



2025 REPORT CARD FOR AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Roads



SUMMARY



Roads are essential to connecting communities and facilitating the U.S. economy. While travel patterns shifted due to the pandemic, vehicle miles traveled have rebounded. Currently, 39% of major roads are in poor or mediocre condition, an improvement from 43% in 2020. However, deteriorated and congested roads still cost the average driver over \$1,400 annually. Traffic fatalities remain high, with 40,990 deaths in 2023. Extreme weather adds challenges to road maintenance and planning. While the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) has directed over \$591 billion to transportation projects, roads face a \$684 billion funding gap over the next decade. Sustained investment is critical to maintaining and improving the nation's roadways.

FAST FACTS

- The average U.S. driver lost 43 hours to traffic congestion in 2024.
- The federal gas tax has lost 80% of its purchasing power since it was last raised in 1993.
- 47% of roadway fatalities occur in rural areas, where only 19% of the U.S. population lives.
- Deteriorated roads result in additional operating costs in the form of vehicle repairs and tire wear. Additional vehicle operating costs totaled \$725 per motorist in 2023.

SOLUTIONS TO RAISE THE GRADE

- ✓ Promote the regular release of accurate, up-to-date condition data at the federal level.
- ✓ Increase funding from government and private sector partners to improve the condition and operations of the transportation system and enhance safety for all users.
- ✓ Incorporate life-saving design features like narrower lanes and low-cost measures such as asphalt art to heighten crosswalk visibility.
- ✓ Prioritize maintaining a state of good repair, as building new capacity alone won't solve congestion. Projects should support multimodal transportation.

To explore more solutions to raise the grades check out infrastructurereportcard.org