

Report Card for North Carolina's Infrastructure – 2009 Update
SCHOOLS

Overview

The April 2006 *North Carolina Public Schools Facility Needs Survey Preliminary Report* indicated a total funding need of \$9.7 billion through 2010 in order to address needs for new construction, additions and renovations. Through a combination of local bonds and qualified zone academy bonds for schools, approximately \$3.6 billion has been obtained between 2006 and 2008, creating a current need of approximately \$6.1 billion. Allowing for an increase in construction costs between 2005 and 2008 of 3.1 percent, the total funding need through 2010 is approximately \$6.3 billion for the needs identified in the 2006 report. Facility needs identified since the 2006 report are not included. **As a result, the state's public schools infrastructure grade remains a C-.**

Recommendations and Progress

- An updated facility needs survey has not been completed since 2006 to evaluate progress.
- Support the increased use of school construction bonds.
- Encourage school systems to explore alternative financing to facilitate construction, including lease financing and financing/ownership/use arrangements.
- Encourage school districts to adopt and follow regular, comprehensive construction and maintenance programs.
- Ensure money earmarked for the public school system is used for its intended purpose.

Grade Breakdown

Renovations - weighted more heavily due to the need to maintain facilities	D	(50%)
Schools considered to be obsolete by 2010 - over 190 schools in 2006 report	B	(25%)
Capacity - thirteen percent of students in mobile units statewide in 2006 report	C	(25%)

Overall: C-