

## PUERTO RICO

In the most recent ASCE Report Card for Puerto Rico's Infrastructure, [the commonwealth earned a cumulative grade of a "D-."](#) The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides significant new funding to improve the condition of Puerto Rico's infrastructure systems and better ensure our infrastructure is prepared for the future.

**BRIDGES:** More than 11% of Puerto Rico's bridges are in poor condition and considered structurally deficient. The IIJA provides \$40 billion in new funding for bridge repair, replacement, and rehabilitation – the single largest dedicated bridge investment in over 50 years.<sup>1</sup>

**ROADS:** To maintain its assets in a state of good repair and continue normal operations, the Puerto Rico Highway and Transportation Authority estimated that it will need \$3.1 billion of capital expenditures from FY18 to FY23. Under the IIJA, the Commonwealth will receive an additional \$180 million each year between 2022 and 2026 for the National Highway System.<sup>2</sup>

**WASTEWATER:** Puerto Rico's population has declined by 14 percent since 2010, leaving fewer rate payers to fund necessary projects. The declining rate payer base, combined with a lack of access to financing, perpetuates challenges associated with funding the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority (PRASA) capital investment program. A total of \$551 million is needed for renewal and replacement over the next six years to update aging PRASA infrastructure. With IIJA, the Commonwealth is set to roughly double the funding it receives from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund – loans that can help finance wastewater infrastructure projects.

**DRINKING WATER:** Approximately 59 percent of treated water in Puerto Rico ends up as non-revenue water loss, meaning the utility is providing it to customers at no charge through various mechanisms such as inaccurate meters, unauthorized water consumption, or water main leaks. The IIJA provides \$55 billion to upgrade the nation's water infrastructure.<sup>3</sup>

**DAMS:** Puerto Rico's 37 dams maintain water levels in reservoirs and streams for a variety of purposes, including recreation, flood control, potable water storage, and hydropower. Ninety-seven percent of Puerto Rico's dams are high-hazard potential, meaning failure would likely result in a loss of life. The IIJA provides \$585 million for high hazard dam rehabilitation and \$148 million for dam safety programs.<sup>4</sup>

**TRANSIT:** In many areas, Puerto Rico lacks adequate access to reliable transit. The IIJA provides \$39 billion of new investment to modernize and expand transit, the largest federal investment in our history.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Bridge Technology. National Bridge Inventory 2017, Deficient Bridges by State and Highway System.

<sup>2</sup> AASHTO 8/31/21 Update

<https://policy.transportation.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/59/2021/08/IIJA-State-DOT-Benefits-2021-08-31-Update-PDF.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> EPA Drinking Water Needs Survey, 2016

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Inventory of Dams, 2016

<sup>5</sup> 2019 Report Card for Colorado's Infrastructure