

Report Card for North Carolina's Infrastructure – 2009 Update  
**BRIDGES**

**Overview**

Thirty-one percent of North Carolina's 18,182 highway bridges are considered structurally deficient or functionally obsolete, a one percent improvement since 2006. The cost to replace these deficient structures is estimated to be approximately \$8 billion. **As a result, the state's bridge infrastructure grade remains a C-.**

**Recommendations and Progress**

- Ensure that fewer than ten percent of the state's bridges are classified as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete by 2020.
- Use of funds from the Highway Trust Fund for non-transportation related projects must cease.
- Funding for bridge replacement projects should be increased.

Bridge sufficiency ratings range from zero to 100. A lower rating indicates a more deficient structure. Sufficiency ratings from the 2006 and 2008 Deficient Bridge List, compiled by the North Carolina Department of Transportation - Bridge Management Unit, are as follows:

<i>Sufficiency Rating</i>	<i>Number of Bridges</i>	
	<i>2006</i>	<i>2008</i>
Less than 10	130	181
10-20	250	313
20-30	490	528
30-40	620	598
40-50	1,160	1,126

A total of 2,650 bridges had a sufficiency rating of less than 50 in 2006, while 2,746 bridges had a sufficiency rating of less than 50 in 2008, a four percent increase.

**Grade Breakdown**

<b>Funding</b> - expected 75 years to replace all the substandard bridges	D	(33%)
<b>Inspections</b> - exclusion of most pedestrian bridges	B	(33%)
<b>Condition</b> – 31 percent of the state's bridges are substandard	D+	(33%)

**Overall:** **C-**