

*Hitchcock*  
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PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION  
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY  
Washington 25, D. C.

TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

November 1948

On the basis of preliminary figures, motor vehicle travel on main and local roads for the country as a whole was higher during November 1948 than in any previous November.

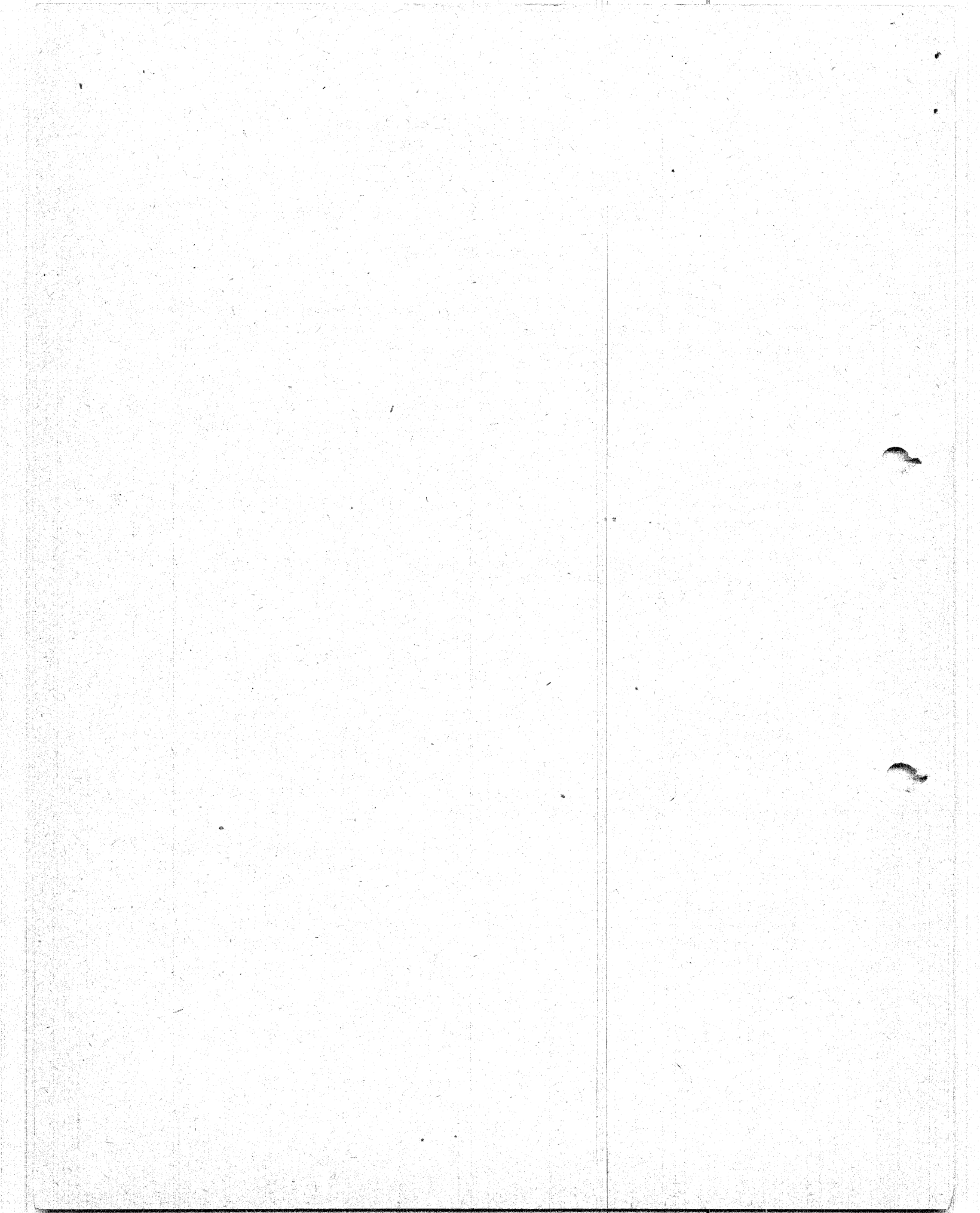
	Rural traffic in vehicle-miles November 1948 (millions)	Percentage change from		
		1941	1943	1947
Main roads	11,574	+16.7	+92.7	+ 8.2
Local roads	4,183	+4.2	+89.7	+ 6.1
All rural roads	15,757	+13.1	+91.9	+ 7.6

Rural travel in the geographic regions and changes from previous years are as follows:

	Rural traffic in vehicle-miles November 1948 (millions)	Percentage change from		
		1941	1943	1947
Eastern regions	5,063	+ 6.0	+96.8	+ 6.6
Central regions	7,980	+13.6	+90.3	+ 8.1
Western regions	2,714	+27.2	+88.2	+ 8.0

Traffic on city streets and on rural roads as a whole was heavier than in any previous November.

	Percentage change from		
	1941	1943	1947
City streets	+22.9	+75.9	+ 5.3
Rural roads	+13.1	+91.9	+ 7.6
All roads and streets	+17.8	+83.4	+ 6.4



Comparisons of November 1948 travel in several cities with that of November 1947 are as follows:

	Percentage change
2 stations in Akron, Ohio	+ 7.1
1 station in Cheyenne, Wyoming	- 4.6
6 stations in Chicago, Illinois	- 1.1
2 stations in Columbus, Ohio	- 1.6
1 station in Concord, New Hampshire	- 1.6
2 stations in Dayton, Ohio	+ 0.3
1 station in Denver, Colorado	+17.5
3 stations in Detroit, Michigan	+10.5
14 stations in Washington, D. C.	+ 6.9
1 station in Fort Morgan, Colorado	+ 1.9
1 station in Grand Junction, Colorado	+16.4
1 station in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia	- 6.7
1 station in Loveland, Colorado	+ 5.2
9 stations in Milwaukee, Wisconsin	+ 7.4
8 stations in St. Louis, Missouri	+ 8.7
1 station in Salt Lake City, Utah	+13.7
1 station in Santa Fe, New Mexico	+22.6
6 urban toll facilities	+ 1.4

H. S. Fairbank, Deputy Commissioner  
Public Roads Administration

Attachments



TABLE 1.--PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR  
NOVEMBER 1948 INCLUDING 689 STATIONS IN 47 STATES

Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from November 1947	Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from November 1947
<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i>			<i>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Alabama	7	+ 5.1	Alabama	2	- 2.4
Arizona	5	+ 9.6	Connecticut	3	+ 6.5
Arkansas	16	+14.1	Delaware	2	-31.8
California	6	+ 3.7	Georgia	3	+13.6
Colorado	22	+ 5.9	Indiana	1	+10.2
Connecticut	16	+ 5.5	Iowa	8	+29.4
Delaware	4	+ 6.7	Maryland	1	+ 7.3
Florida	18	+ 6.9	Michigan	2	- 6.7
Georgia	7	+ 0.3	Missouri	2	+26.3
Idaho	8	+ 1.8	Montana	2	+19.9
Illinois	5	+17.1	Nebraska	1	-16.3
Indiana	21	+ 9.2	North Dakota	1	+11.3
Iowa	26	+18.5	Ohio	1	+ 9.6
Kansas	14	+13.8	Oregon	1	+15.8
Kentucky	11	+ 3.5	Rhode Island	1	+14.1
Louisiana	8	+18.6	Wisconsin	1	+41.1
Maine	11	+ 4.5			
Maryland	17	+ 9.9	<i>TOTAL - 16 STATES</i>	32	+ 6.1
Massachusetts	8	+ 9.1			
Michigan	26	+ 8.2	<i>ALL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Minnesota	24	+17.9	<i>47 STATES</i>	489	+ 7.6
Mississippi	10	+ 7.5			
Missouri	25	+ 7.6	<i>3 EASTERN REGIONS</i>	184	+ 6.6
Montana	12	+21.5			
Nebraska	11	+ 9.9	<i>4 CENTRAL REGIONS</i>	385	+ 8.1
Nevada	16	+10.1			
New Hampshire	12	+ 9.8	<i>2 WESTERN REGIONS</i>	120	+ 8.0
New Jersey	4	+ 7.6			
New Mexico	14	+ 7.6			
New York	20	+12.6			
North Carolina	11	+23.3			
North Dakota	11	+23.3			
Ohio	14	+ 5.7			
Oklahoma	20	+ 4.0			
Oregon	7	- 1.7			
Pennsylvania	28	+ 9.1			
Rhode Island	2	+ 5.0			
South Carolina	4	+ 3.8			
South Dakota	10	+30.8			
Tennessee	13	+ 4.3			
Texas	86	+ 3.2			
Utah	11	+14.6			
Vermont	12	+13.0			
Virginia	3	+ 9.5			
Washington	10	+ 4.8			
West Virginia	8	+16.7			
Wisconsin	8	+13.9			
Wyoming	6	+30.2			
<i>TOTAL - 47 STATES</i>	657	+ 8.2			

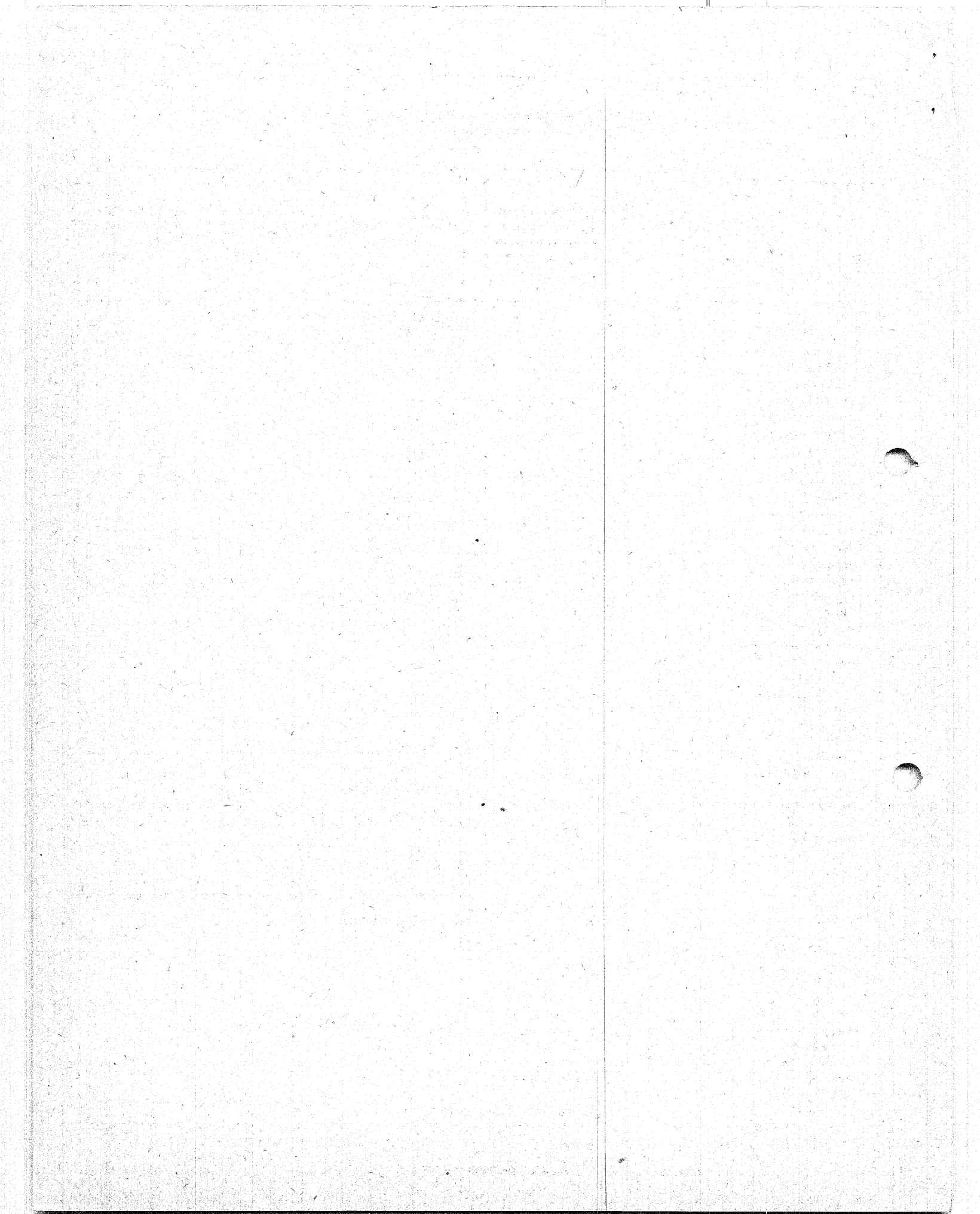


TABLE 2.--REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR  
OCTOBER 1948 INCLUDING 681 STATIONS IN 47 STATES<sup>1</sup>

Region and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from October 1947	Region and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from October 1947
<b>NEW ENGLAND</b>			<b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>		
Connecticut	19	+ 6.1	Alabama	6	+13.6
Maine	10	+ 8.9	Kentucky	10	+ 4.6
Massachusetts	8	+ 3.3	Mississippi	10	+11.3
New Hampshire	12	+ 9.3	Tennessee	15	+ 0.9
Rhode Island	3	+ 5.3	Subtotal	41	+ 6.1
Vermont	12	- 2.3	<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>		
Subtotal	64	+ 5.2	Arkansas	21	+ 8.2
<b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC</b>			Louisiana	8	+19.7
New Jersey	4	+ 1.6	Oklahoma	20	+ 5.2
New York	---	-----	Texas	84	+ 9.2
Pennsylvania	27	+ 1.1	Subtotal	133	+ 9.4
Subtotal	31	+ 1.2	<b>MOUNTAIN</b>		
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC</b>			Arizona	5	+ 6.9
Delaware	6	+ 3.2	Colorado	22	+ 4.3
Maryland	18	+ 8.6	Idaho	8	+17.5
Virginia	1	+ 6.2	Montana	14	+13.1
West Virginia	10	+14.4	Nevada	16	+ 4.5
Subtotal north portion	35	+ 8.9	New Mexico	16	+ 8.5
Florida	16	+ 7.7	Utah	11	+12.3
Georgia	10	+ 1.7	Wyoming	6	+16.7
North Carolina	20	+12.9	Subtotal	98	+ 9.1
South Carolina	4	+ 5.1	<b>PACIFIC</b>		
Subtotal south portion	50	+ 8.8	California	5	+ 2.2
Subtotal region	85	+ 8.9	Oregon	9	+10.8
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL</b>			Washington	10	+ 2.9
Illinois	5	+ 8.7	Subtotal	24	+ 4.9
Indiana	22	+ 7.4	<b>TOTAL ALL STATES</b>		
Michigan	28	+ 0.6	681		+ 5.9
Ohio	12	+ 6.2	<b>STATE HIGHWAYS</b>		
Wisconsin	9	+ 5.8	650		+ 7.3
Subtotal	76	+ 4.0	<b>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</b>		
<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL</b>			31		+ 2.1
Iowa	32	+ 6.5	<b>3 EASTERN REGIONS</b>		
Kansas	13	+13.2	180		+ 4.7
Minnesota	23	+ 9.7	<b>4 CENTRAL REGIONS</b>		
Missouri	27	+ 3.2	379		+ 6.8
Nebraska	12	+ 4.6	<b>2 WESTERN REGIONS</b>		
North Dakota	12	+18.0	122		+ 5.3
South Dakota	10	+10.0			
Subtotal	129	+ 6.8			

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





**TABLE 3.--NUMBER OF VEHICLES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPES, USING TOLL FACILITIES  
IN NOVEMBER 1948 COMPARED WITH THOSE IN NOVEMBER 1947**

Facilities	1948			Percentage change from 1947		
	Total	Passenger cars <sup>1</sup>	Trucks and busses	Total	Pas-senger cars <sup>1</sup>	Trucks and busses
<b>EASTERN REGIONS</b>						
3 in the New England States	797,584	719,484	78,100	+26.0	+26.1	+24.4
14 in the Middle Atlantic States	12,237,547	10,642,652	1,594,895	+9.7	+9.3	+11.9
2 parkways in the Middle Atlantic States	1,496,541	1,496,541	-----	+15.9	+15.9	-----
Pennsylvania Turnpike <sup>2</sup>	259,283	195,800	63,483	+12.2	+8.6	+24.8
5 in the South Atlantic States	455,539	361,887	93,652	+8.5	+7.9	+11.1
<b>TOTAL - 25 facilities</b>	<b>15,246,494</b>	<b>13,416,364</b>	<b>1,830,130</b>	<b>+11.0</b>	<b>+10.8</b>	<b>+12.8</b>
<b>CENTRAL REGIONS</b>						
3 on the Great Lakes Canadian border <sup>3</sup>	288,658	270,097	18,561	+5.8	+5.4	+11.6
1 in the Great Lakes Region	47,900	42,311	5,589	+8.3	+6.6	+22.3
<i>Subtotal - 4 facilities</i>	<i>336,558</i>	<i>312,408</i>	<i>24,150</i>	<i>+6.2</i>	<i>+5.6</i>	<i>+13.9</i>
2 on the Ohio River	259,300	224,656	34,644	+13.2	+14.7	+4.1
6 on the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers						
St. Louis and North	479,986	401,093	78,893	+4.6	+4.6	+4.8
4 on the Miss. River south of St. Louis	185,692	127,708	57,984	+16.9	+8.6	+40.3
<i>Subtotal - 10 facilities</i>	<i>665,678</i>	<i>528,801</i>	<i>136,877</i>	<i>+7.7</i>	<i>+5.5</i>	<i>+17.4</i>
4 on the Missouri River	168,244	137,471	30,773	+5.6	+5.9	+4.4
2 in the West South Central States	24,528	23,480	1,048	+5.6	+6.5	-11.3
<i>Subtotal - 6 facilities</i>	<i>192,772</i>	<i>160,951</i>	<i>31,821</i>	<i>+5.6</i>	<i>+6.0</i>	<i>+3.8</i>
<b>TOTAL - 22 facilities</b>	<b>1,454,308</b>	<b>1,226,816</b>	<b>227,492</b>	<b>+8.0</b>	<b>+7.2</b>	<b>+12.7</b>
<b>WESTERN REGIONS</b>						
1 in California	2,187,318	1,988,478	198,840	+4.2	+4.0	+6.2
4 in the Oregon-Washington Area	377,991	328,946	49,045	+6.0	+4.9	+14.1
<b>TOTAL - 5 facilities</b>	<b>2,565,309</b>	<b>2,317,424</b>	<b>247,885</b>	<b>+4.4</b>	<b>+4.1</b>	<b>+7.7</b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>						
<b>TOTAL - 52 facilities</b>	<b>19,266,111</b>	<b>16,960,604</b>	<b>2,305,507</b>	<b>+9.9</b>	<b>+9.5</b>	<b>+12.2</b>

<sup>1</sup>Non-revenue vehicles included in report and treated as passenger cars unless otherwise specified.

<sup>2</sup>Number of vehicles, those using any portion of the facility.

<sup>3</sup>One of these facilities is in Western New York and therefore is related to similar facilities in the Central States.



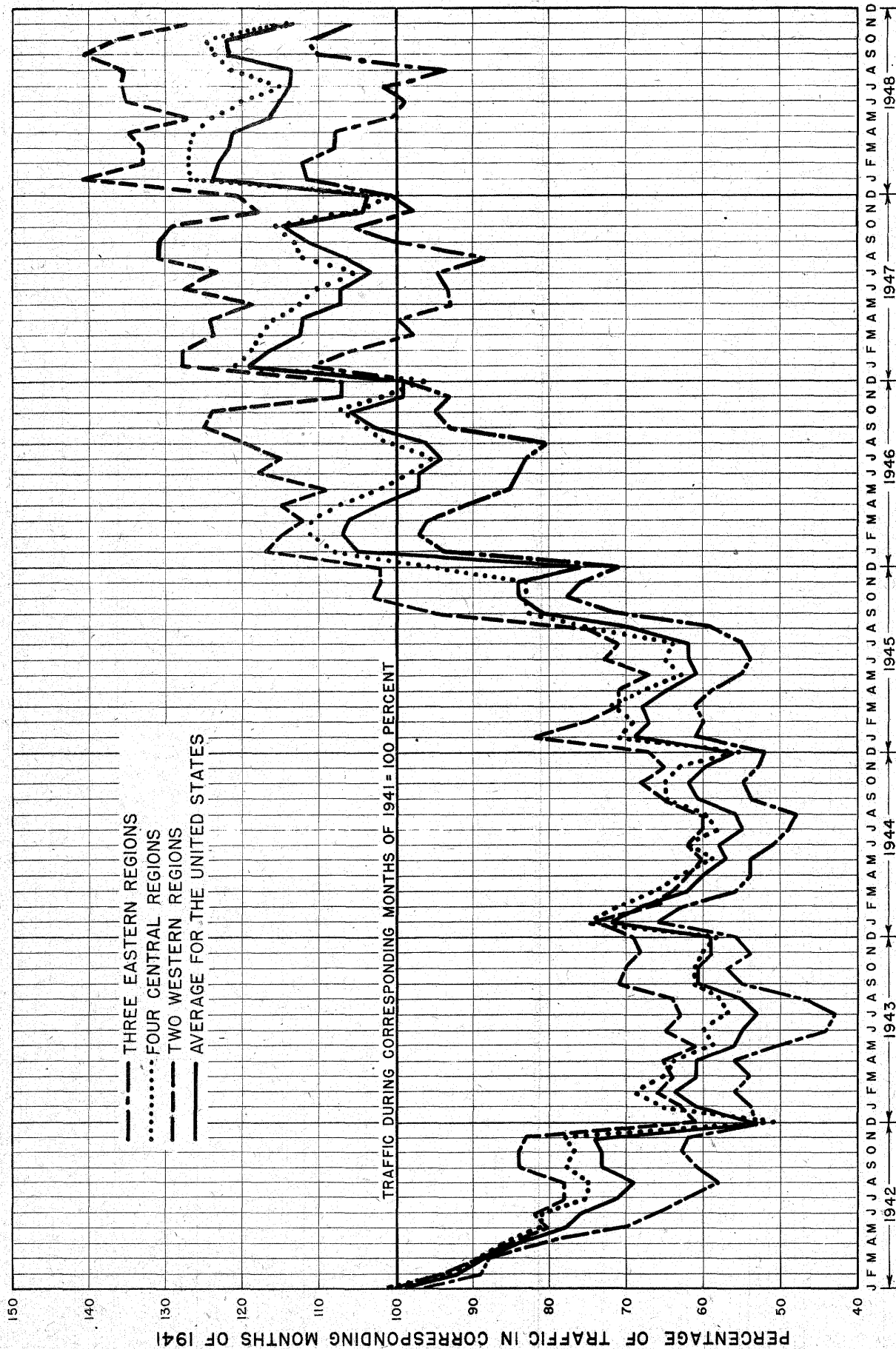


FIGURE 1 - PERCENTAGE RELATIONS OF RURAL TRAFFIC BY MONTHS IN 1942 TO 1948 WITH THAT IN CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1941



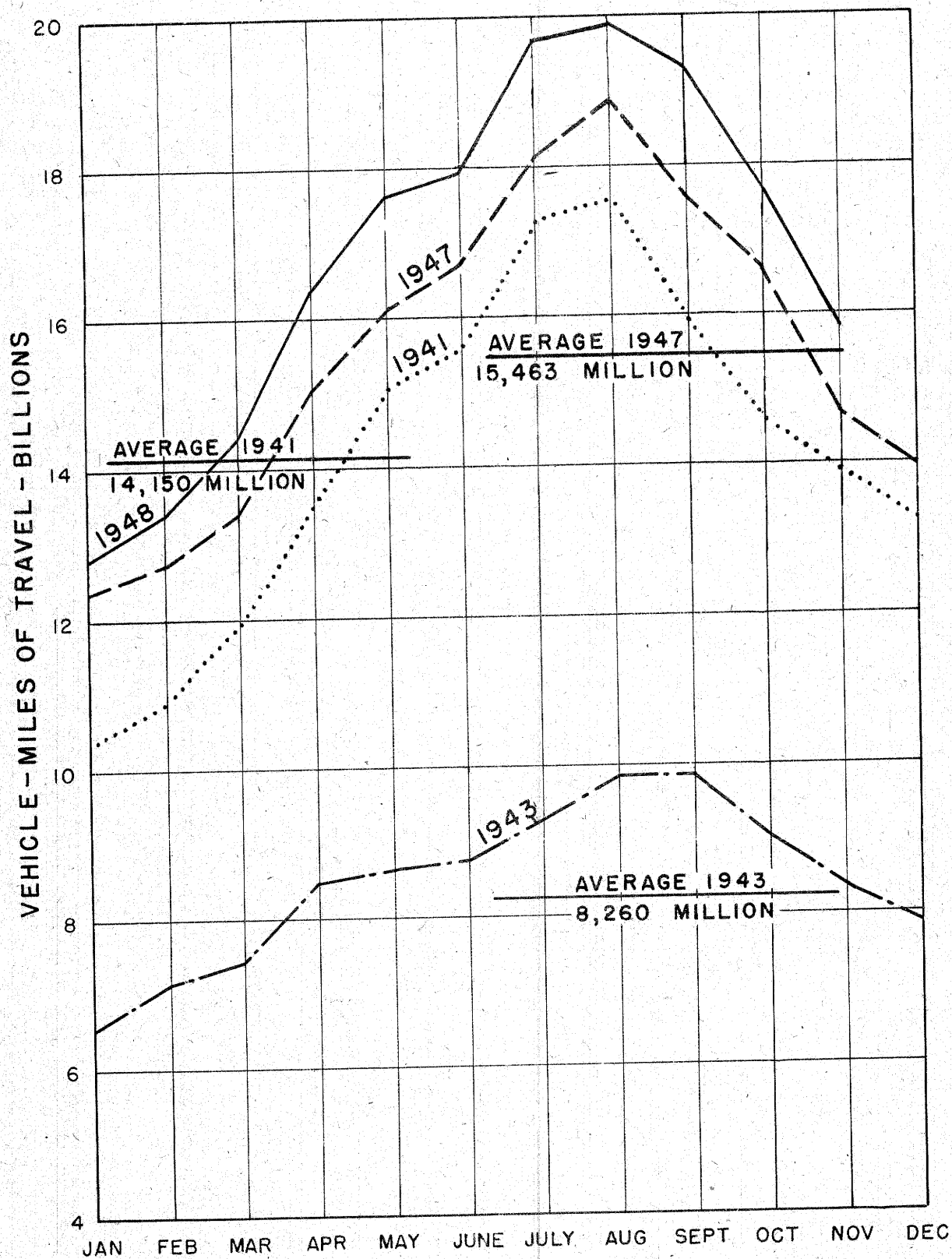


FIGURE 2 - VEHICLE - MILES OF TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS IN 1941, 1943, 1947 AND 1948

