

# Report: Rural Mississippi roads among most dangerous in country

by: Jim Spiewak | Tuesday, June 27, 2017



**DeSoto, Miss.** - A newly released report by TRIP, a Washington DC based non-profit research group, said more than 50% of rural Mississippi roads are either 'poor' or 'mediocre.'

The report said rural Mississippi roads have the 4th highest fatality rate in the country.

Kathryne Vanderbilt drives the back roads of DeSoto County and

said, "The three years that I have worked here at Bridgetown Market, I have known of at least four deaths in the area due to the road conditions."

Vanderbilt said she avoids some roads because she believes the pot holes will damage her truck.

FOX13 drove around the area on Tuesday. In a two mile stretch of Star Landing Road near I-55, FOX13 counted 33 areas where crews patched up pot holes. That's also where we found an overpass bridge with cracks and concrete falling off.

According to The National Bridge Inventory, 300 bridges have recently been classified structurally deficient in the 11 Mid-South counties, meaning at least one defect needs attention.

Municipal governments are responsible for maintaining the majority of the states' infrastructure. It's estimated that Mississippi needs \$400 million a year to play catch-up and maintain the demand in services for their infrastructure.

[TRIP](#) looked at roads in all 50 states. Here's a link to see other parts of the country, [www.tripnet.org](http://www.tripnet.org)