

HB

SUMMER 2020
VOLUME 99 • ISSUE 2

HIGHWAY BUILDER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
ASSOCIATED PENNSYLVANIA CONSTRUCTORS



**RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE
AGAIN & AGAIN!**

Report Cites Poor Condition of PA's Rural Roads & Bridges

Pennsylvania has the fifth-highest number of deteriorating rural bridges in the country, according to a study released this spring by a national transportation research organization.

The report, produced by Washington-based nonprofit organization TRIP, said 17% of Pennsylvania's rural bridges are in poor condition, compared with a national average of 8%. It says the country faces a \$211 billion backlog in funding for needed repairs and improvements to the rural transportation system.

The report also noted that in 2018, Pennsylvania had 479 fatalities on non-Interstate rural roads. The rate of traffic fatalities on these roads is significantly higher than the fatality rate on all other roads in the state — 2.05 fatalities per 100-million vehicle miles of travel vs. 0.90.

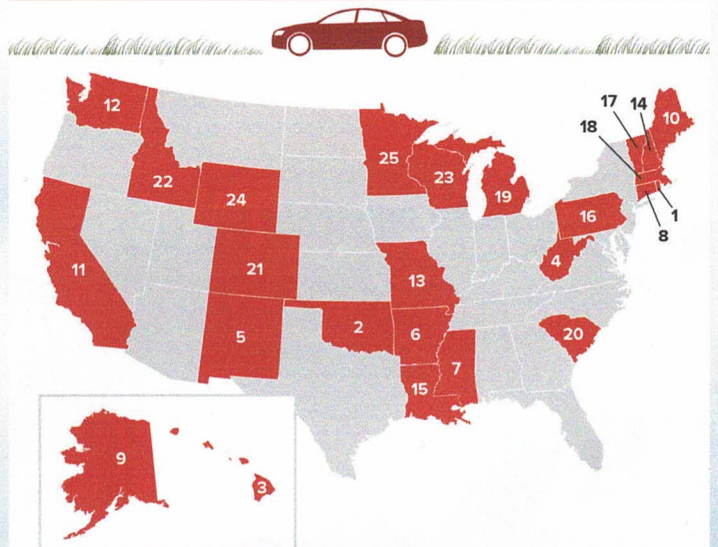
Moreover, Pennsylvania ranks 16th in the country in rural pavements in poor condition at 19%, compared with the U.S. average of 13%.

According to TRIP, the report focused on Rural America because of its importance as the primary source of the energy, food, and fiber that drives the U.S. economy, which has been heightened during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Rural America accounts for 97% of America's land area and is home to the vast majority of the nation's 2.2 million farms.

"This report comes at a time when the coronavirus pandemic is shrinking the revenue available to repair and maintain our bridges and highways," said PHIA Managing Director Jason Wagner. "This is an issue that policymakers need to address quickly and comprehensively."

The report, "Rural Connections: Challenges and Opportunities in America's Heartland," and more information on TRIP can be viewed on its website at www.tripnet.org.

TOP 25 STATES WITH HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF MAJOR RURAL ROADS IN POOR CONDITION



tripnet.org



RANK	STATE	RURAL PAVEMENTS IN POOR CONDITION	STATE	RURAL BRIDGES POOR/ STRUCTURALLY DEFICIENT	STATE	FATALITY RATE PER 100M VMT ON RURAL NON-INTERSTATE ROADS	FATALITY RATE PER 100M VMT ON ALL OTHER ROADS
1	Rhode Island	41%	Rhode Island	22%	South Carolina	3.44	1.12
2	Oklahoma	36%	West Virginia	21%	Oregon	2.92	0.76
3	Hawaii	32%	Iowa	20%	Kentucky	2.55	0.83
4	West Virginia	29%	South Dakota	18%	Tennessee	2.42	0.97
5	New Mexico	28%	Pennsylvania	17%	Arizona	2.36	1.39
6	Arkansas	26%	Louisiana	15%	Rhode Island	2.35	0.61
7	Mississippi	24%	Maine	13%	Kansas	2.31	0.66
8	Connecticut	24%	New York	12%	Oklahoma	2.29	0.95
9	Alaska	23%	Michigan	12%	North Carolina	2.28	0.75
10	Maine	21%	North Dakota	11%	Florida	2.27	1.30
11	California	21%	Oklahoma	11%	Texas	2.26	1.04
12	Washington	21%	North Carolina	11%	New York	2.24	0.49
13	Missouri	21%	Mississippi	9%	California	2.22	0.86
14	New Hampshire	20%	Missouri	9%	South Dakota	2.22	0.52
15	Louisiana	19%	Alaska	9%	Delaware	2.19	0.74
16	Pennsylvania	19%	Nebraska	9%	Alabama	2.16	0.97
17	Vermont	17%	Hawaii	9%	Indiana	2.15	0.65
18	Massachusetts	16%	New Hampshire	9%	West Virginia	2.10	1.15
19	Michigan	16%	South Carolina	9%	Louisiana	2.10	1.33
20	South Carolina	15%	California	9%	Nevada	2.10	1.04
US AVERAGE		13%	US AVERAGE	8%	US AVERAGE	2.00	0.88





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