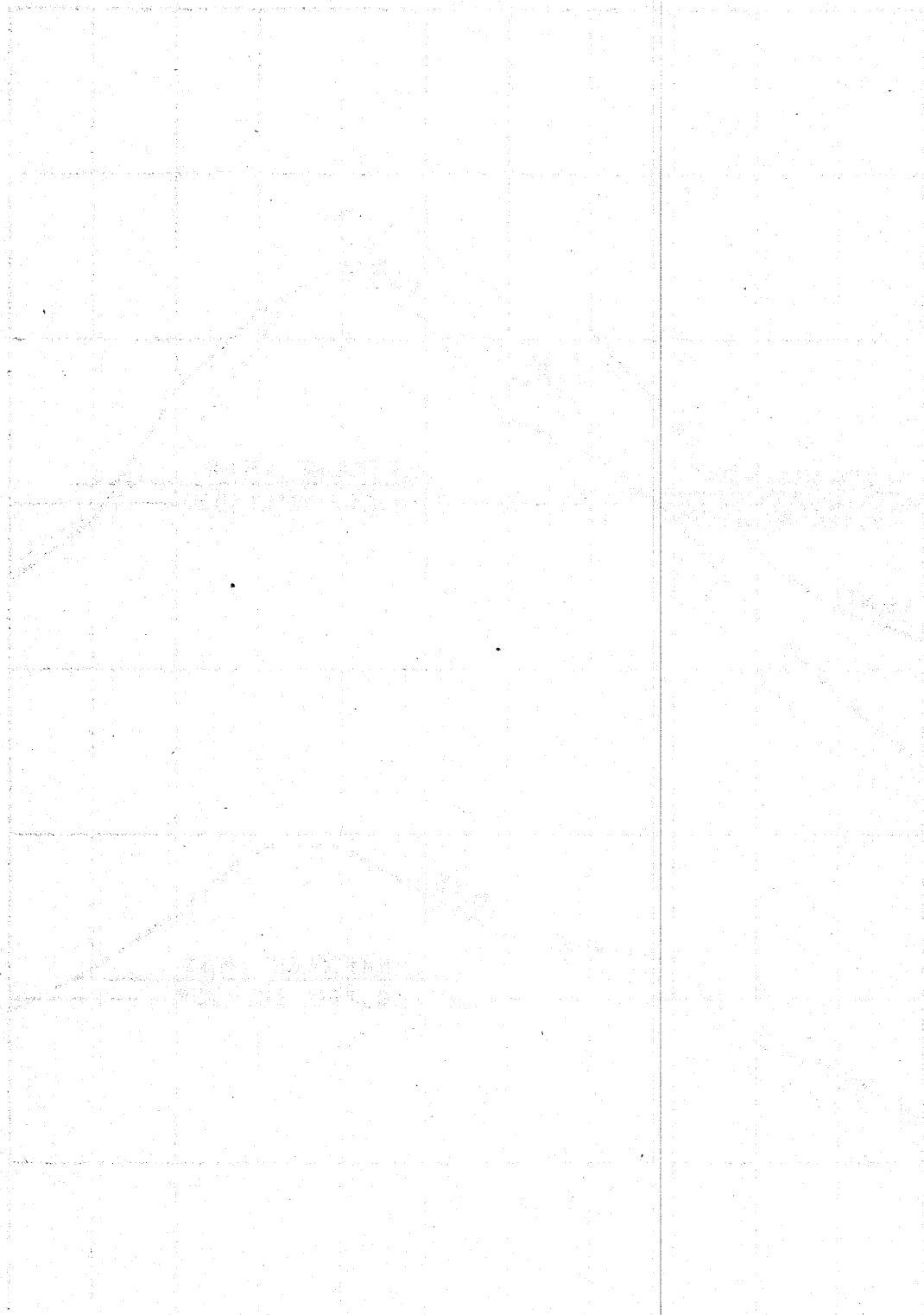


FIGURE 2 - VEHICLE - MILES OF TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS IN 1941, 1943, 1946 AND 1947



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