

Wm Hitchcock
~~*Wm H. H. H. H.*~~

PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 30, 1948

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

On the basis of preliminary figures, motor vehicle travel on main rural roads during March 1948 was higher than in any previous March. Local road travel showed a slight decrease compared with 1947 and 1941.

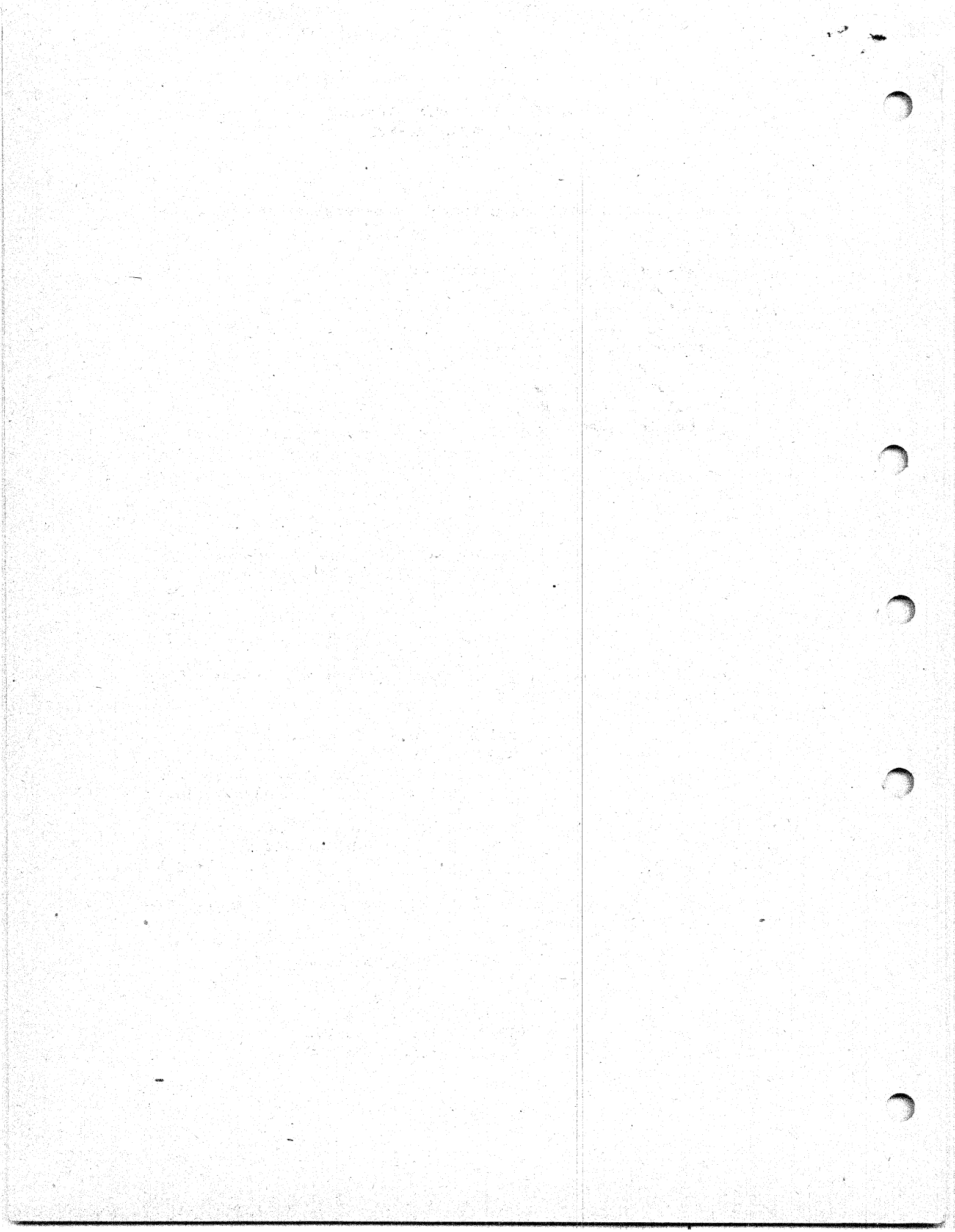
	Rural traffic in vehicle-miles March 1948 (millions)	Percentage change from		
		1941	1943	1947
Main roads	10,842	+27.1	+102.9	+ 9.9
Local roads	3,370	- 0.2	+72.3	- 3.1

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

	Rural traffic in vehicle-miles March 1948 (millions)	Percentage change from		
		1941	1943	1947
Eastern regions	4,083	+ 3.0	+89.4	+ 5.3
Central regions	7,566	+26.0	+94.3	+ 7.1
Western regions	2,563	+32.0	+106.9	+ 6.6

Traffic in cities and on all roads and streets was heavier than in any previous March.

	Percentage change from		
	1941	1943	1947
City streets	+25.0	+72.0	+ 7.0
All rural roads	+19.3	+94.7	+ 6.5
Average	+22.1	+82.4	+ 6.8



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

6 stations in Chicago, Illinois +11.7
3 stations in Columbus, Ohio + 7.8
3 stations in Detroit, Michigan +27.9
10 stations in Washington, D. C. + 7.0
9 stations in Milwaukee, Wisconsin + 2.1
7 stations in St. Louis, Missouri + 8.0
1 station in Salt Lake City, Utah + 7.9
1 station in Santa Fe, New Mexico + 3.4
5 urban toll facilities + 0.3

H. S. FAIRBANK, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Attachments

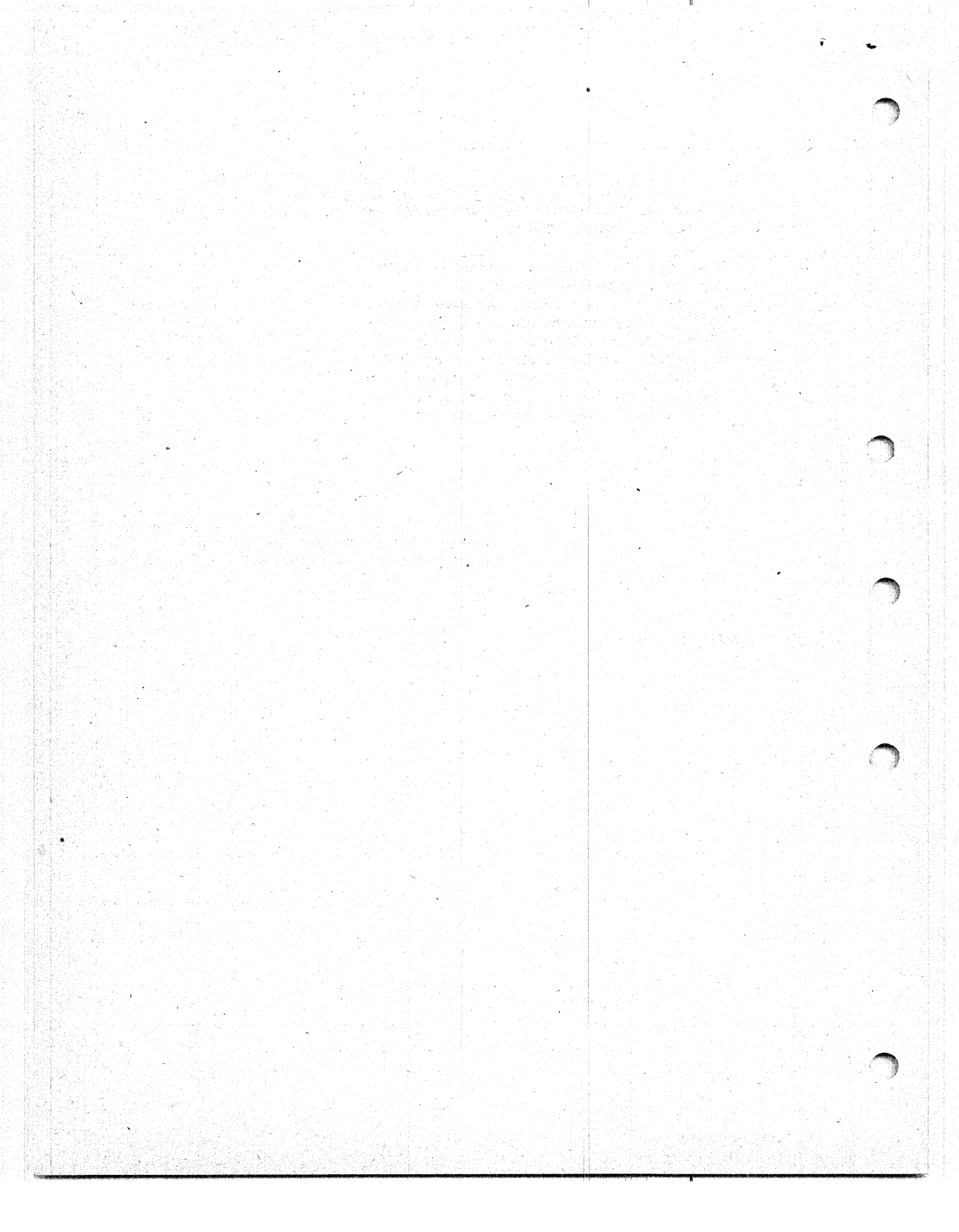


TABLE 1.--PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR
MARCH 1948 INCLUDING 611 STATIONS IN 42 STATES¹

Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from March 1947	Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from March 1947
<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i>			<i>STATE HIGHWAYS</i>		
Alabama	8	+ 9.4	(Continued)		
Arkansas	19	+ 1.7	Vermont	7	+ 6.3
California	3	+10.7	Washington	9	+ 9.4
Connecticut	16	+11.1	West Virginia	11	+30.8
Delaware	4	+10.6	Wisconsin	9	+ 6.1
Florida	18	+ 5.2	Wyoming	6	- 2.5
Georgia	6	+ 5.9			
Idaho	8	+11.7	<i>TOTAL - 42 STATES</i>	579	+ 9.9
Illinois	6	+16.4			
Indiana	21	+19.9	<i>LOCAL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Iowa	26	+ 5.6	Alabama	1	+ 5.7
Kansas	14	+10.2	Connecticut	3	+ 2.0
Kentucky	11	+17.3	Delaware	2	-28.2
Louisiana	8	+ 6.5	Georgia	3	- 7.1
Maine	8	- 3.3	Indiana	1	+19.3
Maryland	17	+16.4	Iowa	8	-12.2
Massachusetts	9	+ 2.4	Maryland	1	+ 1.3
Michigan	26	+11.6	Michigan	2	-16.2
Minnesota	26	+ 2.2	Missouri	2	-12.6
Mississippi	10	+14.7	Montana	2	+ 5.8
Missouri	24	+10.4	Nebraska	1	- 0.5
Montana	12	+12.7	Ohio	2	+ 0.3
Nebraska	11	- 2.9	Oregon	1	+ 0.8
Nevada	16	- 1.3	Rhode Island	1	+ 3.9
New Hampshire	14	+ 7.9	Tennessee	1	+ 2.8
New Jersey	4	+ 1.2	Wisconsin	1	- 8.8
New Mexico	16	+ 6.0			
North Carolina	20	+21.1	<i>TOTAL - 16 STATES</i>	32	- 3.1
Ohio	21	+17.9			
Oklahoma	20	+ 6.5	<i>ALL HIGHWAYS</i>		
Oregon	4	+ 7.4	<i>42 STATES</i>	611	+ 6.5
Rhode Island	2	+ 0.3			
South Carolina	3	+11.0	<i>3 EASTERN REGIONS</i>	149	+ 5.3
South Dakota	10	+ 5.5	<i>4 CENTRAL REGIONS</i>	374	+ 7.1
Tennessee	7	+23.1	<i>2 WESTERN REGIONS</i>	88	+ 8.6
Texas	78	+10.5			
Utah	11	+ 4.8			

¹Includes all States except Arizona, Colorado, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

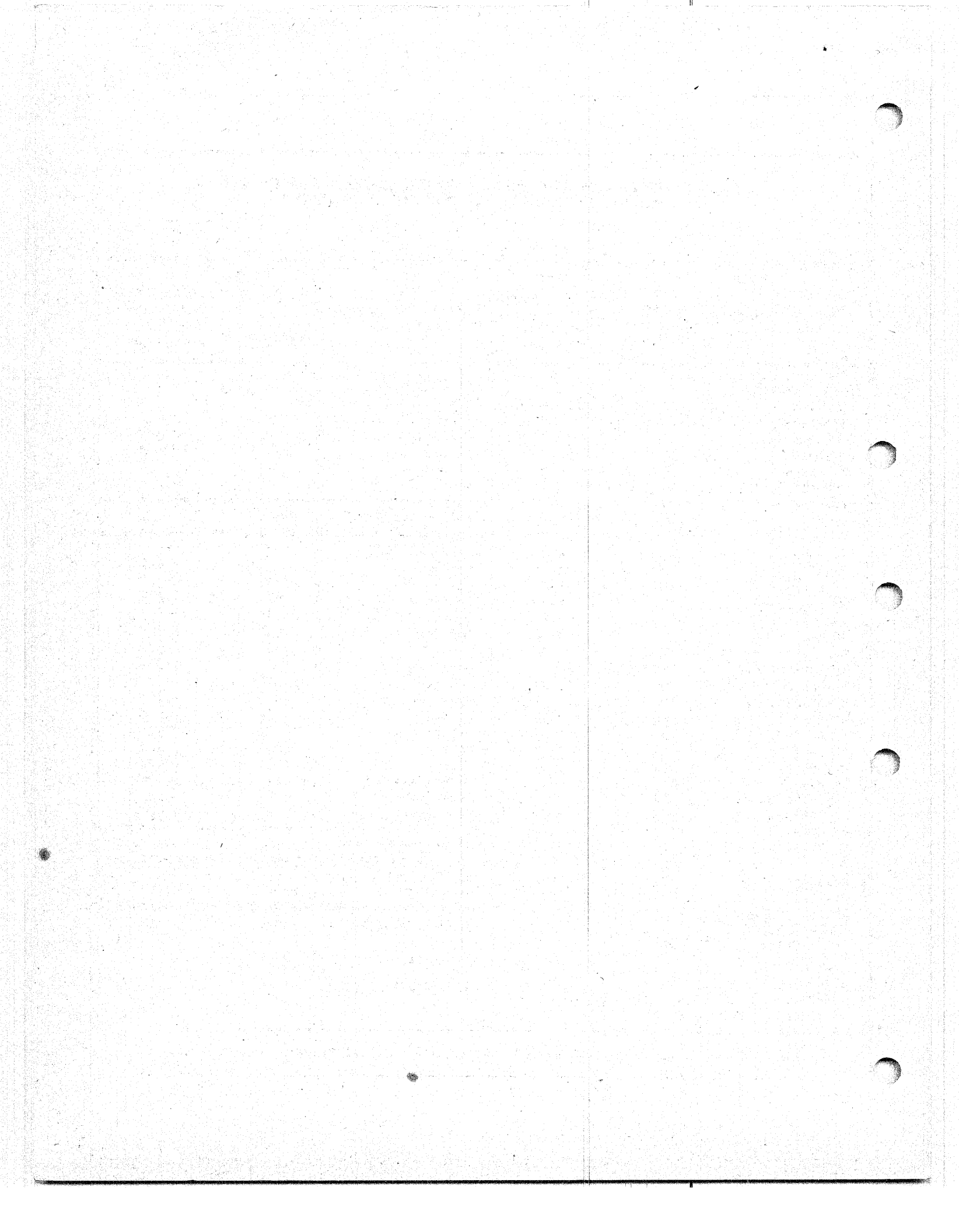


TABLE 2.--REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR
FEBRUARY 1948 INCLUDING 655 STATIONS IN 47 STATES¹

Region and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from Feb. 1947	Region and State	Number of stations	Traffic volume percentage change from Feb. 1947
NEW ENGLAND			EAST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Connecticut	17	+ 1.5	Alabama	8	+ 3.8
Maine	9	+ 4.9	Kentucky	10	+ 2.7
Massachusetts	8	- 0.4	Mississippi	10	- 3.7
New Hampshire	12	+ 8.3	Tennessee	5	+11.0
Rhode Island	3	-11.8	Subtotal	33	+ 2.1
Vermont	12	+13.5			
Subtotal	61	+ 2.9	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL		
MIDDLE ATLANTIC			Arkansas	15	- 5.3
New Jersey	3	- 3.1	Louisiana	8	0.0
Pennsylvania	29	+23.5	Oklahoma	20	- 4.7
Subtotal	32	+16.3	Texas	78	+ 1.9
			Subtotal	121	0.0
SOUTH ATLANTIC			MOUNTAIN		
Delaware	5	+ 7.3	Arizona	5	+16.4
Maryland	18	+11.3	Colorado	3	- 1.2
Virginia	4	+ 9.9	Idaho	8	+14.4
West Virginia	10	+24.1	Montana	14	+ 4.6
Subtotal north portion	37	+13.5	Nevada	16	+ 1.9
			New Mexico	16	+ 3.1
Florida	19	+ 3.8	Utah	11	+10.9
Georgia	10	- 0.7	Wyoming	6	- 2.7
North Carolina	20	+13.1	Subtotal	79	+ 8.6
South Carolina	2	+ 6.6			
Subtotal south portion	51	+ 6.6	PACIFIC		
Subtotal region	88	+ 9.4	California	5	+10.4
			Oregon	5	+ 4.3
EAST NORTH CENTRAL			Washington	9	+ 2.6
Illinois	5	+18.7	Subtotal	19	+ 5.9
Indiana	22	+16.5	TOTAL ALL STATES²	655	+ 5.8
Michigan	28	+10.8			
Ohio	22	+12.0	STATE HIGHWAYS²	623	+ 8.6
Wisconsin	10	+18.7			
Subtotal	87	+13.6	LOCAL HIGHWAYS	32	- 1.9
WEST NORTH CENTRAL			3 EASTERN REGIONS	181	+ 6.3
Iowa	34	+20.8			
Kansas	14	- 1.4	4 CENTRAL REGIONS	376	+ 6.2
Minnesota	26	+10.0			
Missouri	27	- 2.1	2 WESTERN REGIONS	98	+ 4.2
Nebraska	12	+ 6.6			
North Dakota	12	- 0.6			
South Dakota	10	+ 4.0			
Subtotal	135	+ 6.3			

¹Combined State and local highways.

²Includes all States except New York.

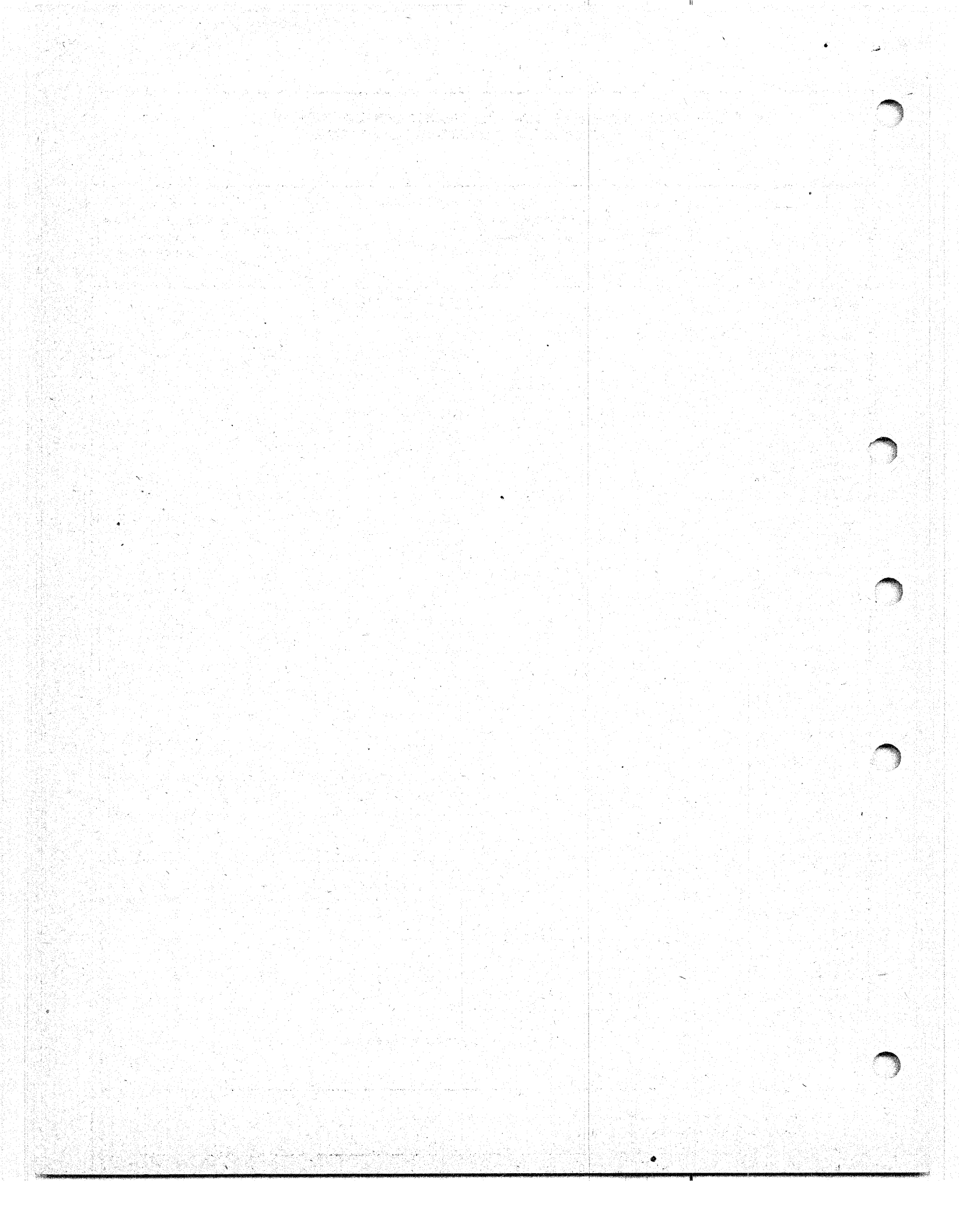


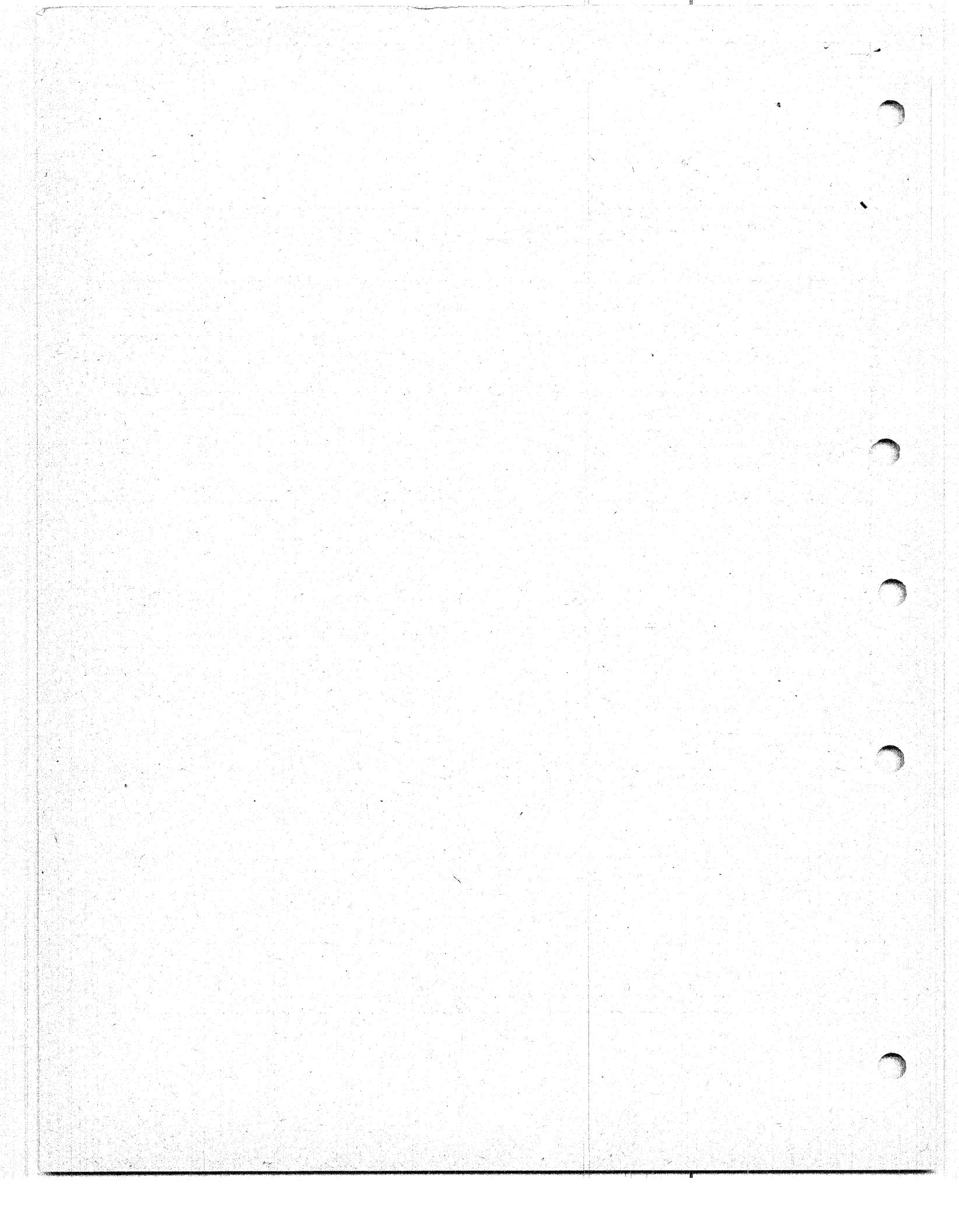
TABLE 3.--NUMBER OF VEHICLES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPES, USING TOLL FACILITIES IN MARCH 1948 COMPARED WITH THOSE IN MARCH 1947

Facilities	1948			Percentage change from 1947		
	Total	Passenger cars ¹	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars ¹	Trucks and busses
EASTERN REGIONS						
4 in the New England States	967,245	862,189	105,056	+ 7.7	+ 7.0	+13.3
16 in the Middle Atlantic States	10,922,031	9,310,755	1,611,276	+12.1	+11.4	+15.8
Pennsylvania Turnpike ²	211,053	153,460	57,593	+33.2	+34.7	+29.4
5 in the South Atlantic States	433,034	341,253	91,781	+18.6	+18.3	+19.7
TOTAL - 26 facilities	12,533,363	10,667,657	1,865,706	+12.2	+11.6	+16.2
CENTRAL REGIONS						
3 on the Great Lakes Canadian Border ³	235,445	220,811	14,634	+34.8	+37.7	+ 3.0
1 in the Great Lakes Region	9,734	8,130	1,604	+37.2	+42.1	+16.8
Subtotal - 4 facilities	245,179	228,941	16,238	+34.9	+37.8	+ 4.2
3 on the Ohio River	282,766	238,823	43,943	+25.1	+27.5	+13.4
8 on the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers						
St. Louis and North	706,545	589,587	116,958	+13.3	+12.7	+16.2
4 on the Mississippi River south of St. Louis	145,351	109,182	36,169	+12.8	+13.1	+11.8
Subtotal - 12 facilities	851,896	698,769	153,127	+13.2	+12.8	+15.1
12 on the Missouri River	29,080	23,750	5,330	-16.1	-18.8	- 2.0
4 in the West South Central States	29,217	27,747	1,470	+ 5.3	+ 6.3	-10.0
Subtotal - 16 facilities	58,297	51,497	6,800	- 6.6	- 6.9	- 3.8
TOTAL - 35 facilities	1,438,138	1,218,030	220,108	+17.6	+18.4	+13.2
WESTERN REGIONS						
1 in California	2,160,605	1,952,371	208,234	+ 3.3	+ 2.6	+ 9.6
4 in the Oregon-Washington area	384,484	336,627	47,857	+ 6.1	+ 5.6	+10.2
TOTAL - 5 facilities	2,545,089	2,288,998	256,091	+ 3.7	+ 3.1	+ 9.7
UNITED STATES						
TOTAL - 66 facilities	16,516,590	14,174,685	2,341,905	+11.3	+10.6	+15.2

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

²Number of vehicles, those using any portion of the facility.

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



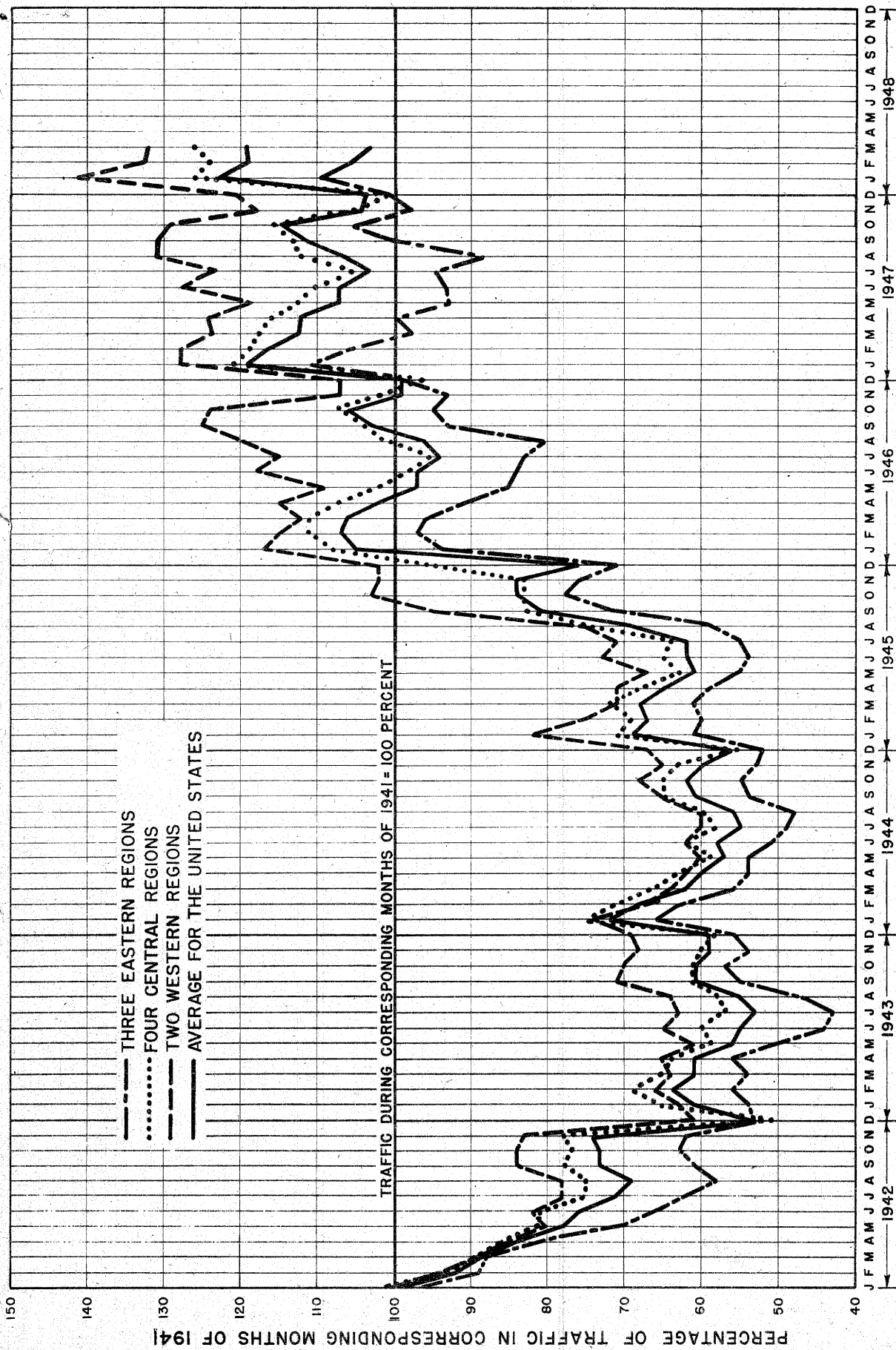
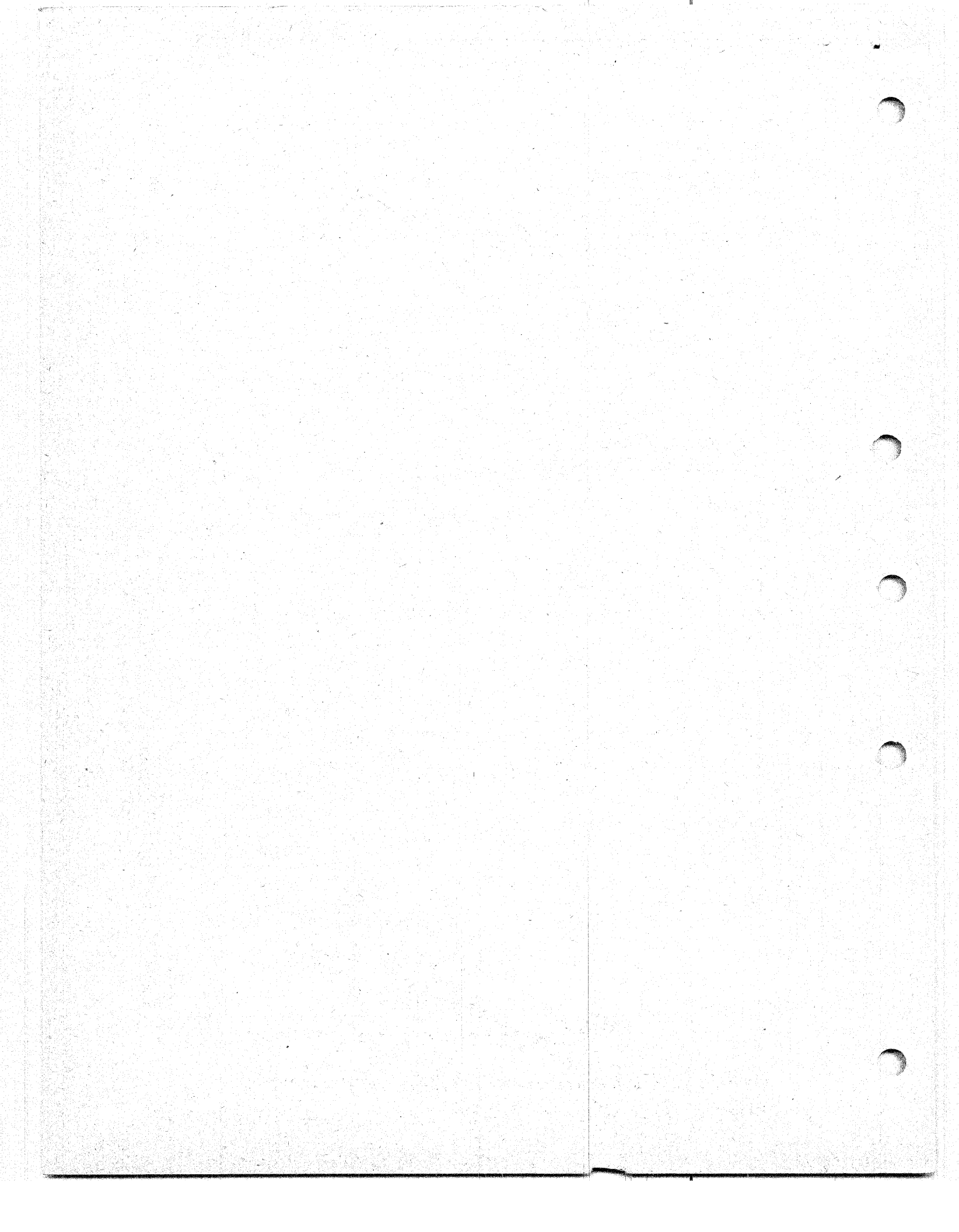


FIGURE 1 - PERCENTAGE RELATIONS OF RURAL TRAFFIC BY MONTHS IN 1942 TO 1948 WITH THAT IN CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1941



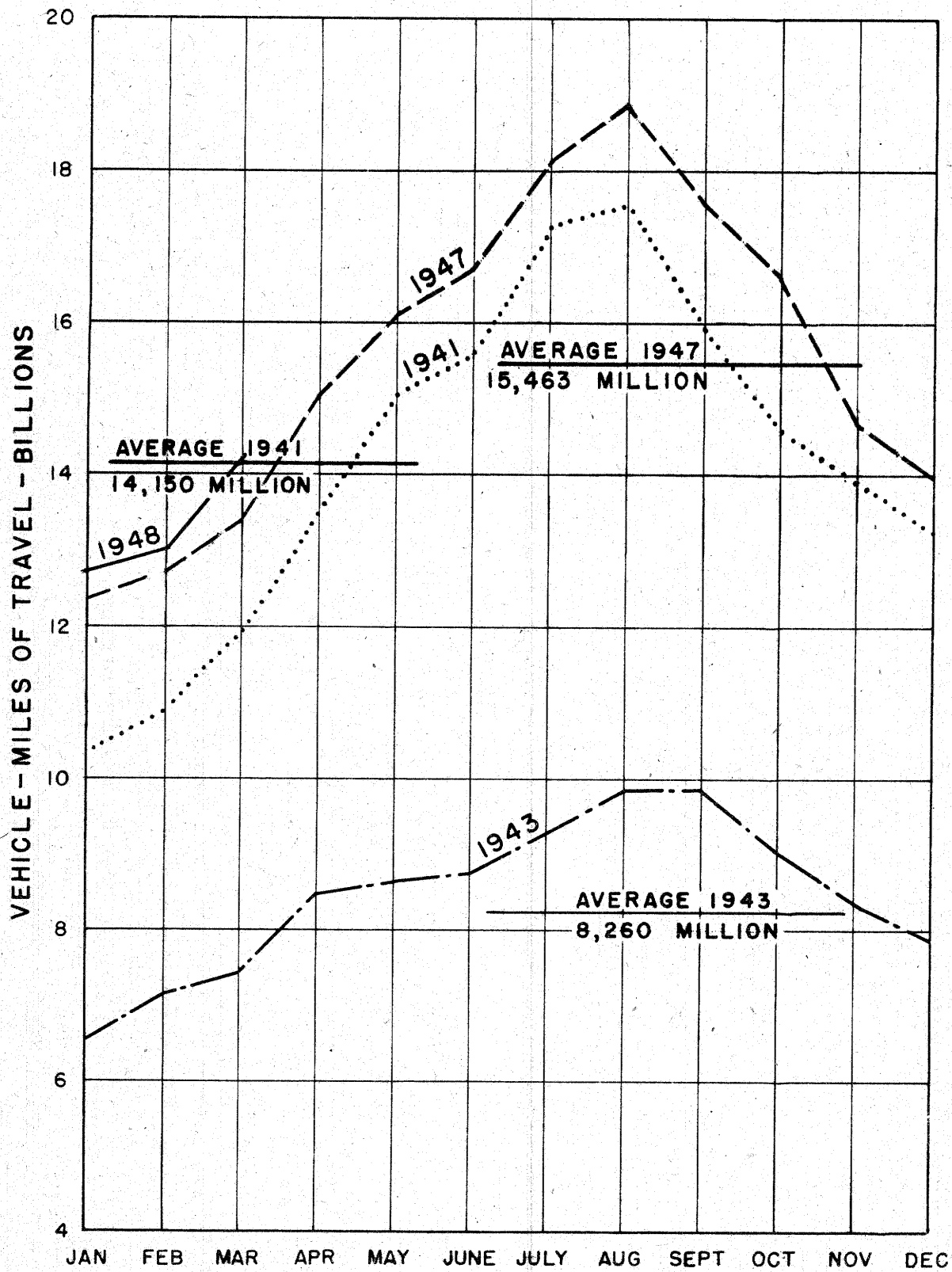


FIGURE 2 - VEHICLE - MILES OF TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS IN 1941, 1943, 1947 AND 1948

