

State News for NSPE Members

Engineers give Utah Infrastructure a High Grade, but Say Levees and Canals Need Improvement

Utah has some of the best infrastructure in the country when compared to other states, although its canals and levees are in need of repair, [Utah News Dispatch reports](#).

That's according to the American Society of Civil Engineers' report card, released Thursday, which gives the Beehive State an overall C+ grade. That's tied with Georgia and Wisconsin for the highest score of all U.S. states and territories.

"A C+ means our infrastructure is meeting the needs of Utahns, but there's still room for improvement," said Craig Friant, a civil engineer who worked on the report. "This is a sign that we're doing things well here in Utah."

While the state has one of the highest grades, the rest of the country is not far behind. The national grade is C, and most states and territories received a C or C-grade — South Carolina and Louisiana each received a D+, West Virginia received a D and Puerto Rico received a D-, the lowest grade.

According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, or ASCE, an A grade is defined as exceptional and fit for the future; B is good and adequate for now; C is mediocre, requiring attention; D is poor and at risk; and F is failing, requiring critical attention and unfit for purpose. [Read more](#).

Uinta Basin Railway Group Looks to Fund Project with \$2.4B in Federal Bonds

The group pushing for a rail line in eastern Utah that would allow the state to ramp up oil production is hoping to fund the project through \$2.4 billion in US Department of Transportation bonds.

The Seven County Infrastructure Coalition for years has been lobbying for the 88-mile Uinta Basin Railway, which would connect the oil-rich region of northeastern Utah to national rail lines, facilitating the export of waxy crude oil to refineries on the Gulf Coast.

To pay for the railway, the coalition — which consists of representatives from Dagget, Carbon, Duchesne, Emery, San Juan, Servier and Uintah counties — approved a resolution last month announcing its intent to seek \$2.4 billion in private activity bonds from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

That's a \$500 million increase from 2023, when the coalition passed a similar resolution seeking \$1.9 billion in federal bonds. [Read more in the *Utah News Dispatch*.](#)

University of Utah Construction updates: What to know before visiting campus

In Utah, there are three certainties: death, taxes and summer road construction, [The Salt Lake Tribune reports](#).

That's particularly true this summer at the University of Utah, which has several major projects in the works. And it's creating some traffic headaches around the hospital on upper campus.

The biggest project is the repaving and redevelopment of roughly a block of 100 South, between University Street and where the road curves at the Kennecott Engineering Building and becomes North Campus Drive. It's at the northwest end of campus, situated between a row of science buildings and the fraternities and sororities associated with the U.

The road there, which is managed by Salt Lake City, has long been in disrepair with cracks and potholes. City crews started in early May to replace the aging asphalt; they are expected to be done before most students return for classes that start on Aug. 17.

"For those who remain on campus during those months, they'll be contending with some major commuting challenges as road construction gets underway," the U. said in a post about the project. [Read more](#).

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Get Ready to Celebrate PE Day

The annual [Professional Engineers Day](#) will be celebrated on August 6, 2025. Save the date and get ready to share your photos and selfies as part of the online virtual event using the hashtag #LicensedPEday on X (Twitter), Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.

Share your reasons for being a PE and give special recognition to your colleagues and teams. Prepare for the celebration and gear up by visiting the [PE Day Logo Store](#).



Showcase the Contributions of PEs During National Safety

Month

NSPE is recognizing [National Safety Month](#) on our social media channels during June. This is a great way to promote professional engineers and the ways in which your companies/organizations are keeping the public and employees safe in all the work that you do.

If you have any onsite/project related photos and messaging (details to summarize activities and safety philosophy) that will illustrate the following topics areas -- Employee Engagement (June 8-14), Roadway Safety (June 15-21) and Wellbeing (June 22-30)—share them on your own social media channels using the hashtag #NationalSafetyMonth and tag NSPE so we can help spread the word!

2025 Spring Webinar Series Available On-Demand

Did you miss any of our spring WORKability Wednesdays Webinars? No worries! Members can access recordings of the following webinars free of charge through the [PE Institute](#). *Members are advised to consult their state licensing board to determine requirements for PDH or CPD credits.

- [Board of Ethical Review: Case Review and Discussion](#)
- [My Way or the Highway? The Impact: Designing Flexible and Future-Ready RTO Policies That Work](#)
- [Trust Matters: Empowering Leaders to Foster Team Trust and Performance](#)
- [Design Liability in a Changing Climate](#)
- [Using Your Engineering Expertise as a Forensic Expert](#)
- [How Has Technology Shaped Workstyles Across Generations?](#)

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