

## Deficient Bridges

Federal law mandates the uniform inspection of all bridges for structural and functional adequacy at least every two years; bridges rated ‘deficient’ are eligible for federal repair dollars.

The condition of the nation's highway bridges has been slowly but steadily improving, and it continued to improve from 2005 to 2006. Of the 597,598 highway bridges in the current National Bridge Inventory, 144,225—about 24.13 percent—were reported deficient for 2006 (Table 14, Deficient Bridges), a slight improvement from 2005. In 1998, about 29.0 percent were rated deficient. However, progress is slow. At the current rate of improvement, it would take 62 years for all deficient bridges to be brought to standard. Nevada reported the lowest percentage of deficient bridges, 3.92 percent, while Rhode Island reported the highest, 53.43 percent.

**Table 14: Deficient Bridges, 2006**

Rank 2006	State	Percent Deficient
1	NV	3.92
2	AZ	5.54
3	WY	12.22
4	CO	12.99
5	MN	13.00
6	WI	15.41
7	UT	16.37
8	NM	17.71
9	CA	17.72
10	IL	17.79
11	DE	17.83
12	FL	18.26
13	TN	18.83
14	ID	19.05
15	MT	19.62
16	GA	19.64
17	TX	19.92
18	KS	20.73
19	AR	21.58
20	IN	21.65
21	AK	22.34
22	VA	23.10
23	OH	23.27
24	SC	23.32
25	ND	23.45
26	OR	23.73
27	NE	23.82
28	AL	24.93
29	SD	25.12
30	MS	25.47
31	MI	25.89
32	WA	26.18
33	MD	26.89
34	IA	27.01
35	NJ	27.47
36	KY	28.59
37	LA	29.88
38	ME	29.97
39	NH	30.27
40	MO	30.50
41	NC	31.05
42	OK	31.10
43	CT	32.80
44	VT	35.71
45	MA	36.16
46	WV	36.56
47	NY	38.09
48	HI	39.71
49	PA	39.77
50	RI	53.43
Mean		24.13