# Tennessee and the Nation

# Tennessee Infrastructure 2009 Report Card

Infrastructure	TN	US
Aviation	B-	D
Bridges	B-	С
Navigable Waterways	Ċ	D-
Parks	D+	C-
Rail	С	C-
Roads	B-	D-
Schools	C+	D
Transit	D	D
Water/Wastewater	C	D-
Overall Grade	C	D

American Society of Civil Engineers
www.ASCE.org
Tennessee Section
www.TNASCE.org

### Partial Source List (full report available at www.TNASCF.org

### Aviation

 Tennessee Department of Transportation www.tdot.state.tn.us/aeronautics/001\_TNSYSPlan.pdf www.tdot.state.tn.us/aeronautics/handbook/SponsorsTOS.htm

### Bridges

- 2008 Better Roads National Bridge Inventory
- Tennessee Department of Transportation www.tdot.state.tn.us

### **Navigable Waterways**

- US Army Corp of Engineers
- Tennessee Navigable Waterways Infrastructure Analysis
   Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance, First Edition, 2008, Nashville, TN

### Parks

- Tennessee State Parks www.state.tn.us/environment/parks
- National Park Service Land and Conservation Fund: 2008 Annual Report - www.nps.gov/lwcf/

### Rai

- "Railroad Service in Tennessee 2006"
   by the Association of American Railroads (AAR).
- Edge of Disaster by Stephen Flynn, Random House, New York, 2007.















### Roads

- "Modal Need" www.tdot.state.tn.us/plango/pdfs/plan/ModalNeed.pdf, 2005
- "Tennessee Long Range Transportation Plan" www.tdot.state.tn.us/plango/pdfs/plan/Financial.pdf, 2005

### Schools

- Building Tennessee's Tomorrow
   "Anticipating the State's Infrastructure Needs", through June, 2009
- National Center for Education Statistics
   "Projections of Education Statistics to 2017", NCES 2008-078

### Transi

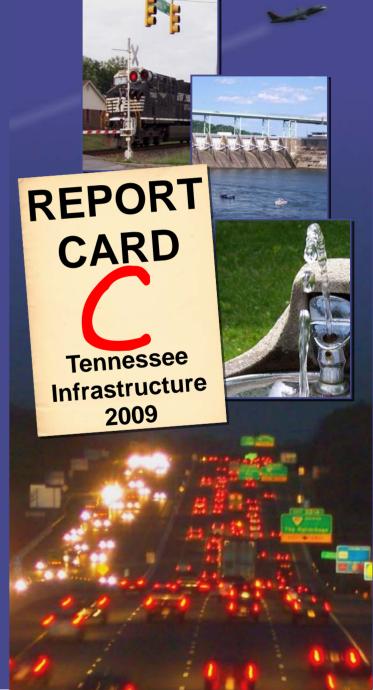
- Tennessee Public Transportation Infrastructure Analysis Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance, First Edition, 2008, Nashville, TN
- Tennessee Department of Transportation Long Range Plan

### Water / Wastewater

- Building Tennessee's Tomorrow, Anticipating the State's Infrastructure Needs, Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, September 2007, Nashville, TN.
- Tennessee Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Analysis Tennessee Infrastructure Alliance, First Edition, 2008, Nashville, TN



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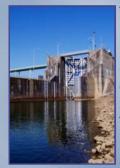


# **Executive Summary**

Tennessee's infrastructure is deteriorating and is in critical need of maintenance and improvement to meet current and future demands. While the condition of Tennessee's roads, bridges and airports exceeds nationwide scores, Tennessee's schools and



public park facilities lag behind the rest of the country.



The ASCE Tennessee
Section 2009 Infrastructure
Report Card is the first
comprehensive assessment
of the condition of the
state's infrastructure.
The Report Card
presents an informed
assessment made by the

state's professional engineering community of the condition of the infrastructure critical to our quality of life in Tennessee.

Tennessee's infrastructure received an

overall grade of C with individual grades in nine infrastructure categories. This report card offers guidance to Tennesseans and their leaders about where public works funds would be best spent to improve the overall quality of life.



See the full report at www.TNASCE.org
Have questions? ReportCard@TNASCE.org

# 2009 Tennessee Infrastructure Report Card

Compiled by the Tennessee Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers

### **Aviation**

Overall, Tennessee's airport facilities are stable and relatively safe. However, investment of additional revenue sources would provide an optimum level of service and reap positive economic gains.

# Bridges

Tennessee's bridges are in the top 25% in the nation for least number of deficiencies, but increasing age and increasing traffic volumes along with inadequate funding present major problems for the state.

# Navigable Waterways

Navigable waterways are critical to Tennessee's transportation system. Aging infrastructure including the state's nine navigational locks and dams are in need of upgrade and repair to remain viable now and in the future.

# **Parks**

Tennessee's 53 state parks are an important recreational and cultural resource with some 30 million visitors annually and a history dating back to 1937. Although stable and safe for public use, shortfalls in funding have created nearly \$100 million in maintenance backlog.

# Rail

Tennessee's rail network provides limited service within and through the state. Improvements should focus on expansion of commuter lines in urban areas and short line freight service in rural areas to better serve residents and industries within the state.

### Roads

Although Tennessee is known for its well maintained roads, recent and projected growth in vehicle miles of travel along with inadequate funding for future maintenance and expansion present major problems for the state.

# **Schools**

Tennessee's school systems have experienced rapid enrollment growth and must rely on portable classrooms. Estimated costs to upgrade all schools to adequate conditions are \$608 million.

### **Transit**

Areas serviced by public transit are somewhat limited in both urban and rural areas of Tennessee. In order to meet the projected 27% growth of urban ridership by 2025, additional investments above current levels are needed.

# Water/Wastewater

Approximately 92% of all Tennessee residents are served by regulated public water systems while wastewater is treated in less then 500 publicly owned treatment plants. Aging infrastructure causes leakage of potable water, overflows of raw wastewater, and difficulty meeting future regulatory challenges.