STATE OF BRIDGES IN NEW MEXICO





JULY 2025



New Mexico Department of Transportation Bridge Bureau



NMDOT Responsible for the Inspection of All Public Bridges in the State of New Mexico

Total Bridges = 3,758

- NMDOT Owned = 2,976
- Locally Owned = 782

NHS/NON-NHS							
	NMDOT	LOCALLY					
	OWNED	OWNED					
NHS	1603	15					
NON-NHS	1373	767					







NMDOT Bridge Inspection Program

- National bridge inspection standards (NBIS)
 - Requires that all bridges be inspected on 24 month intervals
 - Other requirements
- Bridge inspections
 - NMDOT district bridge inspection programs
 - New Mexico State University (NMSU)
 - Consultant inspections
 - Bridge management section





NBIS Condition Ratings & National Bridge Element (NBE's)



- MDOT rates bridges using NBIS ratings of a 0 to 9 scale for decks, superstructures, substructures, and culverts
 - Good condition 7 to 9
 - Fair condition 5 to 6
 - Poor condition 4 to 0

NBE's ratings

- Rating per individual bridge element
- Track which elements are in poor condition (ie, bearing pads, deck joints, etc.)
- Can create agency defined elements



Current Bridge Conditions

Over 60% of Inventory in Fair Condition

BRIDGES IN NEW MEXICO BUILT BY DECADE 709 700 656 600 500 373 200 100 56 1970's 1990's 2000's 2010'

	CONDITION OF BRIDGES IN NEW MEXICO							
CONDITION	NMDOT LOCALLY NATIONA							
POOR	3.3%	5.6%	6.8%					
FAIR	62.6%	64.5%	49.1%					
GOOD	34.1%	29.9%	44.1%					

- Large portion of bridges built in 1950's through 1970's
- Average age of bridges in NM is over 50 years old
- \$8B to bring all fair condition bridges into a good condition
- \$1.6B to improve good condition bridges to meet national average



NMDOT Bridge Prioritization and Bridge Needs

- Bridge bureau meets with districts on individual bridge needs
- Sridges are divided up by national highway system (NHS), non-NHS, and locally owned
- MDOT prioritizes bridge work:
 - bridge condition data
 - engineering judgement
 - critical findings

- bridge load capacity
- traffic capacity needs
- Budget availability

RANK	BRIDGE_I	D	FACILITY	FEATINT	MILEPOST	YEARBUILT	DECK	SUPER	SUB	CULV	RATING
1	L 7	370	I-25 NBL	ARROYO HONDO RD	285.3	1975	7	5	4	Ν	POOR
2	2 7	371	I-25 SBL	ARROYO HONDO RD	285.3	1975	7	5	5	Ν	FAIR
3	3 6	221	US-550 SBL	HAMPTON ARROYO	160.7	1961	6	6	5	Ν	FAIR
4	4 6	222	US-550 NBL	HAMPTON ARROYO	160.7	1961	6	6	5	Ν	FAIR
Ę	5 1	792	IRR/US64/491 WBL	SAN JUAN RIVER	22.1	1936	3	4	4	Ν	POOR
	5 7	501	I-25 NBL	SF Southern R/R	282.0	1974	7	5	6	Ν	FAIR
	7 7	502	I-25 SBL	SF Southern R/R	282.0	1974	7	5	6	Ν	FAIR
8	3 5	767	US-84/285	UNNAMED WATERWAY	166.7	1955	Ν	Ν	Ν	4	POOR
ę	9 6	012	I-25 NBL/SBL	VALENCIA EXIT	297.0	1957	Ν	Ν	Ν	4	POOR



Bridge Work Costs

The average cost to build a bridge has increased from \$400/SF in 2020 to over \$1,100/SF in 2025.

ESTIMATED BRIDGE COSTS FOR TYPICAL BRIDGE

Bridge Work Activity	Example	 ximate 2025, quare
Preventive	Deck sealing, expansion joint	
Maintenance	and bearing maintenance, paint	\$ 117
	element maintenance	
	Concrete repair, expansion joint	
Rehabilitation	and bearing replacement	\$ 583
Major	Deck replacement,	
Rehabilitation	superstructure rehabilitation	\$ 875
Replacement	Bridge replacement	\$ 1,166
Culvert	Culvert replacement	
replacement	(replacement of entire length)	\$ 875





Bridges require scheduled maintenance to meet their design service life.

Bridge Life Cycle Maintenance

- Bridges built today are designed for a 75-year design life
- Scheduled maintenance such as deck patching and joint replacement is required to meet this design life
- Failure to provide proper maintenance may lead to having to perform a major rehabilitation or an early replacement





Bride Maintenance Intervals

Year	Maintenance Activity			
Year 1	Deck sealing			
	Deck sealing, expansion joint			
	and bearing maintenance,			
Year 15	paint element maintenance			
	Deck replacement			
	superstructure and			
Year 30	substructure rehabilitation			
	Deck sealing, expansion joint			
	and bearing maintenance,			
Year 45	paint element maintenance			



NMDOT Bridge Prioritization Program

- Late 1990's: NMDOT began tracking poor condition bridges and noticed limited service life of bridge decks
- 2013: NMDOT set aside \$14 million for rehabilitation and preventive maintenance work
- MDOT successfully reduced the number of state-owned poor condition bridges from 281 (2004) to 99 (2025)

BRIDGES IN "POOR" CONDITION ALL NMDOT OWNED BRIDGES







NMDOT Bridge Price Agreements

- 2017: FHWA stopped allowing federal funds to be used on price agreements
- 2018: the NMDOT decided to only use state contract maintenance funds to pay for price agreements
- Price agreements
 significantly reduce time and
 process needed for repairs



Bridge 9030 (US-285 SB @ MP 88, south of Roswell, north embankment was washed out by large flood.

Bridge 7301 (Lordsburg interchange bridge, I-10 WB @ exit 24) was struck by an overweight vehicle.

2022 Transportation Bill – Bridge Formula Funds



2022 transportation bill

included \$45 million/year for 5 consecutive years to be used on bridge replacements

- An additional \$18 million/year awarded for FY 2022 and FY 2023
- MDOT bridge funding goal: spend 15% on locally owned bridges

LOCAL PROJECTS FUNDED WITH BRIDGE FORMULA FUNDS

Control Number	Local Agency Bridge Projects	Amount
LC00540	Dona Ana County	\$ 7,800,000
2104850	City of Roswell	\$ 2,400,000
2104840	City of Carlsbad	\$ 2,201,720
6101810	City of Grants	\$ 3,000,000
6101820	Sandoval County	\$ 3,964,807
		\$19,366,527

Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Projects



TPF Local Grant Program:

- Funded annually through tax distributions
- Cannot be mixed with federal funding
- Requires a 5% local entity match
 - Hardship waiver available
- 32 bridges were funded or designed with TPF funds
- \$36.4 million dollars awarded for bridges since 2022

FY	District	CN	Entity	Sta	ate Amount 95%	Ent	tity Amount 5%	Total
2022	1	LP10010	Village of Santa Clara	\$	570,000.00	\$	30,000.00	\$ 600,000.00
	1	LP10026	Sierra County	\$	855,000.00	\$	45,000.00	\$ 900,000.00
	1	LP10028	Socorro County	\$	1,710,000.00	\$	90,000.00	\$ 1,800,000.00
	4	LP40022	Guadalupe County	\$	451,250.00	\$	23,750.00	\$ 475,000.00
	4	LP40023	Colfax County	\$	1,425,000.00	\$	75,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00
	5	LP50015	City of Bloomfield	\$	363,850.00	\$	19,150.00	\$ 383,000.00
	5	LP50016	Taos County	\$	470,250.00	\$	24,750.00	\$ 495,000.00
	5	LP50023	Rio Arriba County	\$	190,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
	5	LP50029	Village of Questa	\$	507,300.00	\$	26,700.00	\$ 534,000.00
	6	LP60019	Pueblo of Jemez	\$	2,958,300.00	\$	155,700.00	\$ 3,114,000.00
	6	LP60025	McKinley County	\$	1,900,000.00	\$	100,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00
	6	LP60027	Cibola County	\$	1,187,500.00	\$	62,500.00	\$ 1,250,000.00
	6	LP60030	Sandoval County	\$	807,500.00	\$	42,500.00	\$ 850,000.00
	6	LP60031	Sandoval County	\$	1,330,000.00	\$	70,000.00	\$ 2,105,300.04
			2022 Total	\$	14,725,950.00	\$	775,050.00	\$ 16,206,300.04
2023	1	LP10036	Village of Hatch	\$	547,822.96	\$	28,832.79	\$ 576,655.75
	1	LP10037	Town of Mesilla	\$	445,223.20	\$	23,432.80	\$ 468,656.00
	1	LP10038	City of Socorro	\$	332,500.00	\$	17,500.00	\$ 350,000.00
	1	LP10048	Sierra County	\$	1,425,000.00	\$	75,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00
	2	LP20034	Chaves County	\$	1,187,500.00	\$	62,500.00	\$ 1,250,000.00
	2	LP20035	City of Carlsbad	\$	2,850,000.00	\$	150,000.00	\$ 3,000,000.00
	5	LP50033	Taos County	\$	950,000.00	\$	50,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
	6	LP60032	Cibola County	\$	1,900,000.00	\$	100,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00
			2023 Total	\$	9,638,046.16	\$	507,265.59	\$ 10,145,311.75
2024	4	LP40047	City of Raton	\$	504,758.99	\$	26,566.26	\$ 531,325.25
	4	LP40058	Harding County	\$	373,350.00	\$	19,650.00	\$ 393,000.00
	5	LP50048	Santa Fe County	\$	1,140,000.00	\$	60,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00
	5	LP50052	Village of Questa	\$	541,500.00	\$	28,500.00	\$ 570,000.00
	6	LP60039	Cibola County	\$	1,900,000.00	\$	100,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00
	6	LP60041	Sandoval County	\$	1,238,725.19	\$	65,196.06	\$ 1,303,921.25
	6	LP60042	Village of Milan	\$	2,850,000.00	\$	150,000.00	\$ 3,000,000.00
	2024 Total		\$	8,548,334.18	\$	449,912.32	\$ 8,998,246.50	
2025	1	LP10070	Village of Santa Clara	\$	444,600.00	\$	23,400.00	\$ 468,000.00
	2	LP20058	Otero County	\$	380,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$ 400,000.00
	6	LP60046	Cibola County	\$	2,660,000.00	\$	140,000.00	\$ 2,800,000.00

Bridge Management Software – AASHTOWare BrM

- All bridge inspection data is stored in the AASHTOWare bridge management program (BrM)
- MDOT is moving toward BrM use to predict future projects
- BrM to provides a strong data-driven method for selection



Bridge Management Software – OVLOAD

35 3303

Via Points

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35.0875969



- The bridge management section performs bridge capacity analysis for all overweight permits issued in the state
- This section works to ensure that oversize and overweight vehicles can safely travel across the state
- MDOT uses a beam analysis program called OVLOAD for all overweight permits



Conditional Override

View/Edit Bridge Data