

THE STATE OF OUR INFRASTRUCTURE



OVERVIEW

- American infrastructure is rated a D+ by The American Society of Civil Engineers.
- Internationally, the U.S. ranks 12th among nations for overall infrastructure.
- Over two million American workers have trained at more than 1,600 apprenticeship facilities across the U.S. They comprise the safest, most highly trained workforce in the world and are ready to build.

Our Infrastructure: Need to Build Now

In the decades after World War II, the United States built an interstate highway system second to none, a network of hundreds of airports, an immense system of waterworks, and other infrastructure. This massive investment in infrastructure was the foundation for the nation’s strong growth in the aftermath of World War II.

Today, much of this infrastructure is in dire need of repair. In their 2017 report, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) puts the infrastructure deficit at over \$2 trillion. This deficit has a price: as of 2015, deficiencies in our surface transportation systems cost U.S. households and businesses nearly \$147 billion annually.

Ignoring the problem is not an option. Overall, ASCE gives U.S. infrastructure a “D+” and according to the group, 1 in 5 miles of highway is in poor condition; 2 in 5 miles of urban interstates are congested; 240,000 water main breaks occur annually; and the more than 640,000 high-voltage transmission lines in our power grids are at full capacity. These figures point to infrastructure that is not safe and is not supporting our economy.

ASCE estimates the cost of bringing America’s infrastructure to a state of good repair (a grade of B) by 2025 at 4.6 trillion, of which only about 55 percent has been committed. That “deficit” grows yearly as infrastructure ages and the backlog of unfunded projects increases.

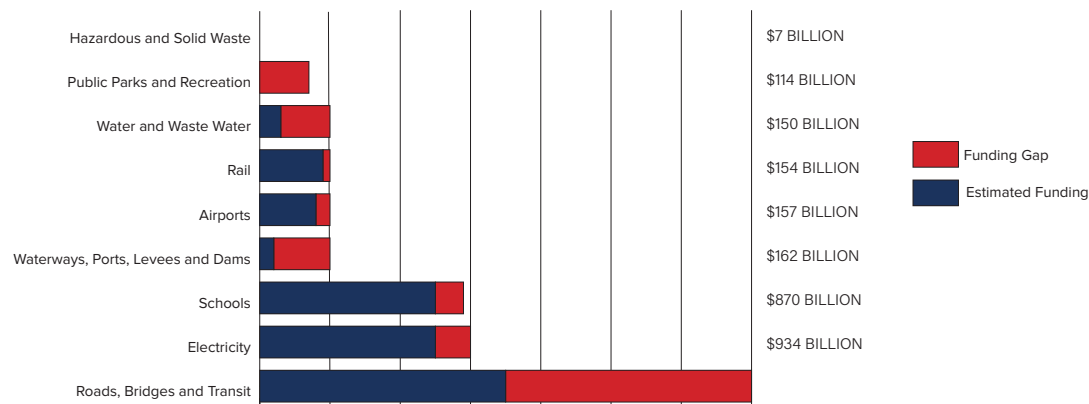
2017 INFRASTRUCTURE GRADES

AIRPORTS	D	PARKS & RECREATION	D+
BRIDGES	C+	PORTS	C+
DAMS	D	RAIL	B
DRINKING WATER	D	ROADS	D
ENERGY	D+	SCHOOLS	D+
HAZARDOUS WASTE	D+	SOLID WASTE	C+
INLAND WATERWAYS	D	TRANSIT	D-
LEVEES	D	WASTEWATER	D+

OVERALL GRADE=D+

KEY: A - EXCEPTIONAL B - GOOD C - MIOCROE D - POOR F - FAILING
Source: ASCE 2017 Infrastructure Report Card

INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS, FUNDED AND UNFUNDED 2016-2025



Source: ASCE 2017 Infrastructure Report Card

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Rebuilding our infrastructure is not a cost—it is an investment in jobs, the economy and America’s hardest workers.

With those grades it will come as no surprise that the U.S. ranks 12th internationally for overall infrastructure. According to the Business Roundtable, the U.S. spends less than half of what Europe spends and less than a third what China spends on maintaining and improving infrastructure. Once the envy of the world when it came to infrastructure, the United States is falling dangerously behind.

The 5 ReBuild USA Principles for an Infrastructure Bill

A Standard & Poor’s 2014 report shows that a \$1.3 billion infrastructure plan would add \$2 billion to GDP as well as 29,000 jobs; a 2015 Duke University study found that for every \$1 billion invested in federal transportation infrastructure, 21,761 jobs are created. That economic boost is why Democrats and Republicans have each promoted \$1 trillion infrastructure plans. To pass a good bill that “builds it right and builds it now,” Congress must adhere to five principles:

BROAD: Modernize all aspects of America’s aging infrastructure to keep our communities safe and thriving, spur economic growth, and invest and grow the middle class.

ROBUST: Include robust federal investment that will meet our pressing infrastructure needs and lay a foundation for growth.

STANDARDS: Ensure the safety of all communities by promoting and preserving hiring and procurement standards that maximize community investments, create construction career pathways for underserved communities, and ensure the safest, most productive and optimally trained pool of workers to rebuild our country.

EFFICIENT: Restructure the existing project delivery process to ensure the efficient and timely completion of projects.

SUSTAINABLE: Utilize long-term, sustainable funding paths to tackle our current challenges and lay out a vision for a brighter, better future for our nation.

ReBuild USA is calling on Congress to pass a bipartisan bill that includes the five principles outlined above and gives America’s infrastructure the attention and funding it deserves. By modernizing America’s infrastructure we can grow the middle class, invest in our children’s future, and give our economy the competitive boost needed to succeed in the 21st century and beyond.

We can’t rebuild America’s crumbling, unsafe infrastructure with untrained workers. As we prepare to rebuild roads, bridges, and schools that last for decades, we need highly trained, skilled workers who can deliver safe, quality projects on time and on budget.