PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: AUGUST 31, 1945

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

Large increases in traffic during July over the corresponding month of 1944 were indicated by preliminary data collected in practically all sections of the country. During the month increases were found on main highways of all States reporting these data except those of North Dakota and Utah and on local roads except for scattered portions of this system in six States. In the eastern States traffic increased 10.8 percent over the 1944 estimates; in the central States the increase was 9.5 percent; in the mountain and western States it was 16.1 percent. These increases exceeded those of any other month in their respective areas since the beginning of the war. Traffic in the entire country increased 11.0 percent which was likewise a record increment for any month during the war period.

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

3 stations in Detroit, Michigan +3.4 percent.
1 station in Santa Fe, New Mexico +23.6 percent.
6 stations in St. Louis, Missouri +6.0 percent.

H. S. FAIRBANK, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Attachments

TABLE 1.--PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR JULY 1945 INCLUDING 560 STATIONS IN 41 STATES[1]

Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from July 1944
STATE HIGHWAYS		
Alabama	7	+12.1
Arizona	5	+21.1
Arkansas[2]	14	+24.6
California	6	+23.8
Colorado	6	+30.7
Connecticut	17	+14.3
Delaware	6	+ 3.8
Georgia	7	+ 9.9
daho	8	+12.0
illinois	5	+ 9.0
Iowa	26	+ 8.5
Kansas	13	+ 6.2
Kentucky	11	+ 9.0
Maine	10	+15.5
Maryland	17	+ 6.1
Massachusetts	9	+15.9
Michigan	26	+ 8.4
ississippi	10	+12.2
Missouri	25	+14.0
Montana	12	+ 9,7
Nebraska	11	+17.0
New Hampshire	13	+16.4
New Mexico	12	+18.6
North Carolina	20	+11.9
North Dakota	11	- 3.6
Ohio	20	+ 6.7
klahoma	20	+ 9.7
Oregon	3	+18.8
Pennsylvania	29	+12.4
Rhode Island	3	+10.9
South Carolina	4	+ 5.4
South Dakota	10	+17.9
Tennessee	5	+ 3.8
Texas	72	+ 6.0
Utah	10	- 0.8
Vermont	7	+21.8
STATE HIGHWAYS (Continued)		
Virginia	4	+14.6
Washington	10	+12.1
West Virginia	10	+14.5
Wisconsin	9	+16.6
Wyoming	4	+10.0
TOTAL - 41 STATES	*527*	*+12.1*
LOCAL HIGHWAYS		
Alabama	2	+12.5
Connecticut	3	+ 8.9
Delaware	2	+31.7
Georgia	4	+ 2.7
Iowa	7	- 7.3
Maryland	1	+ 8.1
Michigan	2	+14.1
Missouri	1	-10.3
Montana	2	+13.6
North Dakota	1	-30.6
Ohio	2	- 0.2
Oregon	1	+ 7.0
Rhode Island	1	- 1.6
Tennessee	2	+18.5
Wisconsin	2	- 7.0
TOTAL - 15 STATES	*33*	*+ 8.3*
ALL HIGHWAYS 41 STATES	*560*	*+11.0*
3 EASTERN REGIONS	*167*	*+10.8*
4 CENTRAL REGIONS	*314*	*+ 9.5*
2 WESTERN REGIONS	*79*	*+16.1*

[1] Includes all States except Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, New Jersey, Nevada, and New York.

[2] Abnormal conditions in 1944 or 1945 affected 1 count in Arkansas, excluding station 21, the increase is 12.1 percent.

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TABLE 2.--REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR JUNE 1945 INCLUDING 615 STATIONS IN 45 STATES[1]

Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from June 1944
NEW ENGLAND		
Connecticut	19	+ 8.7
Maine	10	+ 7.0
Massachusetts	9	+10.4
New Hampshire	15	+12.9
Rhode Island	4	+10.6
Vermont	7	+18.1
Subtotal	*64*	*+10.2*
MIDDLE ATLANTIC		
New York	2	- 4.0
Pennsylvania	29	+ 6.4
Subtotal	*31*	*+ 5.3*
SOUTH ATLANTIC		
Delaware	7	+11.1
Maryland	18	+ 5.8
Virginia	4	+11.6
West Virginia	11	+13.5
Subtotal north portion	*40*	*+ 8.4*
Florida	19	+ 4.0
Georgia	11	+ 8.5
North Carolina	20	+ 7.4
South Carolina	4	+ 2.7
Subtotal south portion	*54*	*+ 6.1*
Subtotal region	*94*	*+ 7.1*
EAST NORTH CENTRAL		
Illinois	6	+ 1.1
Indiana	22	+ 6.7
Michigan	28	+ 6.1
Ohio	17	+ 2.5
Wisconsin	11	+12.7
Subtotal	*84*	*+ 6.2*
WEST NORTH CENTRAL		
Iowa	34	+ 8.4
Kansas[3]	14	+12.5
Missouri	25	+ 8.3
Nebraska[4]	11	+15.5
North Dakota	13	+ 0.8
South Dakota	10	+ 4.5
Subtotal	*107*	*+ 8.9*
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Alabama	8	+10.4
Kentucky	8	+ 6.5
Mississippi	10	+ 8.5
Tennessee	7	+ 3.0
Subtotal	*33*	*+ 7.3*
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Arkansas[3]	16	+21.1
Oklahoma	20	+ 6.5
Texas	72	+ 3.0
Subtotal	*108*	*+ 5.0*
MOUNTAIN		
Arizona	5	+14.6
Colorado	6	+28.9
Idaho	7	+ 3.9
Montana	14	+ 9.5
Nevada	16	+12.5
New Mexico	12	+18.1
Utah	8	+ 2.2
Wyoming	3	+ 8.1
Subtotal	*71*	*+12.7*
PACIFIC		
California	8	+23.2
Oregon	4	+16.7
Washington	10	+ 7.4
Subtotal	*22*	*+15.3*
TOTAL ALL STATES[2]	*615*	*+ 8.1*
STATE HIGHWAYS[2]	*581*	*+ 8.4*
LOCAL HIGHWAYS	*34*	*+ 7.1*
3 EASTERN REGIONS	*189*	*+ 6.9*
4 CENTRAL REGIONS	*333*	*+ 6.7*
2 WESTERN REGIONS	*93*	*+14.4*

[1]Combined State and local highways.

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

[3]Abnormal conditions in 1944 or 1945 affected 2 counts in the following States: Arkansas, excluding station 21, the increase is 8.1 percent. Kansas, excluding station 17, the increase is 1.4 percent.

[4]Nebraska, station 5, the 1944 count affected by flood. Excluding station 5, the increase is 11.1 percent.

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

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
EASTERN STATES									
3 in the New England States	45,220	41,683	3,537	+24.5	+25.3	+15.5	-58.6	-60.4	-14.9
12 in the Middle Atlantic States	5,130,562	4,185,303	945,259	+10.0	+10.6	+ 7.3	-22.5	-26.6	+ 2.6
Fleetwood Viaduct, Westchester County County, New York	250,599	250,599	---	+25.8	+25.8	--	-56.2	-56.2	--
4 in the South Atlantic States	270,179	208,720	61,459	+ 0.6	+ 1.0	- 0.7	-41.4	-45.9	-18.0
TOTAL - 20 facilities	5,696,560	4,686,305	1,010,255	+10.2	+11.0	+ 6.8	-26.6	-30.7	+ 1.0
TOTAL - 26 facilities	6,506,715	5,385,397	1,121,318	+ 9.6	+10.5	+ 5.6			
CENTRAL STATES									
5 on the Great Lakes Canadian Border[2]	802,060	751,414	50,646	+37.8	+39.2	+20.0	+20.1	+17.1	+94.4
2 in the Great Lakes Region	125,640	103,382	22,258	+26.1	+29.5	+12.2	-46.2	-51.2	+ 4.3
Subtotal - 7 facilities	*927,700*	*854,796*	*72,904*	*+36.1*	*+38.0*	*+17.5*	*+ 3.0*	*+ 0.1*	*+53.8*
8 on the Ohio River	460,923	379,801	81,122	+13.1	+15.2	+ 4.2	-29.8	-32.5	-13.4
10 in Kentucky	155,843	122,635	33,208	- 1.7	- 1.4	- 2.6	-29.4	-33.8	- 6.3
Subtotal - 18 facilities	*616,766*	*502,436*	*114,330*	*+ 9.0*	*+10.7*	*+ 2.1*	*-29.7*	*-32.8*	*-11.4*
10 on the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers, St. Louis and north	543,542	461,018	82,524	+11.0	+12.9	+ 1.8	-38.7	-40.5	-26.7
3 on the Missouri River	125,477	99,179	26,298	+15.0	+14.3	+17.9	- 4.7	- 6.7	+ 3.5
2 in the Missouri River area	4,319	3,783	536	+26.2	+30.1	+44.3	-27.1	-28.5	-15.3
Subtotal 5 facilities	*129,796*	*102,962*	*26,834*	*+15.4*	*+14.8*	*+17.6*	*- 5.7*	*- 7.7*	*+ 3.1*
TOTAL - 40 facilities	2,217,804	1,921,212	296,592	+20.0	+22.2	+ 6.7	-20.9	-22.8	- 5.9
TOTAL - 48 facilities	2,441,373	2,105,052	336,321	+17.2	+19.8	+ 3.7			
WESTERN STATES									
3 in California	2,030,015	1,781,540	248,475	+19.1	+19.8	+14.4	- 3.4	- 8.2	+52.9
4 in the Oregon-Washington area	292,766	255,850	36,916	+25.8	+27.6	+14.4	+12.4	+ 9.1	+42.6
TOTAL - 7 facilities	2,322,781	2,037,390	285,391	+19.9	+20.7	+14.4	- 1.7	- 6.3	+51.5
UNITED STATES									
TOTAL - 67 facilities[1]	10,237,145	8,644,907	1,592,238	+14.3	+15.6	+ 8.1	-20.8	-24.3	+ 5.4
TOTAL - 81 facilities	11,270,869	9,527,839	1,743,030	+13.2	+14.5	+ 6.6			
SUPPLEMENTAL DATA									
4 facilities reporting only total traffic	159,363			+ 3.0					

[1]These facilities have comparative data for 1945, 1944, and 1941 and are included in the larger total below.
[2]Two of these facilities are in Western New York and therefore are related to similar facilities in the Central States.
[3]Four of these facilities are between Ohio and West Virginia.

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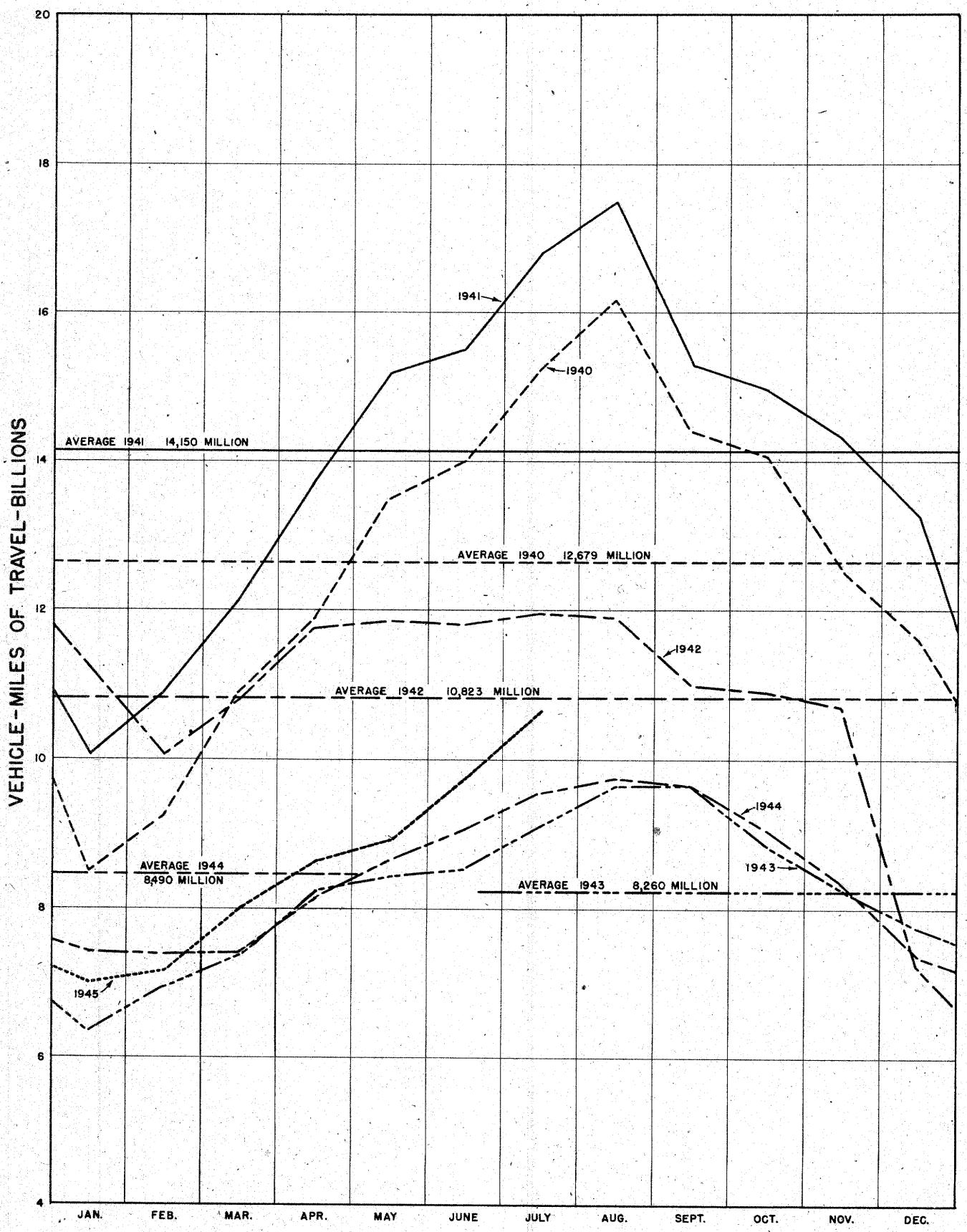

FIGURE I — VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS 1940 TO 1945 BY MONTHS.

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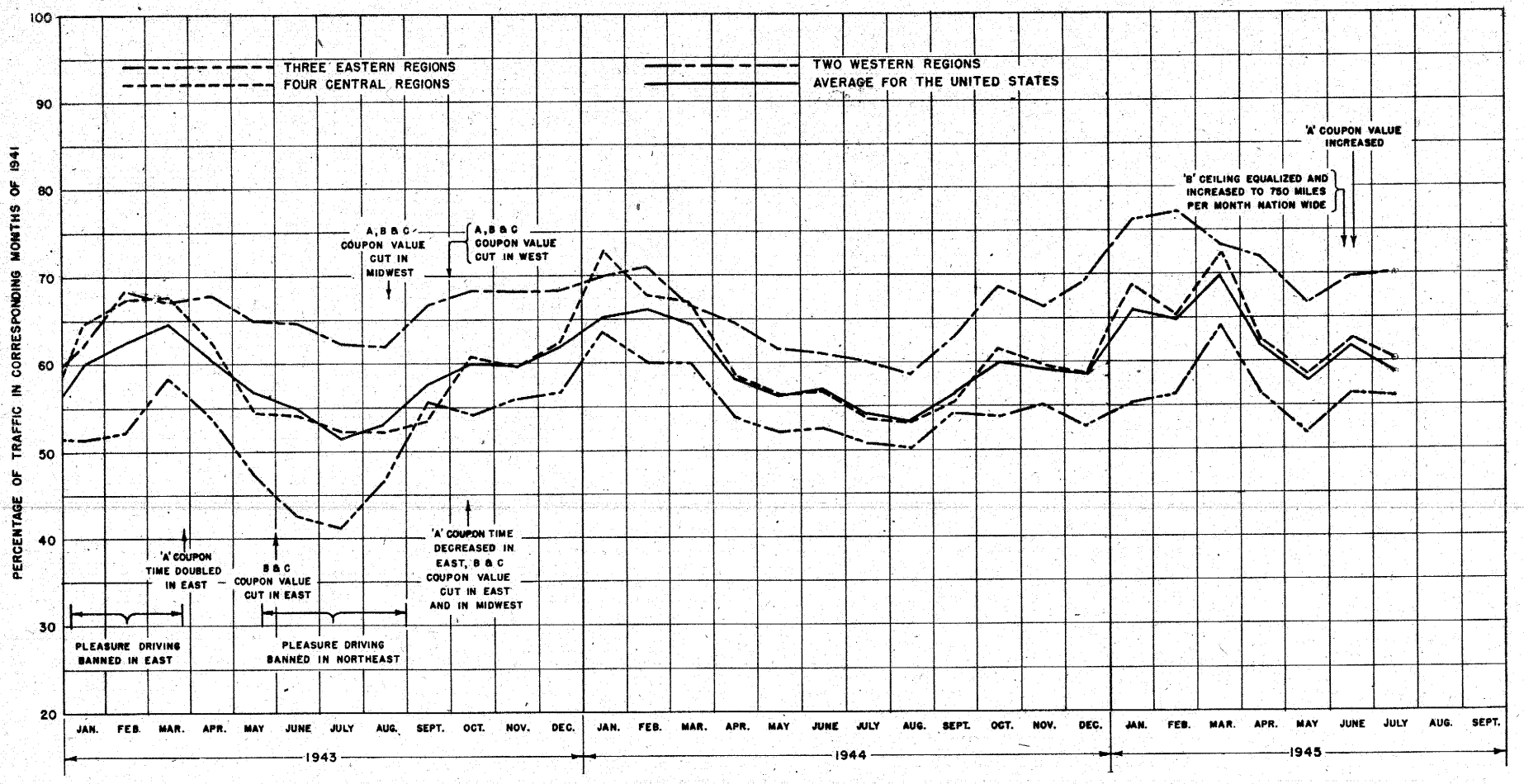

FIGURE 2.- PERCENTAGE RELATIONS OF RURAL TRAFFIC IN MONTHS OF 1943 AND 1944 WITH THAT IN CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1941

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