PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 1947 SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

With the beginning of the new year, some changes are being made in the comparisons to be shown in these bulletins. Traffic estimates for each month during 1947 will be compared with those for the corresponding months in 1941, the high traffic year prior to the war; in 1943, the war year with the lowest traffic; and in 1946, the latest previous year. Estimates of the variation of urban traffic also will be given, using all available traffic data, including data for toll facilities within or immediately adjacent to urban areas for the use of which only nominal charges are made.

On the basis of preliminary figures, traffic during January 1947 was considerably higher than in any previous January. As the winter traffic figures are greatly affected by weather, this may have been due, in part, to exceptionally favorable driving conditions over much of the country. Increases were found on main highways, local roads, and city streets as follows:

	Percen	tage change fi	rom
	1941	1943	1946
Main roads	+14.9	+89.2	+ 8.1
Local roads	+21.3	+91.0	+18.9
All rural roads	+16.7	+89.7	+11.1
City streets	+14.7	+74.4	+ 9.0
Average	+15.7	+81.4	+10.0

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

		Per	centage change f	rom
4		1941	1943	1946
Eastern	regions	+11.6	+105.8	+17.9
Central	regions	+14.6	+ 74.5	+ 5.7
Western	regions	+34.3	+110.7	+14.7

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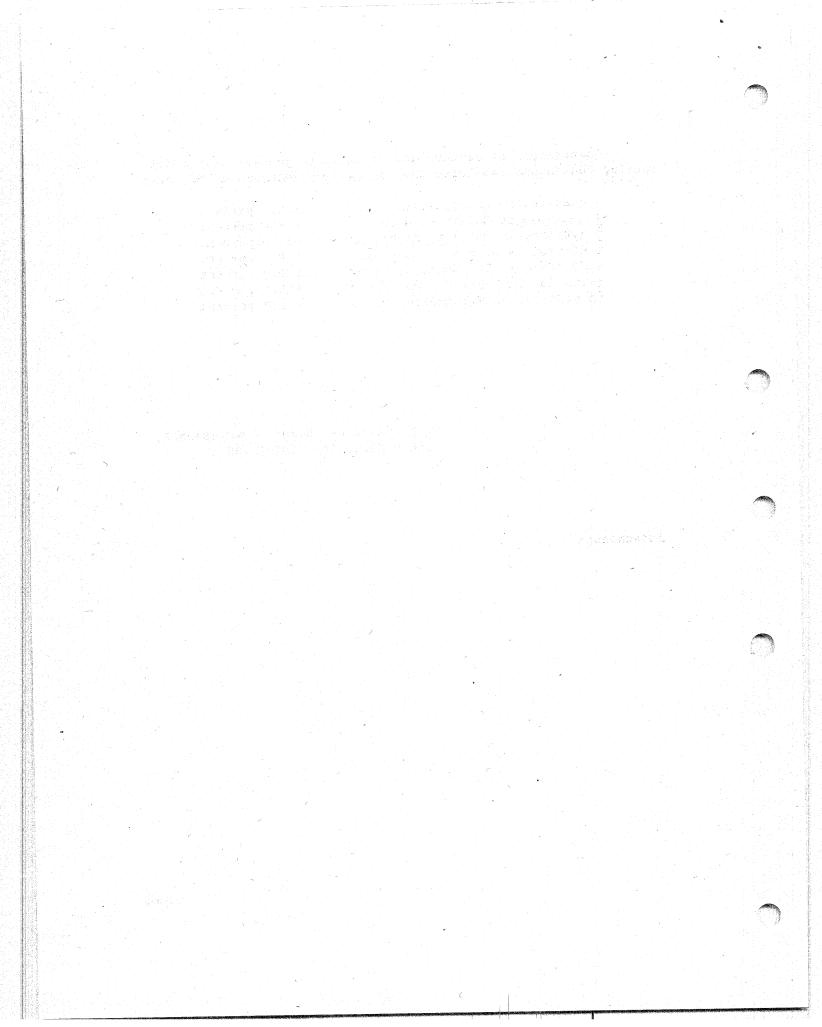
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Comparisons of January 1947 traffic in several cities collecting continuous data with that of January 1946 are as follows:

6 stations in Chicago, Illinois	+13.2 percent
3 stations in Columbus, Ohio	t 6.0 percent
3 stations in Detroit, Michigan	-11.0 percent
1 station in Duluth, Minnesota	+ 8.4 percent
6 stations in St. Louis, Missouri	+16.6 percent
1 station in Santa Fe, New Mexico	+16.5 percent
13 stations in Washington, D. C.	+ 8.6 percent

H. S. FAIRBANK, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Attachments



Type of highway and State Number of stations January 1946		Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Traffic volum percentage change from January 1946	
STATE HIGHWAYS			STATE HIGHWAYS		
Alabama	8	+13.4	(Continued)		
Arizona	3	+19.5	Utah	10	+15.9
Arkansas	Í 3	+ 5.3	Vermont	9	+14.6
California	6	+12.1	Washington	10	- 2.1
Colorado	5	+ 2.5	West Virginia	11	+15.0
Connecticut	16	+15.5	Wisconsin	9	+11.5
Delaware	5	+24.8	Wyoming	6	+13.8
Florida	19	+18.4	.,,		113.0
Georgia	5	+14.6	TOTAL - 43 STATES	559	+ 8.1
Idaho	8	+13.1	+0 211120	000	τ Ο• 4
Illinois	6	+18.6	LOCAL HIGHWAYS		
Iowa	26	+20.9	Alabama	1	- 5.7
Kansas	14	+ 8.5	Connecticut	3	+24.5
Kentucky	9	+10.2	Delaware	2	+59.0
Louisiana	7	+ 6.0	Georgia	3	+16.9
Maine	10	+ 7.8	Iowa	8	+10.9
Maryland	17	+14.3	Maryland	1	+27.4
Massachusetts	9	+17.6	Michigan	2	+73.8
Michigan	26	+26.9	Missouri	2	+13.8
Minnesota	27	+26.4	Montana	2	+ 1.2
Mississippi	10	+19.4	Nebraska	1	-17.3
Missouri	25	+10.4	North Dakota	1	- 8.8
Montana	12	+10.8	Ohio	2	+24.7
Nebraska	11	+15.2	Oregon		+ 9.0
Nevada	16	+11.3	Rhode Island	1	+14.8
New Hampshire	14	+15.5	Wisconsin	1	+55.0
New Jersey	2	+43.2			100.0
New Mexico	15	+ 9.7	TOTAL - 15 STATES	31	+18.9
North Carolina	20	+16.3			110.0
North Dakota	9	+19.6	ALL HIGHWAYS		
Ohio	20	+ 9.9	43 STATES	590	+11.1
Oklahoma	20	+ 1.3			
Oregon	3	+ 5.7	3 BASTERN REGIONS	149	+17.9
Rhode Island	2	+21.7		1+0	
South Dakota	10	+19.9	4 CENTRAL REGIONS	344	+ 5.7
Tennessee	3	- 6.6			1 3.07
Texas	73	+ 5.8	2 WESTERN REGIONS	97	+14.7

TABLE 1. --PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR JANUARY 1947 INCLUDING 590 STATIONS IN 43 STATES¹

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¹Includes all States except Indiana, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia.

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TABLE 2. -- REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR DECEMBER 1946 INCLUDING 618 STATIONS IN 46 STATES¹

Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from Dec. 1945	Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from Dec. 1945	
NEW ENGLAND			EAST SOUTH CENTRAL			
Connecticut	19	+36.2	Alabama	9	107.0	
Maine	10	+21.3	Kentucky	11	+27.2	
Massachusetts	8	+33.8	Mississippi	10	+32.4	
New Hampshire	14	+44.0	Tennessee	3	+29.3	
Rhode Island	2	+24.9	Subtotal		+13.2	
Vermont	9	+27.3		33	+27.9	
Subtotal	62	+34.1	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL			
			Arkansas	8	+42.7	
MIDDLE ATLANTIC		and the second second	Louisiana	8	 A start of the sta	
New Jersey	1	+43.8	Oklahoma	20	+21.9	
New York	2	+23.1	Texas		+16.0	
Pennsylvania	29	+33.7	Subtotal	73	+11.9	
Subtotal	32	+38.5	56010161	109	+14.3	
			NOUNTAIN			
SOUTH ATLANTIC			Arizona			
Delaware	7	+45.8	Colorado	5	+20.6	
Maryland	18	+30.5	Idaho	6	+17.6	
Virginia	2	+12.3		8	+22.3	
West Virginia		+34.3	Montana	14	+26.2	
Subtotal north		134.3	Nevada	16	+17.8	
portion	38	+32.4	New Mexico	14	+12.1	
		108.4	Utah	10	+28.4	
Florida	19	+20.0	Wyoming	6	+12.2	
Georgia	10	+31.9	Subtotal	7.9	+19.3	
North Carolina	20		PACIFIC			
Subtotal south		129.0		la de la della d		
portion	49	100 0	California	7 -	+13.6	
	+ 0	+26.2	Oregon	5	+18.1	
Subtotal region	87		Washington	10	+15.5	
	07	+29.2	Subtotal	22	+15.0	
AST NORTH CENTRAL			MOMAT ATT OTTOTAL			
Illinois	6		TOTAL ALL STATES ²	618	+28.5	
Indiana	22	+47.4				
Michigan	28	+35.7				
Ohio	28		STATE HIGHWAYS ²	586	+26.9	
Wisconsin		+26.1				
Subtotal	10	+32.6				
	87		LOCAL HIGHWAYS	32	+33.0	
EST NORTH CENTRAL						
Iowa						
Kansas	34		B EASTERN REGIONS	181	+32.3	
Missouri	13	+32.9				
Nebraska	27	+31.1				
North Dakota	12	+33.6 4	CENTRAL REGIONS	337	+32.1	
South Dakota	11	+ 8.9				
Subtotal	10	+30.9				
~	107	+33.5 2	NESTERN REGIONS	100	+14.4	

¹Combined State and local highways.

²Includes all States except the following: Minnesota and South Carolina.

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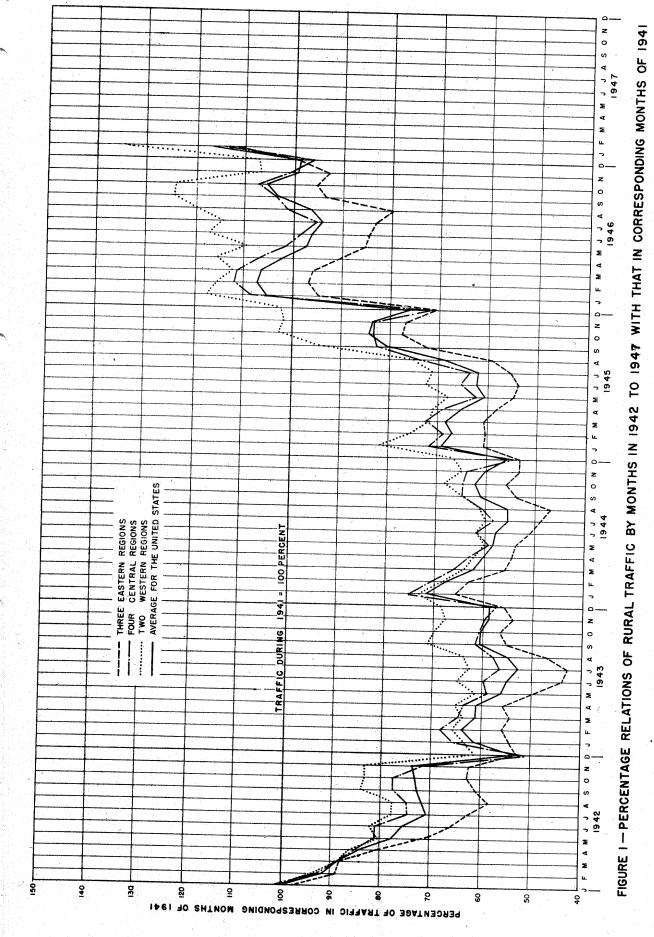
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					Percentage c from 194				Percentage change from 1941		
	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Truck and busse		
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in the New England States in the Middle Atlantic States eetwood Viaduct, Westchester County,	35,732 9,129,759		4,848 1,368,337	- 2.2 +20.9	- 1.6 +21.5	- 5.4 +17.7	+12.0 +42.4	+ 6.4 +41.0	+68. +50.		
ew York nnsylvania Turnpike in the South Atlantic States	316,399 140,679 289,964	316,399 99,947 222,323	40,732 67,641		+23.3 + 7.9 - 3.2	+37.6 +23.1	+16.0 +44.2 +28.7	+16.0 +27.3 +27.3	+114		
TAL - 26 facilities ¹ TAL - 30 facilities	9,912,533 10,807,747	8,430,975 9,227,019	1,481,558 1,580,728		+20.5 +20.7	+18.3	+40.8	7 +39 . 1	+51.		
		CE	NTRAL REGIO!	'S		alennik no zvaka i su	lan ann an d				
on the Great Lakes Canadian Border ² in the Great Lakes Region	157,068 6,234	143,394 4,978	13,674 1,256	+22.5 +13.1	+22.7 + 7.2	+20.8 +44.2	+103.9 +17.2	+112.5 +10.8	+43. +52.		
Subtotal - 4 facilities	• 163 ,302	148,372	14 , 930	+28.1	+22.1	+22.5	+98.3	+108.1	+43.		
on the Ohio River In Kentucky	401,045 8,659	330, 199 6, 155	70,846 2,504	+ 7.6	+ 7.3	+ 8.9 +14.0	+20.8	+23.7 +74.1	+ 8.		
Subtotal - 6 facilities	409,704	338,354	73,350	+ 7.7	+ 7.4	+ 9.1	+21.8	+24.4	+90. +10.		
on the Wississippi and St. Croix Rive L. Louis and North on the Mississippi River south of St.	422 841	353,159	69,382	+13.3	+10.5	+30.1	+43.7	+46.8	+29.		
uis	94, 367	72, 511	21,856	+10.2	+ 9.6	+12.0	+54.3	+73.2	+13.		
Subtotal - 10 facilities	518,908	425,870	91,238	+12.7	+ 10.3	+25.2	+45.5	+50.7	+25.		
m the Missouri River n the Missouri River area	124,696 3,391	95, 334 2, 716	29,362 675	+ 9.6 +13.8	+ 8.3 +13.4	+14.0 +15.4	+59.8 + 9.8	+67.6 +18.3	+38. +85.		
ubtotal - 4 facilities	128 ,087	98,050	30,037	+ 9.7	+ 8.4	+ 34.0	+57.9	+65.7	+38.		
n the Mexican Border	18,735	17,845	890	+11.1	+10.8	+16.3	+115.4	+110.3	+321.		
AL - 25 facilities ¹ AL - 30 facilities	1,236,736 1,431,265	1,026,291 1,180,943	210,445 250,322	+11.8 +10.6	+10.7 +10.0	+17.3 +13.2	+43.1	+48.2	+22.		
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n California n the Oregon-Washington area	2,441,600 280,502	2, 191, 283 243, 271	250.317 37,231	+ 4.1 + 2.1	+ 2.7 + 1.5	+18.8	+51.5	+46.8	+110.		
AL - 6 facilities	2,722,102	2,434,554	287,548	+ 3.9	+ 2.6	+16.9	+57.1		+116.		

TABLE 3. -- NUMBER OF VEHICLES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPES, USING TOLL FACILITIES IN JANUARY 1947

¹These facilities have comparative data for 1947, 1944, and 1943 and are included in the larger total below. ²One of these facilities is in Vestern New York and therefore is related to similar facilities in the contral States.

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