

TABLE 1.—Comparative summary: 1902 and 1890.

	1902	1890	Percentage of increase.
Number of companies, operating and lessor.....	987	789	25.1
Length of line, miles <sup>1</sup> .....	16,651.58	5,783.47	187.9
Length of track, miles <sup>1</sup> .....	22,576.99	8,123.02	177.9
Cost of construction and equipment..	\$2,167,634,077	\$389,357,289	456.7
Number of employees.....	140,769	70,764	98.9
Number of passenger cars.....	60,290	32,505	85.5
Number of fare passengers.....	4,774,211,904	2,023,010,202	136.0
Fare passengers per mile of track....	<sup>2</sup> 212,217	249,047	<sup>3</sup> 14.8
Ratio of operating expenses to operating earnings for companies reporting, per cent.....	57.5	68.4	.....

<sup>1</sup> By "length of line," as used throughout this report, is meant length of first main track or of roadbed. By "length of track" is meant total length of all trackage, including sidings. Thus, in the case of a double track road, "length of track" would be double "length of line."

<sup>2</sup> Exclusive of trackage of two railways carrying freight only.

<sup>3</sup> Decrease.