

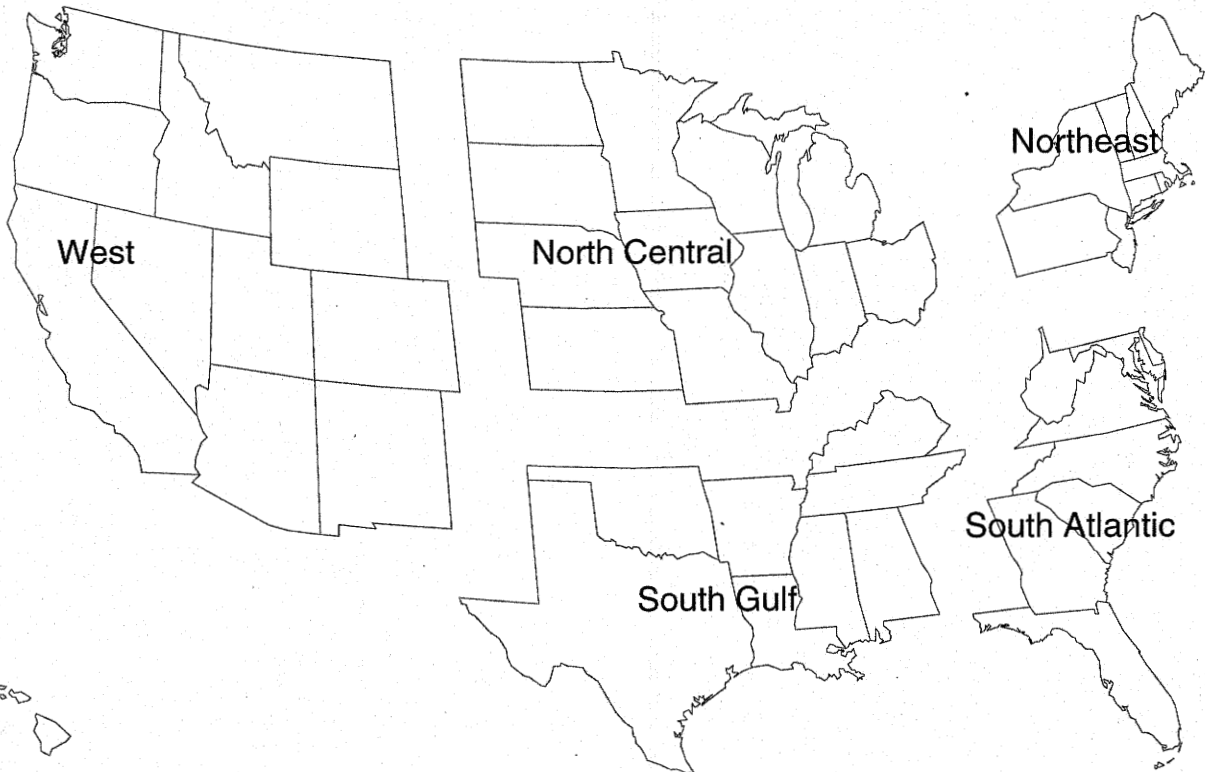
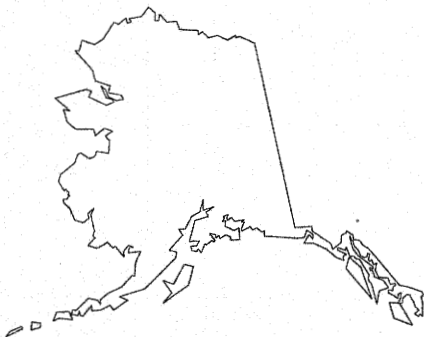


U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

December 1997

Travel on all roads and streets is
up by 3.3 percent for December 1997
as compared to December 1996.



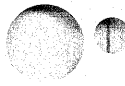
Estimated Vehicle-Miles of Travel by Region - December 1997 - (in Billions)

West	North Central	South Gulf	Northeast	South Atlantic
45.5	49.2	40.4	32.5	40.5
+5.1%	+2.9%	+3.5%	+2.9%	+1.8%

Change in Traffic as compared to the same month last year.

Note: All data for this month are preliminary. Revised values for the previous month are shown in Tables 1 and 2.
All vehicle-miles of travel computed with 1996 Table VM-2 as a base

Compiled with data on hand as of February 11, 1998.



Traffic Volume Trends - December 1997

Based on preliminary reports from the State Highway Agencies, travel during December 1997 on all roads and streets in the nation increased by 3.3 percent as compared to December 1996 resulting in estimated travel for the month at 208.1 billion vehicle-miles. This total includes 78.2 billion vehicle-miles on rural roads and 129.8 billion vehicle-miles on urban roads and streets.

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

Travel in Millions		
All Roads and Streets		
Year	December	Year to Date
1970	89,911	1,120,328
1971	95,515	1,185,616
1972	101,040	1,268,363
1973	98,856	1,308,287
1974	105,083	1,289,644
1975	107,945	1,330,073
1976	113,030	1,409,162
1977	116,257	1,463,408
1978	124,595	1,548,211
1979	123,226	1,529,132
1980	124,798	1,520,856
1981	124,421	1,550,269
1982	127,139	1,592,481
1983	129,776	1,649,108
1984	136,095	1,716,770
1985	141,584	1,774,763
1986	149,628	1,838,240
1987	155,580	1,924,328
1988	164,798	2,025,586
1989	167,530	2,107,040
1990	168,621	2,147,501
1991	172,782	2,172,214
1992	180,999	2,247,152
1993	186,828	2,296,705
1994	193,087	2,357,587
1995	193,341	2,422,776
1996	201,462	2,482,201
1997	208,060	2,530,981

Corrected

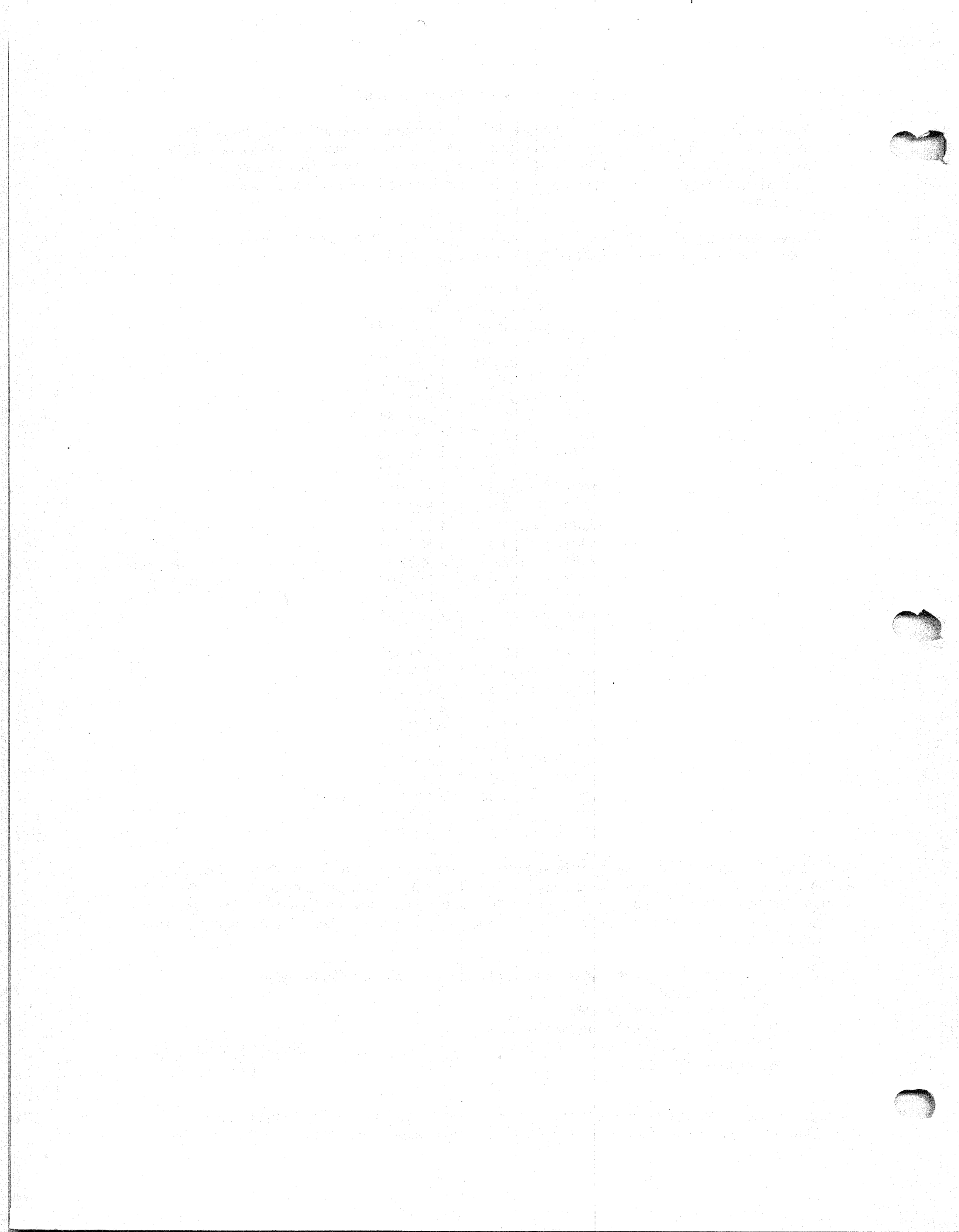
Traffic Volume Trends is a monthly report based on hourly traffic count data. These data, collected at approximately 4,000 continuous traffic counting locations nationwide, are used to determine the percent change in traffic for the current month compared to the same month in the previous year. This percent change is applied to the travel for the same month of the previous year to obtain an estimate of travel for the current month.

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1992	180,999	2,247,152
1993	186,828	2,296,705
1994	193,087	2,357,587
1995	193,341	2,422,776
1996	198,524	2,467,303
1997	208,060	2,530,981

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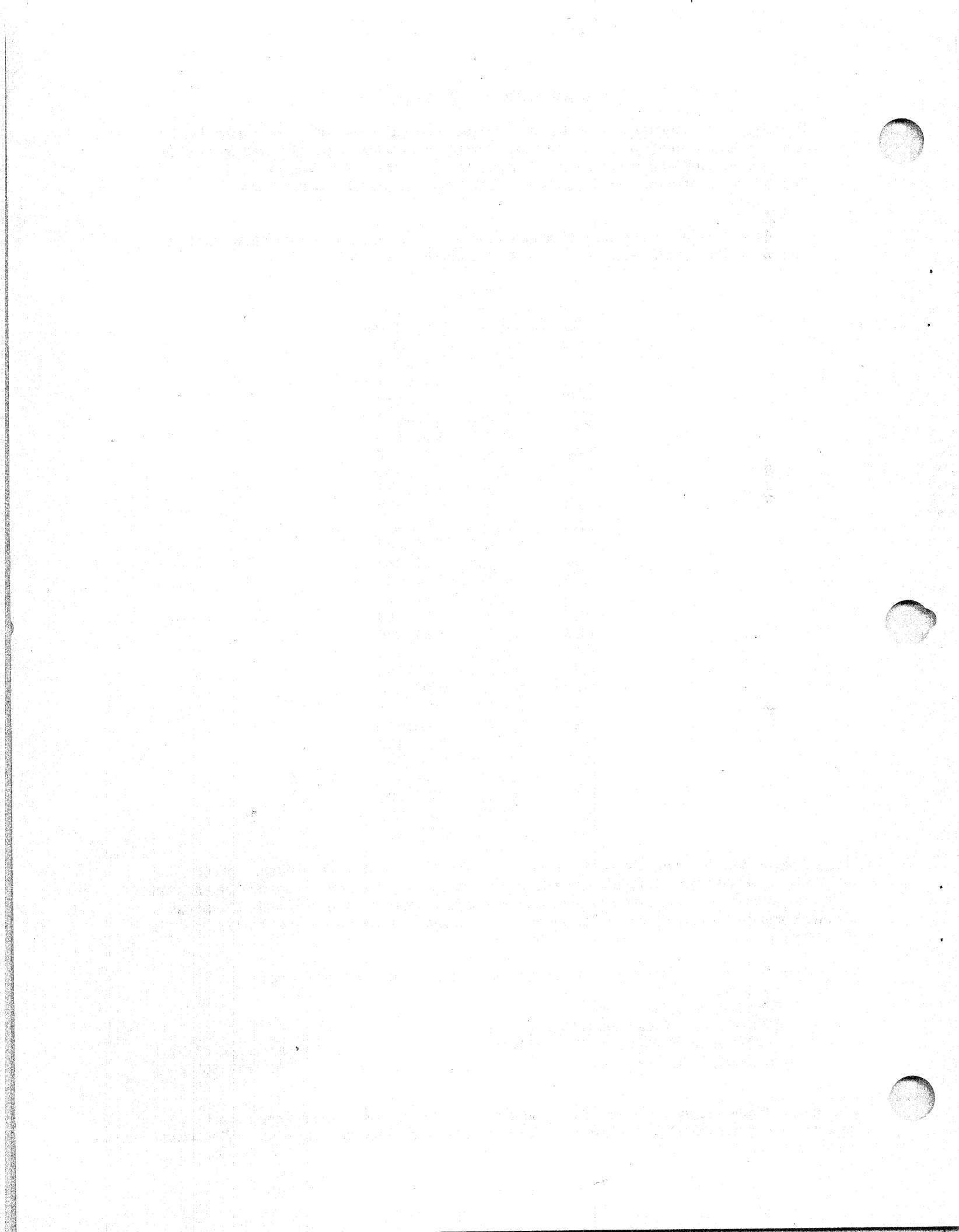


Table 1 - Estimated Individual Monthly Motor Vehicle Travel In The United States

System	Month											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1996 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.1	15.6	18.7	18.9	20.3	20.9	22.5	22.9	19.4	19.9	18.5	18.7
Rural Other Arterial	26.0	25.6	30.2	30.8	33.8	34.0	36.3	36.9	32.5	33.3	29.9	29.6
Other Rural	25.1	23.8	28.2	28.8	31.3	31.2	32.5	32.8	29.6	30.7	27.5	27.4
Urban Interstate	26.5	25.6	29.8	29.1	30.6	30.0	31.1	32.0	29.2	30.3	28.4	29.3
Urban Other Arterial	64.0	61.3	69.3	69.7	73.0	70.8	72.9	74.4	69.3	72.4	67.5	68.9
Other Urban	25.7	24.5	28.0	28.1	29.7	28.8	29.7	30.1	27.7	29.0	27.8	27.5
All Systems	183.5	176.6	204.2	205.3	218.7	215.6	225.1	229.1	207.6	215.7	199.6	201.5
1997 Individual Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.7	16.5	19.6	18.8	20.8	21.2	23.2	23.5	19.7	20.6	19.2	19.4
Rural Other Arterial	26.9	26.8	31.4	31.2	34.6	34.7	37.5	37.6	33.3	34.0	30.2	30.5
Other Rural	25.7	24.6	29.3	29.2	31.8	31.7	33.3	33.2	30.1	31.0	27.4	28.3
Urban Interstate	27.3	26.4	30.5	29.6	31.1	30.8	31.9	32.2	29.7	31.2	28.5	30.0
Urban Other Arterial	65.7	63.0	71.1	70.9	73.5	72.1	74.1	74.0	69.3	72.3	67.6	71.5
Other Urban	26.2	25.1	28.8	28.4	29.9	29.3	30.7	30.7	28.4	29.3	27.8	28.3
All Systems	188.5	182.4	210.8	208.1	221.7	219.7	230.7	231.3	210.5	218.4	200.8	208.1
Percent Change In Individual Monthly Travel 1997 vs. 1996												
Rural Interstate	3.7	5.5	4.5	-0.2	2.2	1.7	3.0	2.7	1.5	3.3	4.1	4.0
Rural Other Arterial	3.3	4.6	4.1	1.3	2.5	2.2	3.4	2.1	2.5	2.2	1.1	3.2
Other Rural	2.5	3.4	4.0	1.5	1.8	1.6	2.3	1.4	2.0	0.8	-0.3	3.4
Urban Interstate	2.9	2.8	2.5	1.7	1.6	2.7	2.6	0.6	1.6	3.0	0.4	2.4
Urban Other Arterial	2.6	2.7	2.6	1.8	0.7	1.8	1.6	-0.6	0.0	-0.2	0.1	3.7
Other Urban	2.0	2.4	2.9	1.0	0.8	1.8	3.3	2.1	2.7	1.2	-0.1	2.7
All Systems	2.7	3.3	3.2	1.4	1.4	1.9	2.5	1.0	1.4	1.3	0.6	3.3

Table 2 - Estimated Cumulative Monthly Motor Vehicle Travel In The United States

System	Month											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1996 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.1	31.7	50.5	69.3	89.6	110.5	133.0	156.0	175.4	195.3	213.8	232.4
Rural Other Arterial	26.0	51.6	81.8	112.6	146.4	180.4	216.7	253.5	286.0	319.3	349.2	378.8
Other Rural	25.1	48.9	77.1	105.8	137.1	168.3	200.8	233.6	263.2	293.9	321.4	348.8
Urban Interstate	26.5	52.2	82.0	111.1	141.7	171.7	202.8	234.8	263.9	294.3	322.6	351.9
Urban Other Arterial	64.0	125.3	194.6	264.3	337.3	408.0	481.0	555.4	624.7	697.2	764.7	833.6
Other Urban	25.7	50.3	78.3	106.4	136.0	164.8	194.5	224.6	252.2	281.2	309.0	336.6
All Systems	183.5	360.0	564.2	769.5	988.1	1203.7	1428.8	1657.8	1865.4	2081.1	2280.7	2482.2
1997 Cumulative Monthly Vehicle-Miles of Travel In Billions *												
Rural Interstate	16.7	33.2	52.8	71.6	92.4	113.6	136.8	160.3	180.0	200.6	219.9	239.3
Rural Other Arterial	26.9	53.6	85.1	116.3	150.9	185.6	223.2	260.8	294.1	328.1	358.4	388.9
Other Rural	25.7	50.3	79.6	108.8	140.7	172.4	205.6	238.8	269.0	300.0	327.4	355.7
Urban Interstate	27.3	53.7	84.2	113.8	144.9	175.7	207.6	239.8	269.5	300.7	329.1	359.2
Urban Other Arterial	65.7	128.7	199.7	270.7	344.2	416.2	490.3	564.3	633.6	705.9	773.4	844.9
Other Urban	26.2	51.4	80.2	108.6	138.5	167.7	198.4	229.1	257.5	286.9	314.7	343.0
All Systems	188.5	370.9	581.7	789.8	1011.5	1231.2	1461.9	1693.2	1903.7	2122.1	2322.9	2531.0
Percent Change In Cumulative Monthly Travel 1997 vs. 1996												
Rural Interstate	3.7	4.6	4.6	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.9
Rural Other Arterial	3.3	3.9	4.0	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.7
Other Rural	2.5	3.0	3.3	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.0
Urban Interstate	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.1
Urban Other Arterial	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.4
Other Urban	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.1	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.9
All Systems	2.7	3.0	3.1	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.8	2.0

* System entries may not add to give "All Systems" total due to rounding.

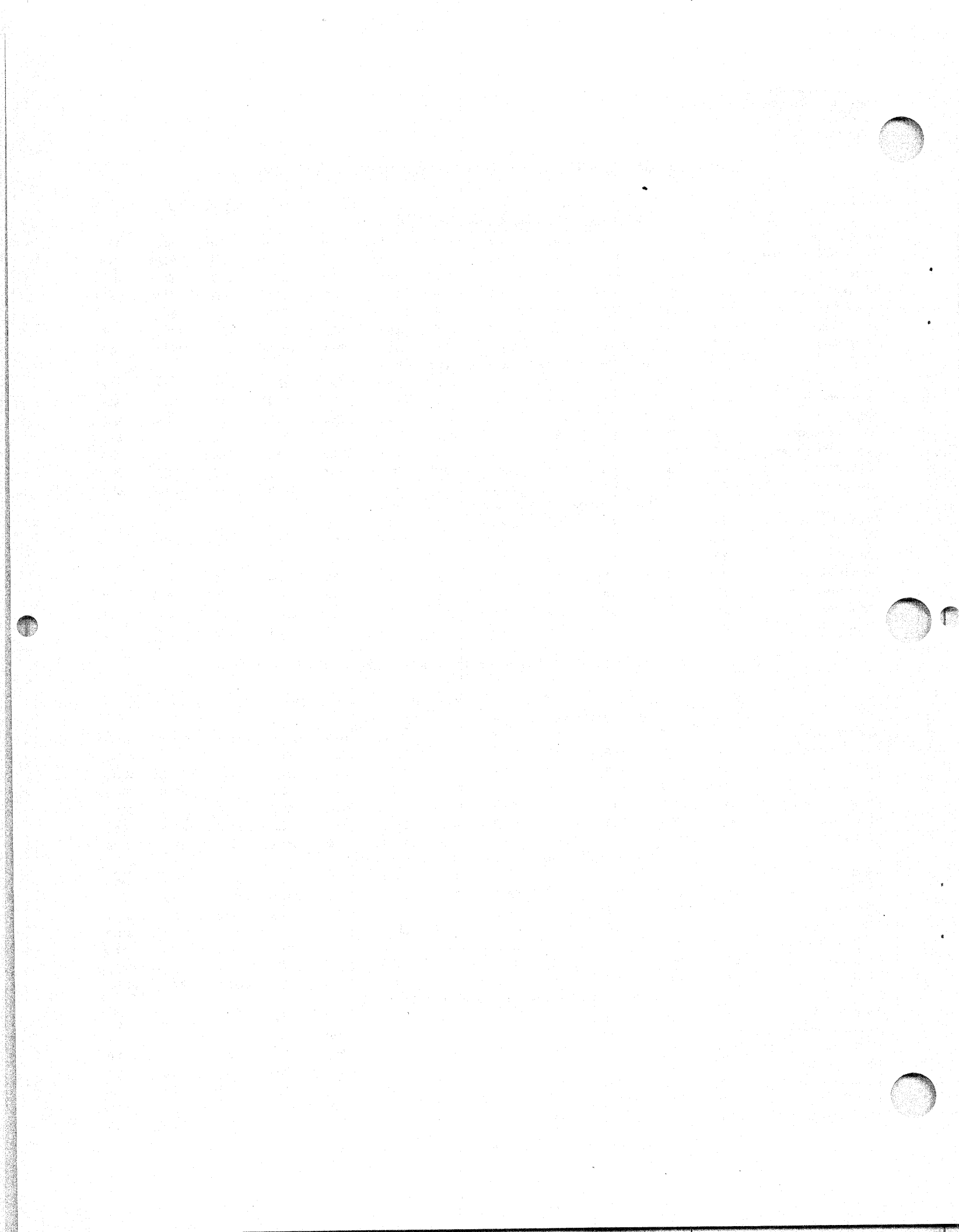


Table 3 - Changes On Rural Arterial Roads By Region and State

Region and State	December				November			
	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change	Number of Stations	Vehicle-Miles (Millions)		Percent Change
		1997 (Preliminary)	1996			1997 (Revised)	1996	
Northeast								
Connecticut	18	341	325	4.7	18	331	339	-2.2
Maine	35	402	393	2.1	35	392	398	-1.6
Massachusetts	17	439	411	6.8	18	422	421	0.1
New Hampshire	59	323	309	4.4	53	309	313	-1.2
New Jersey	8	620	596	3.9	8	624	627	-0.4
New York	48	1,278	1,261	1.3	46	1,280	1,303	-1.7
Pennsylvania	-	2,060	2,020	2.0	-	2,096	2,091	0.3
Rhode Island	10	58	56	3.6	-	49	50	-1.4
Vermont	37	211	206	2.4	35	200	200	-0.1
		5,730	5,578	2.7		5,703	5,741	-0.7
South Atlantic								
Delaware	36	133	128	3.8	36	133	133	-0.1
Dist Of Columbia	-	0	0	0.0	-	0	0	0.0
Florida	203	2,304	2,274	1.3	184	2,219	2,145	3.4
Georgia	32	2,085	1,985	5.1	34	1,983	1,889	5.0
Maryland	-	756	733	3.2	-	710	736	-3.6
North Carolina	-	1,836	1,788	2.6	-	1,882	1,832	2.8
South Carolina	24	1,388	1,348	2.9	23	1,398	1,331	5.0
Virginia	-	1,651	1,634	1.0	-	1,630	1,646	-1.0
West Virginia	9	620	602	3.0	14	572	600	-4.7
		10,773	10,493	2.7		10,528	10,313	2.1
North Central								
Illinois	24	1,567	1,518	3.2	28	1,585	1,525	3.9
Indiana	48	1,527	1,458	4.7	46	1,516	1,455	4.2
Iowa	129	935	911	2.6	129	933	903	3.3
Kansas	-	742	743	-0.1	-	762	726	5.0
Michigan	146	1,574	1,515	3.8	141	1,691	1,628	3.9
Minnesota	-	1,096	1,035	5.8	-	1,108	1,065	4.0
Missouri	38	1,344	1,385	-3.0	43	1,410	1,371	2.8
Nebraska	30	587	549	6.9	31	596	541	10.2
North Dakota	4	260	233	11.6	5	255	250	1.9
Ohio	46	1,720	1,697	1.3	50	1,786	1,713	4.2
South Dakota	40	328	294	11.7	51	329	307	7.3
Wisconsin	135	1,540	1,458	5.7	122	1,580	1,515	4.3
		13,218	12,796	3.3		13,551	13,001	4.2
South Gulf								
Alabama	56	1,191	1,163	2.4	54	1,191	1,154	3.1
Arkansas	13	982	921	6.6	6	885	922	-4.0
Kentucky	41	1,068	1,036	3.1	46	1,075	1,051	2.3
Louisiana	-	863	824	4.8	-	830	830	0.1
Mississippi	68	1,038	1,025	1.3	66	1,031	1,004	2.7
Oklahoma	-	1,036	963	7.6	-	890	926	-3.9
Tennessee	12	1,468	1,489	-1.4	18	1,452	1,479	-1.9
Texas	-	3,560	3,473	2.5	-	3,310	3,337	-0.8
		11,206	10,893	2.9		10,663	10,704	-0.4
West								
Alaska	50	77	76	1.9	49	77	74	3.7
Arizona	2	798	779	2.4	4	856	784	9.2
California	22	3,316	3,122	6.2	21	3,071	3,073	-0.1
Colorado	-	806	784	2.9	-	832	774	7.4
Hawaii	-	128	122	4.9	-	119	118	1.1
Idaho	141	356	320	11.1	150	374	347	7.8
Montana	25	389	343	13.2	24	414	384	7.8
Nevada	40	280	258	8.3	38	279	266	5.0
New Mexico	70	645	663	-2.7	68	651	624	4.4
Oregon	122	787	728	8.1	123	829	777	6.7
Utah	49	401	383	4.9	72	426	391	8.9
Washington	46	795	685	16.0	53	836	752	11.2
Wyoming	118	262	248	5.6	120	284	267	6.3
		9,040	8,512	6.2		9,045	8,629	4.8
TOTALS		49,967	48,273	3.5		49,491	48,387	2.3

Note: Where Number of Stations are shown as dashes, the values for Vehicle-Miles and Percent Change are derived from the estimated VMT based on data from surrounding States or the Nationwide average VMT.

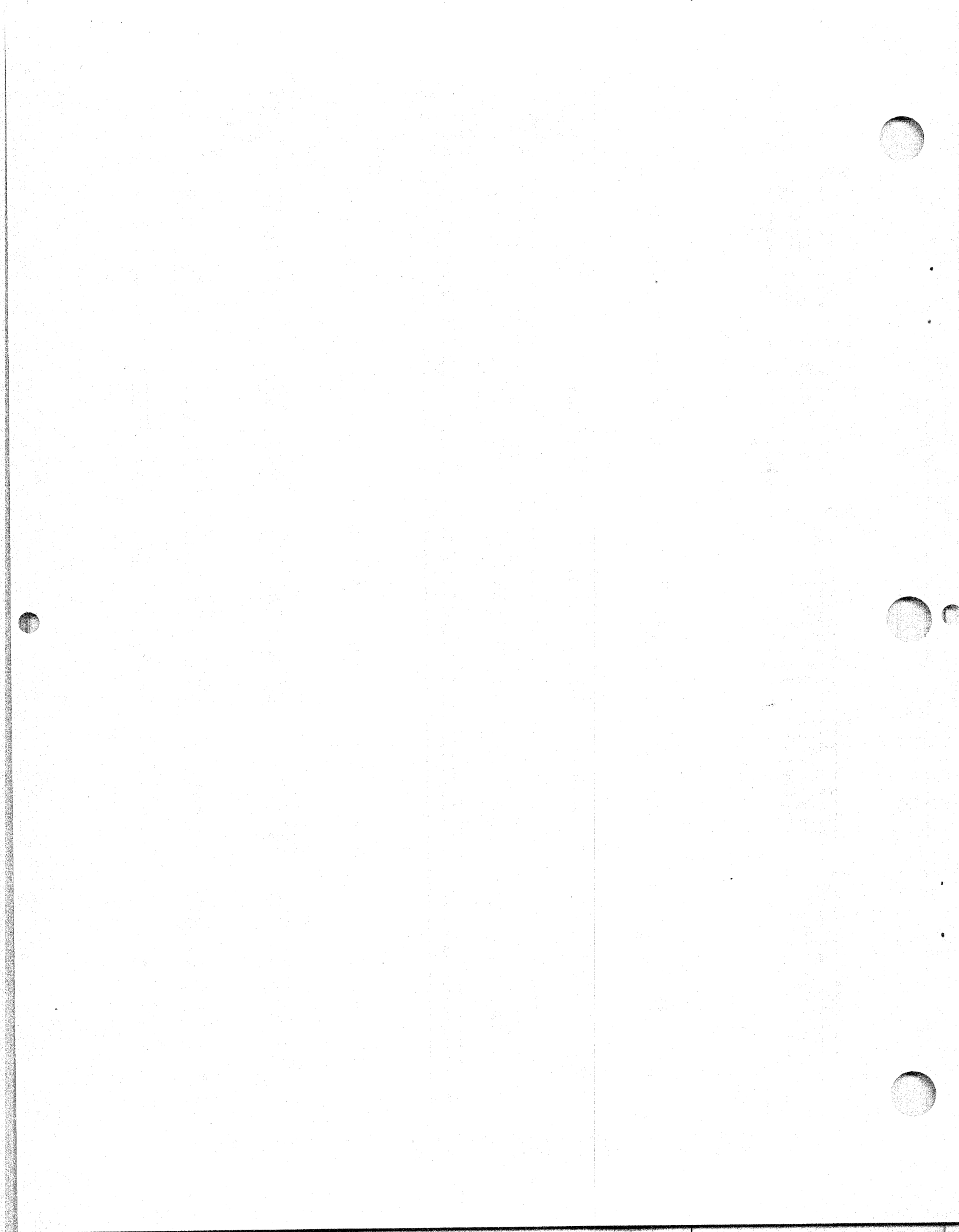
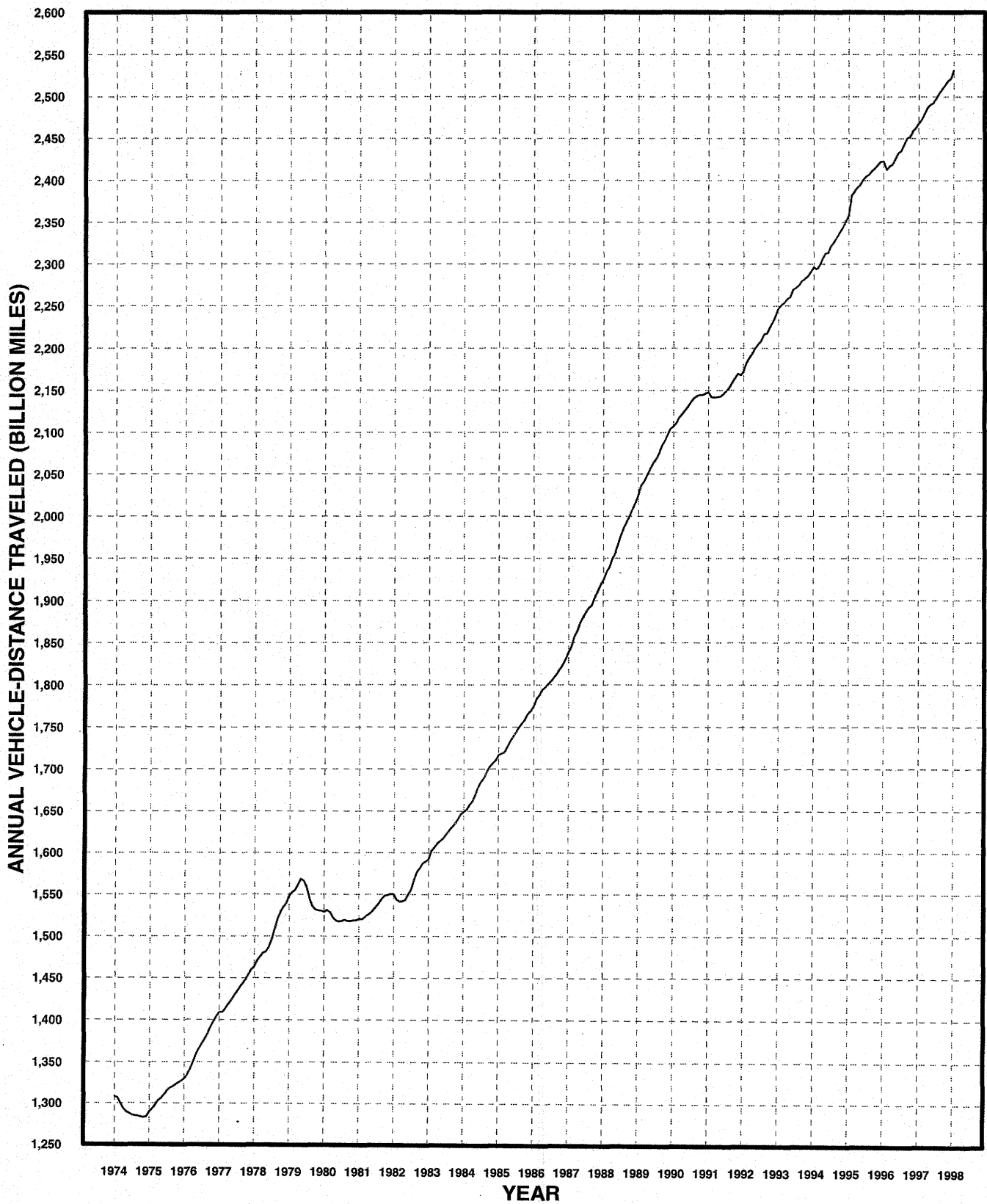


FIGURE 1 - MOVING 12-MONTH TOTAL ON ALL HIGHWAYS



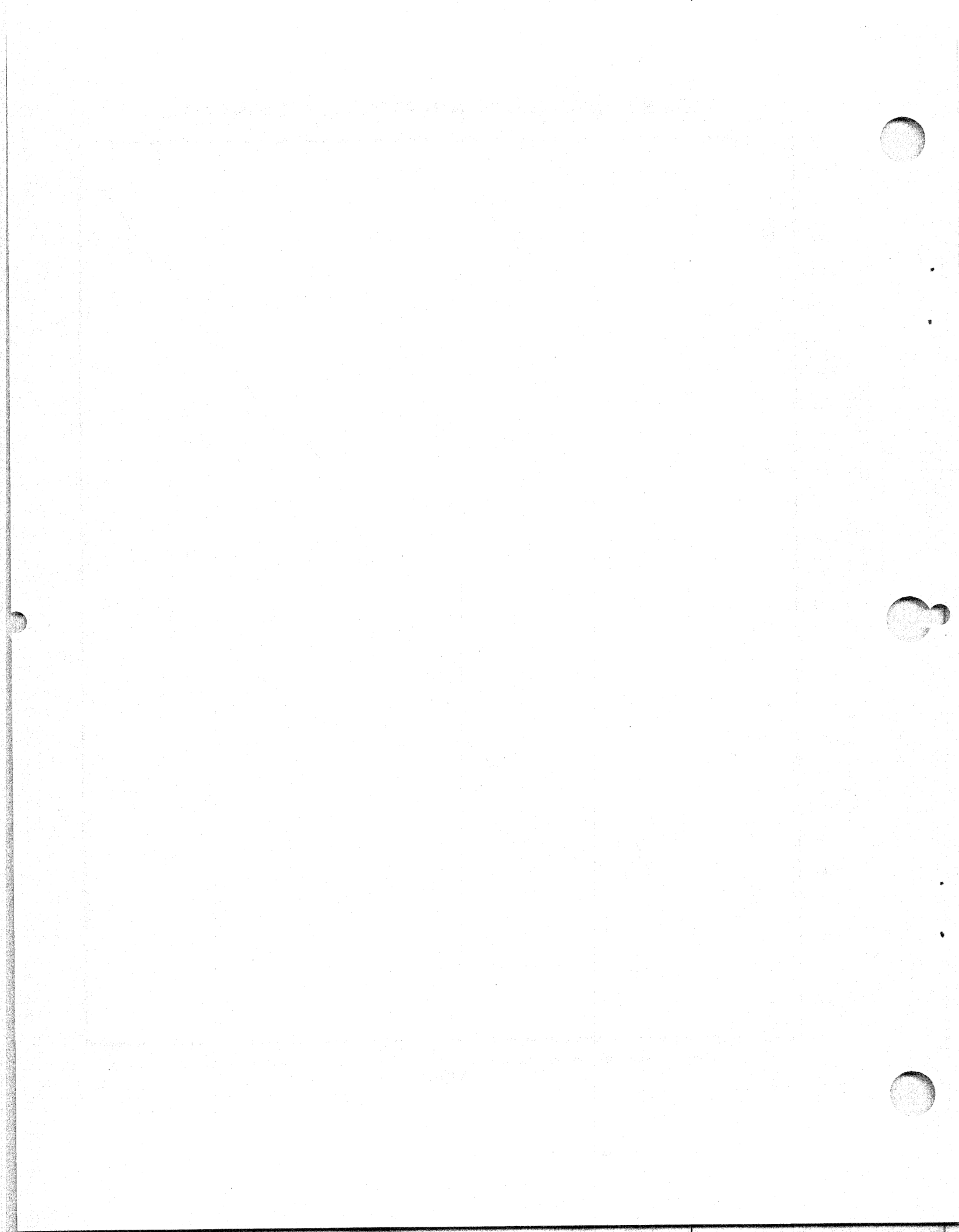
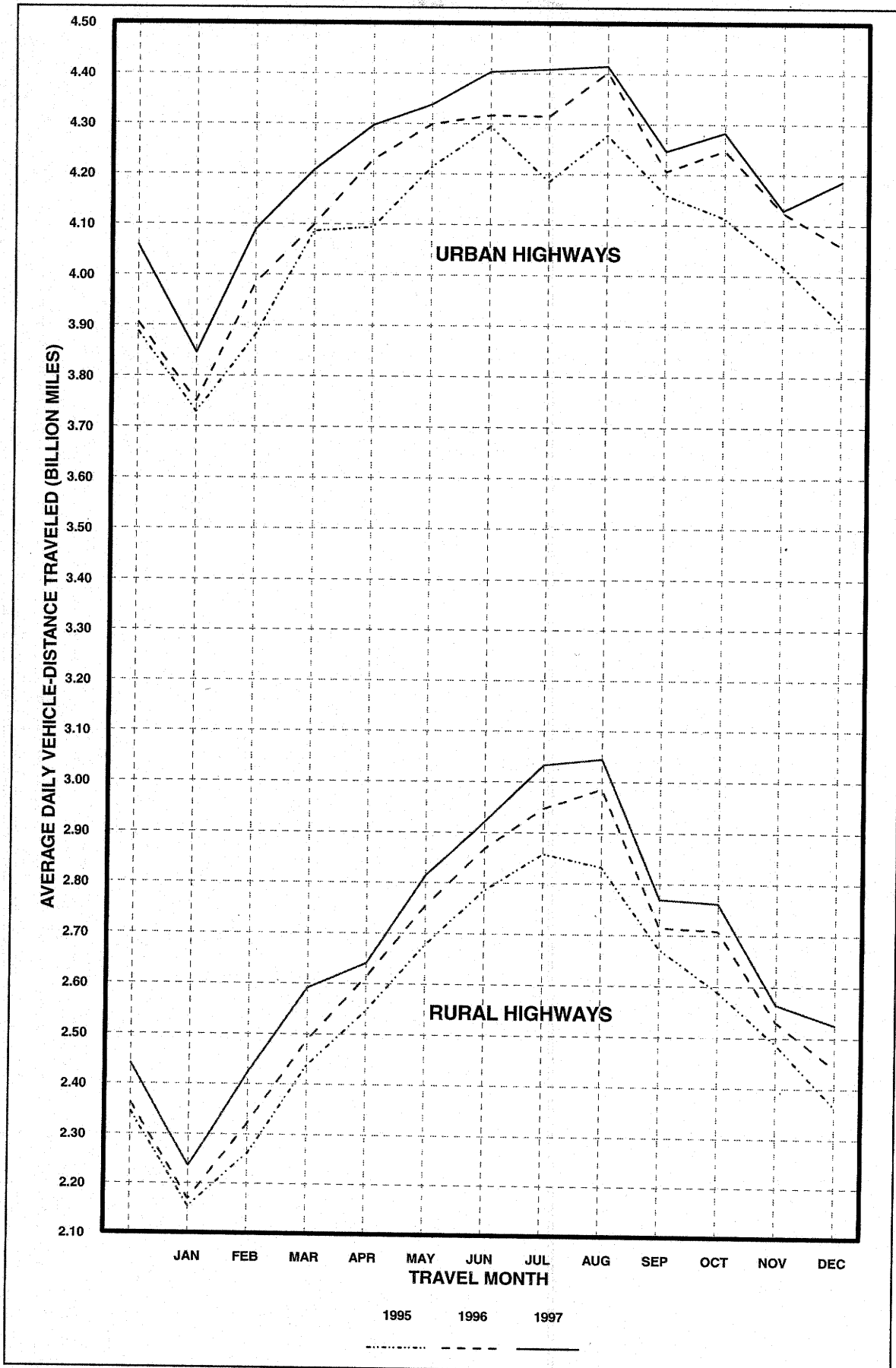
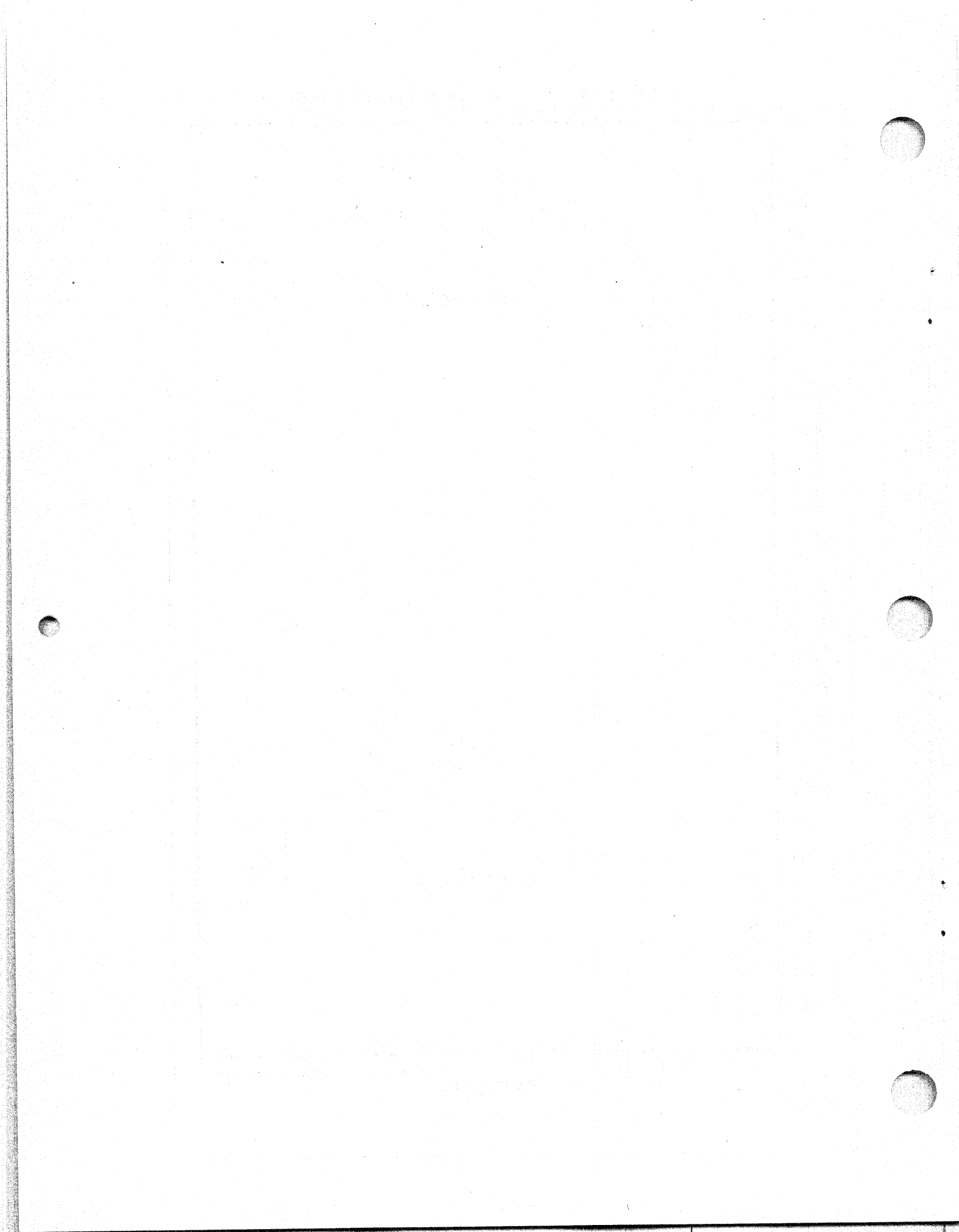


FIGURE 2 - TRAVEL ON U.S. HIGHWAYS BY MONTH





IMPORTANT NOTICE

Because of funding constraints, this will be the last printed version of the MONTHLY TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS until further notice. The report is currently being put on the FHWA Office of Highway Information Management website at the following address:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ohim>

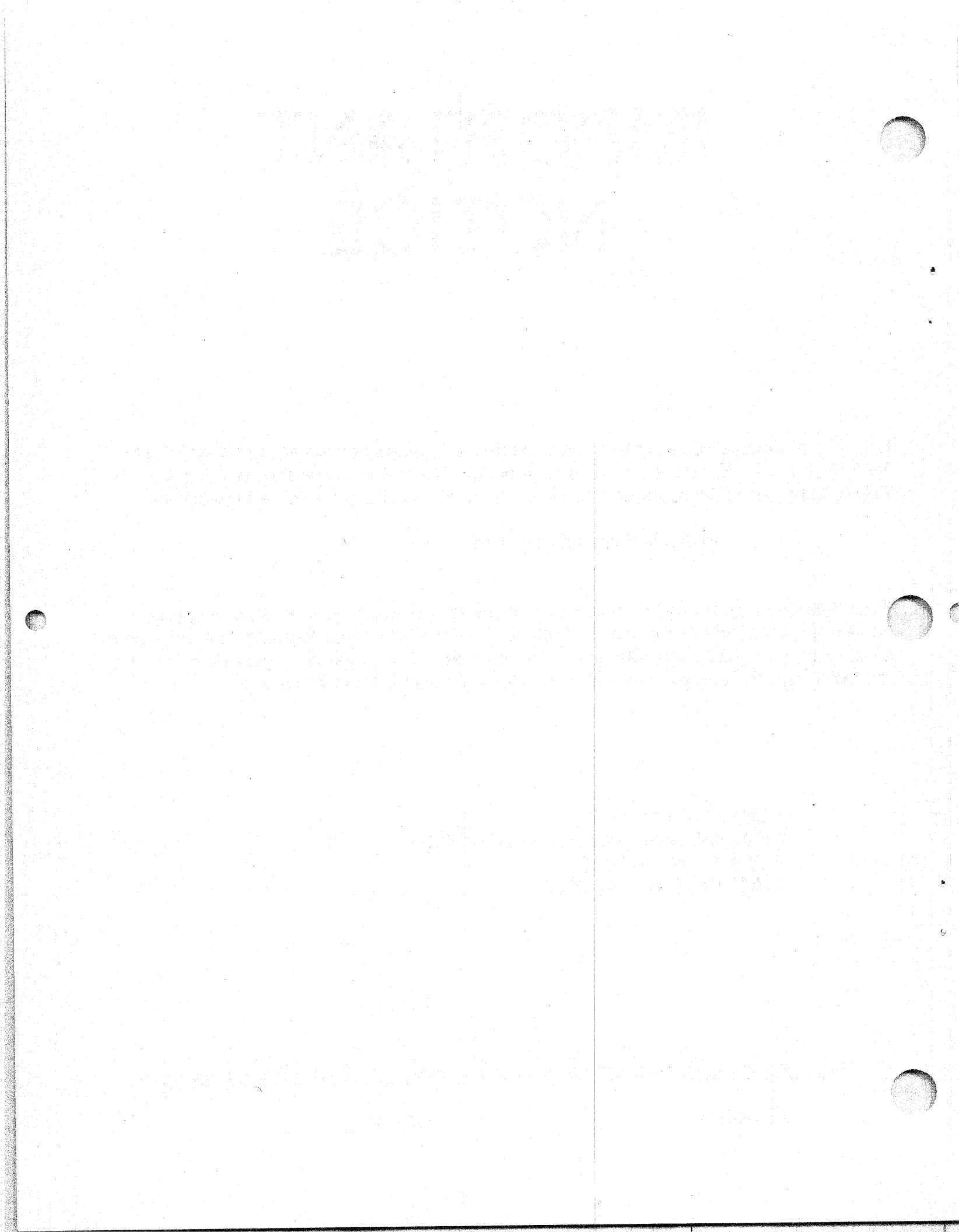
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FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 3306 - HPM-30
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

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