



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Report available at: [tripnet.org](http://tripnet.org)

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**TWENTY PERCENT OF BATON ROUGE BRIDGES ARE STRUCTURALLY DEFICIENT. NEW REPORT IDENTIFIES BRIDGES IN BATON ROUGE AREA THAT ARE MOST IN NEED OF REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT**

*Eds.: The report includes a list of bridges in the Baton Rouge area with the lowest average rating for the condition of the deck, superstructure and substructure, and a list of the most heavily traveled structurally deficient bridges in the area.*

**Baton Rouge, LA** – Twenty percent of bridges (20 feet or longer) in the Baton Rouge area (which includes East Baton Rouge and West Baton Rouge Parishes) are structurally deficient, according to a new report released today by [TRIP](http://tripnet.org), a Washington, DC based national nonprofit transportation research group. A bridge is structurally deficient if there is significant deterioration of the bridge deck, supports or other major components.

The TRIP report, [“Preserving Baton Rouge Bridges: The Condition and Funding Needs of Baton Rouge’s Aging Bridge System,”](#) finds that in the Baton Rouge area, 122 of the 613 bridges are structurally deficient – a total of 20 percent. Bridges in the Baton Rouge area that are structurally deficient carry approximately 419,000 vehicles per day. Structurally deficient bridges may be posted for lower weight limits or closed if their condition warrants such action. Deteriorated bridges can have a significant impact on daily life. Restrictions on vehicle weight may cause many vehicles – especially emergency vehicles, commercial trucks, school buses and farm equipment – to use alternate routes to avoid weight-restricted bridges. Redirected trips also lengthen travel time, waste fuel and reduce the efficiency of the local economy.

TRIP has prepared a [statewide report on bridge conditions throughout Louisiana](#) as well as regional reports for [Alexandria](#), [Baton Rouge](#), [Lafayette](#), [Lake Charles](#), [Monroe](#), [New Orleans](#) and [Shreveport](#). Each report is available by clicking on the link above.

The chart below details the 10 most heavily traveled structurally deficient bridges in the Baton Rouge area. A list of the 25 most heavily traveled structurally deficient bridges in the region is available in the [report](#).

| Rank | Parish           | Location    | Facility Carried | Feature Intersected      | Year Built | Average Daily Traffic | Open, Closed, Posted |
|------|------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | US0061           | LA 73 NORTH              | 1953       | 26500                 | Posted               |
| 2    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | US0190           | OLD MISS.RIVER BR        | 1939       | 20100                 | Open                 |
| 3    | West Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | LA0001           | PORT ALLEN CANAL         | 1960       | 19100                 | Posted               |
| 4    | West Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | LA0001           | PORT ALLEN CANAL         | 1960       | 19100                 | Open                 |
| 5    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | BOB PETIT BLVD   | BAYOU FOUNTAIN           | 1969       | 18462                 | Posted               |
| 6    | East Baton Rouge |             | LA0427           | BAYOU MANCHAC            | 1972       | 17100                 | Posted               |
| 7    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | LA0067           | MONTE SANO BAYOU         | 1956       | 16800                 | Open                 |
| 8    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | US0190           | US 190 OVER US 61-SCENIC | 1940       | 16350                 | Open                 |
| 9    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | US0190           | US 190 OVER US 61-SCENIC | 1940       | 16350                 | Open                 |
| 10   | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | US0061           | BAYOU MANCHAC            | 1953       | 16150                 | Open                 |

The following 10 structurally deficient bridges in the Baton Rouge area (carrying a minimum of 500 vehicles per day) have the lowest average rating for deck, substructure and superstructure. Each major component of a bridge is rated on a scale of zero to nine, with a score of four or below indicating poor condition. If a bridge receives a rating of four or below for its deck, substructure or superstructure, it is rated as structurally deficient. A list of the 25 bridges in the New Orleans area with the lowest average sufficiency rating is included in the [report](#).

| Rank | Parish           | Location    | Facility Carried | Feature Intersected      | Year Built | Average Daily Traffic | Open, Closed, Posted |
|------|------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | SILVERLEAF AVE.  | ROBERTS CANAL            | 1956       | 8137                  | Closed               |
| 2    | West Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | LA0001           | PORT ALLEN CANAL         | 1960       | 19100                 | Posted               |
| 3    | West Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | LA0001           | PORT ALLEN CANAL         | 1960       | 19100                 | Open                 |
| 4    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | US0061           | LA 73 NORTH              | 1953       | 26500                 | Posted               |
| 5    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | US0061           | BAYOU MANCHAC            | 1953       | 16150                 | Open                 |
| 6    | West Baton Rouge |             | US0190           | LA 415/M P RR @ LOBDELL  | 1940       | 14100                 | Open                 |
| 7    | West Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | LA0001           | MO PACIFIC RR            | 1952       | 8700                  | Open                 |
| 8    | East Baton Rouge |             | LOCAL ROAD       | DRAINAGE CANAL           | 1968       | 610                   | Posted               |
| 9    | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | BOB PETIT BLVD   | BAYOU FOUNTAIN           | 1969       | 18462                 | Posted               |
| 10   | East Baton Rouge | Baton Rouge | US0190           | US 190 OVER US 61-SCENIC | 1940       | 16350                 | Open                 |

“Louisiana’s bridges are a critical component of the state’s transportation system, providing connections for personal mobility, economic growth and quality of life,” said Will Wilkins, TRIP’s executive director. “Without increased and reliable transportation funding, numerous projects to improve and preserve Louisiana’s aging bridges will not move forward, hampering the state’s ability to efficiently and safety move people and goods.”