PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 31, 1946

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC VOLUME TRENDS

June 1946 traffic on rural roads was approximately midway between that found in June of 1940 and in June 1941 which is about the same relationship to previous years as for April and May. On the basis of preliminary estimates, total travel during June 1946 was 5 percent below that of June 1941. Traffic on main highways was 3 percent below, while that on local roads was 8 percent below the 1941 figures.

Traffic in the two western regions was 26 percent above corresponding 1941 counts; that in the central regions was 7 percent below; and that in the eastern regions was 13 percent below 1941 levels. In comparison with 1945 figures, traffic in the western regions increased 66 percent, that in the central regions 44 percent, and that in the eastern regions 32 percent.

Comparisons of city traffic in ~~May~~ June 1946 with corresponding traffic in May 1945 are as follows:

6 stations in Chicago, Illinois	+41.5
3 stations in Cleveland, Ohio	+37.1
3 stations in Detroit, Michigan	+26.0
1 station in Duluth, Minnesota	+13.0
1 station in Kansas City, Missouri	+23.2
1 station in Santa Fe, New Mexico	+50.2
5 stations in St. Louis, Missouri	+34.3
13 stations in Washington, D.C.	+37.1

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

Attachments

TABLE 1.--PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR JUNE 1946 INCLUDING 576 STATIONS IN 42 STATES[1]

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Type of highway and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from June 1945
STATE HIGHWAYS		
Alabama	8	+40.6
Arizona	5	+65.7
Arkansas	18	+47.5
California	8	+70.6
Colorado	6	+45.2
Connecticut	17	+80.9
Delaware	5	+37.8
Florida	20	+49.3
Georgia	5	+69.9
Idaho	8	+79.8
Illinois	5	+43.7
Iowa	26	+60.7
Kansas	14	+35.4
Kentucky	8	+44.8
Louisiana	8	+49.0
Maine	10	+69.2
Maryland	17	+47.5
Massachusetts	9	+62.1
Michigan	26	+55.2
Mississippi	10	+48.8
Missouri	21	+70.0
Montana	11	+79.3
Nevada	16	+94.6
New Mexico	14	+53.4
New York	3	+75.2
North Carolina	19	+68.3
North Dakota	10	+106.8
Ohio	22	+65.3
Oklahoma	20	+57.8
Oregon	4	+91.5
Pennsylvania	30	+58.1
Rhode Island	3	+35.0
South Carolina	1	+69.0
South Dakota	10	+69.1
Tennessee	4	+14.7
Texas	73	+38.8
STATE HIGHWAYS (Continued)		
Utah	10	+66.9
Vermont	7	+73.2
Washington	10	+76.8
West Virginia	11	+51.4
Wisconsin	9	+57.9
Wyoming	4	+97.6
TOTAL - 42 STATES	*545*	*+57.7*
LOCAL HIGHWAYS		
Alabama	2	+61.5
Connecticut	3	+53.7
Delaware	2	- 8.7
Georgia	2	+66.3
Iowa	8	+20.6
Maryland	1	+ 6.4
Michigan	2	+48.5
Missouri	1	+ 2.1
Montana	2	+30.2
North Dakota	2	+ 3.1
Ohio	2	+32.8
Oregon	1	+55.9
Rhode Island	1	+37.3
Tennessee	1	+44.2
Wisconsin	1	+54.3
TOTAL - 15 STATES	*31*	*+41.1*
ALL HIGHWAYS 42 STATES	*576*	*+52.8*
3 EASTERN REGIONS	*166*	*+51.9*
4 CENTRAL REGIONS	*311*	*+48.7*
2 WESTERN REGIONS	*99*	*+66.2*

[1]Includes all States except Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey and Virginia.

TABLE 2.--REVISED SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC RECORDER DATA FOR MAY 1946 INCLUDING 633 STATIONS IN 46 STATES[1]

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Region and State	Number of stations	Percentage change from May 1945
NEW ENGLAND		
Connecticut	20	+82.4
Maine	10	+64.9
Massachusetts	9	+58.2
New Hampshire	15	+75.9
Rhode Island	4	+27.5
Vermont	9	+72.5
Subtotal	*67*	*+70.5*
MIDDLE ATLANTIC		
New York	3	+82.2
Pennsylvania	30	+61.1
Subtotal	*33*	*+64.0*
SOUTH ATLANTIC		
Delaware	8	+46.5
Maryland	18	+54.4
Virginia	3	+62.0
West Virginia	11	+60.7
Subtotal north portion	*40*	*+54.5*
Florida	20	+54.0
Georgia	9	+62.2
North Carolina	19	+64.3
South Carolina	1	+55.8
Subtotal south portion	*49*	*+59.8*
Subtotal region	*89*	*+57.0*
EAST NORTH CENTRAL		
Illinois	6	+49.7
Indiana	22	+85.5
Michigan	28	+55.6
Ohio	24	+67.5
Wisconsin	10	+67.5
Subtotal	*90*	*+65.4*
WEST NORTH CENTRAL		
Iowa	35	+59.2
Kansas[3]	13	+26.5
Missouri	23	+71.8
Nebraska	12	+53.6
North Dakota	13	+72.9
South Dakota	10	+64.4
Subtotal	*106*	*+59.4*
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Alabama	10	+43.6
Kentucky	11	+53.7
Mississippi	10	+48.9
Tennessee	2	+10.3
Subtotal	*33*	*+45.3*
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Arkansas	17	+71.2
Louisiana	7	+44.6
Oklahoma	20	+60.9
Texas	74	+37.4
Subtotal	*118*	*+44.3*
MOUNTAIN		
Arizona	4	+57.7
Colorado	6	+39.6
Idaho	8	+72.4
Montana	13	+62.5
Nevada	16	+92.0
New Mexico	13	+51.3
Utah	10	+56.4
Wyoming	3	+71.1
Subtotal	*73*	*+60.4*
PACIFIC		
California	9	+79.3
Oregon	5	+97.3
Washington	10	+89.0
Subtotal	*24*	*+85.2*
TOTAL ALL STATES[2]	*633*	*+55.3*
STATE HIGHWAYS[2]	*600*	*+61.5*
LOCAL HIGHWAYS	*33*	*+41.3*
3 EASTERN REGIONS	*189*	*+55.6*
4 CENTRAL REGIONS	*347*	*+51.6*
2 WESTERN REGIONS	*97*	*+66.2*

[1]Combined State and local highways.

[2]Includes all States except the following: Minnesota and New Jersey.

[3]Abnormal conditions in 1945 or 1946 affected 1 count in Kansas, excluding station 10, the increase is 41.1 percent.

TABLE 3.--NUMBER OF VEHICLES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPES, USING TOLL FACILITIES IN JUNE 1946 COMPARED WITH THOSE IN JUNE 1945 AND 1941.

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Facilities	1946			Percentage change from 1945			Percentage change from 1941		
	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks and busses
EASTERN REGIONS									
4 in the New England States	79,138	72,522	6,616	+62.0	+69.6	+ 8.6	- 9.5	-12.6	+47.3
14 in the Middle Atlantic States	11,673,050	10,239,013	1,434,037	+59.7	+65.9	+26.1	+14.2	+11.9	+33.9
Fleetwood Viaduct, Westchester County, New York	483,951	483,951	--	+131.1	+131.1	--	- 8.9	- 8.9	--
Pennsylvania Turnpike	242,916	208,477	34,439	+127.9	+166.0	+14.9	- 2.0	-10.2	+73.8
the South Atlantic States	449,452	368,316	81,136	+62.6	+76.6	+19.4	+ 3.7	+ 3.0	+ 7.2
TOTAL - 26 facilities[1]	12,928,507	11,372,279	1,556,228	+62.6	+69.5	+25.4	+13.2	+10.9	+32.9
TOTAL - 30 facilities	14,007,969	12,334,205	1,673,764	+61.7	+68.5	+24.4			
CENTRAL REGIONS									
3 on the Great Lakes Canadian Border[2]	474,159	456,968	17,191	+45.9	+46.9	+22.4	+57.7	+57.5	+64.0
2 in the Great Lakes Region	163,269	138,113	25,156	+101.7	+129.1	+21.8	+11.6	+10.7	+17.3
Subtotal - 5 facilities	*637,428*	*595,081*	*42,347*	*+57.0*	*+60.3*	*+22.0*	*+42.6*	*+43.4*	*+32.6*
on the Ohio River	904,015	784,578	119,437	+12.4	+13.5	+ 5.8	- 8.6	- 9.8	+ 0.3
2 in Kentucky	24,738	18,625	6,113	+56.4	+70.4	+25.0	+70.6	+69.7	+73.3
Subtotal - 9 facilities	*928,753*	*803,203*	*125,550*	*+13.3*	*+14.4*	*+ 6.6*	*- 7.4*	*- 8.8*	*+ 2.4*
6 on the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers St Louis and north	348,658	310,437	38,221	+52.9	+60.6	+10.4	+15.2	+18.7	- 7.3
3 on the Mississippi River south of St. Louis	106,134	88,176	17,958	+47.7	+49.7	+38.5	+73.0	+70.2	+88.5
Subtotal - 9 facilities	*454,792*	*398,613*	*56,179*	*+51.7*	*+58.0*	*+18.1*	*+24.9*	*+27.2*	*+10.7*
4 on the Missouri River	243,267	192,009	51,258	+42.2	+55.0	+ 8.6	+30.7	+37.4	+10.4
the Missouri River Area	6,567	5,418	1,149	+122.0	+118.4	+141.4	+27.8	+19.5	+91.8
Subtotal - 6 facilities	*249,834*	*197,427*	*52,407*	*+43.5*	*+56.8*	*+ 9.9*	*+30.6*	*+36.8*	*+11.4*
3 on the Mexican Border	69,083	60,991	8,092	+25.4	+26.0	+21.4	+129.6	+128.8	+135.4
TOTAL - 32 facilities[1]	2,339,890	2,055,315	284,575	+33.3	+37.0	+11.8	+14.9	+15.5	+11.3
TOTAL - 35 facilities	2,477,852	2,163,107	314,745	+35.0	+38.1	+11.7			
WESTERN REGIONS									
2 in California	2,681,377	2,445,131	236,246	+37.6	+42.1	+ 3.5	+34.8	+33.2	+54.5
4 in the Oregon-Washington Area	396,657	352,682	43,975	+60.7	+65.8	+28.8	+82.6	+82.0	+88.2
TOTAL - 6 facilities	3,078,034	2,797,813	280,221	+40.2	+44.7	+6.8	+39.5	+37.8	+59.0
UNITED STATES									
TOTAL - 64 facilities[1]	18,346,431	16,225,402	2,121,024	+54.1	+60.0	+20.6	+17.3	+15.5	+32.3
TOTAL - 72 facilities	19,563,855	17,295,125	2,268,730	+54.1	+59.9	+20.9			

[1]These facilities have comparative data for 1946, 1945 and 1941 and are included in the larger total below.
[2]One of these facilities is in Western New York and therefore is related to similar facilities in the Central States.

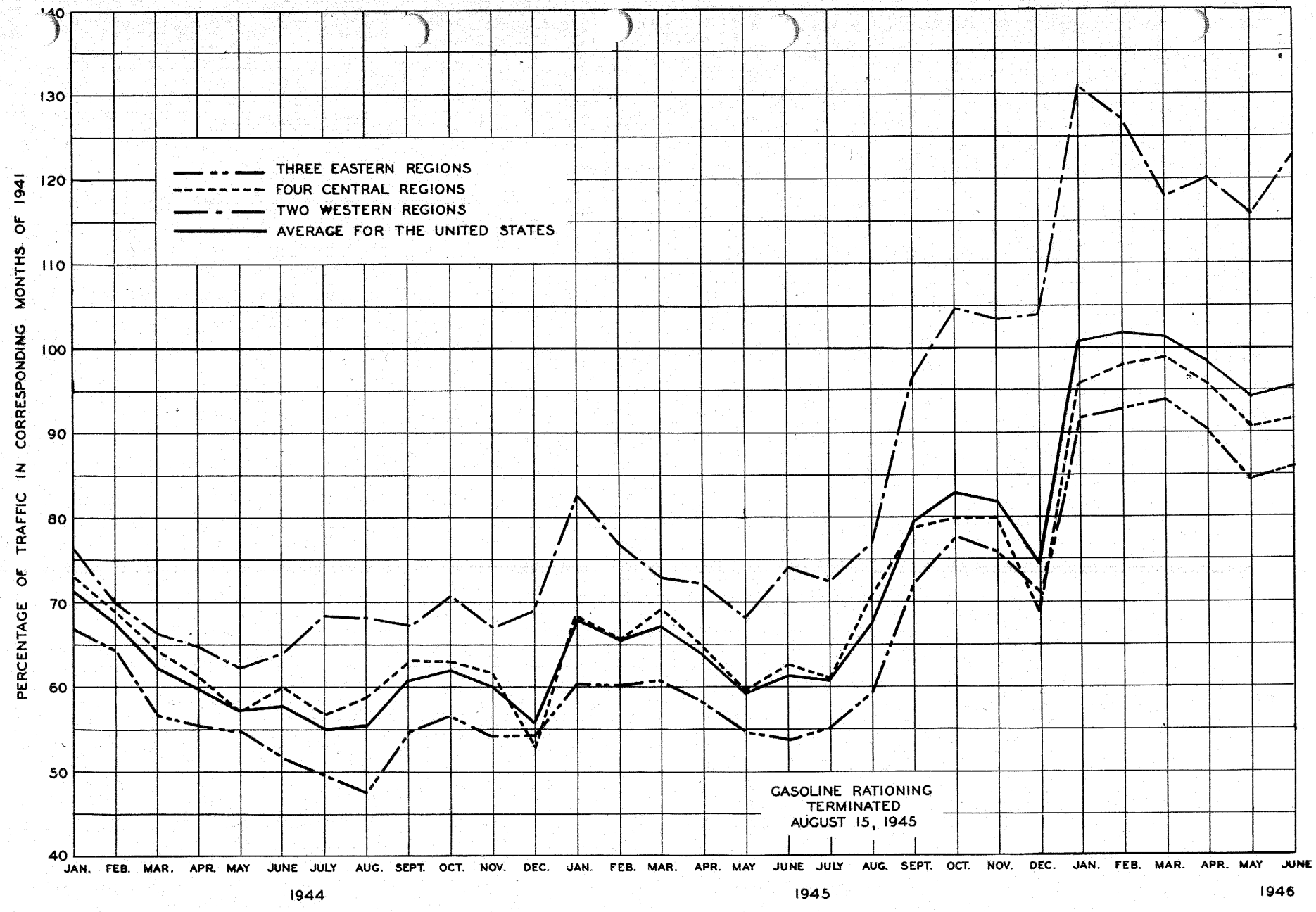

FIGURE 1.– PERCENTAGE RELATIONS OF RURAL TRAFFIC IN MONTHS OF 1944, 1945 AND 1946 WITH THAT IN CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1941.

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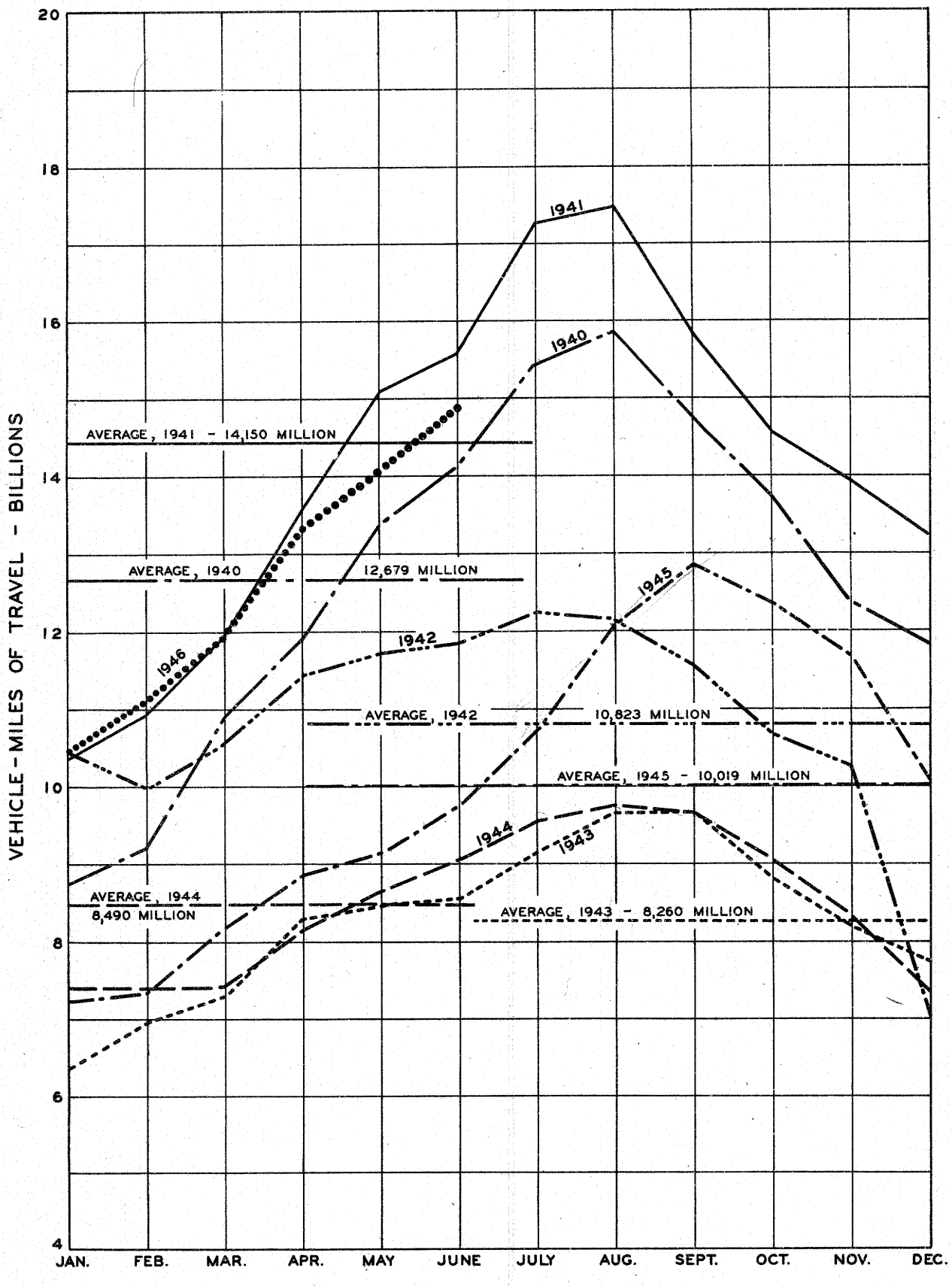

FIGURE 2.- VEHICLE-MILES OF TRAVEL ON ALL RURAL ROADS 1940 TO 1946 BY MONTHS.

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