Transportation Infrastructure and Travel Industry Competitiveness

Key Findings from a Survey among USTA members
Conducted April - May 2014
Research Methodology

- Online survey among 278 members of the U.S. Travel Association, conducted April 29 to May 19, 2014

- While online surveys are not sampled surveys, a comparable sampled survey of this size would have a statistical margin of error of ±5.88 percentage points.
Three in four U.S. Travel members say that America’s infrastructure is in fair or poor shape and needs improvement.

Assessment of America’s Infrastructure

In good shape, needs no improvement; in pretty good shape, but needs some improvement

Just 1% say it is in good shape

13%

In fair shape, needs quite a bit of improvement; in poor shape, needs a great deal of improvement

Poor shape

30%

87%
The strongest reasons to invest in infrastructure: it is deteriorating and is critical to competitiveness.

Which of these is the most compelling/second most compelling reason, if any, for the United States to invest in transportation infrastructure?

- Infrastructure is inefficient, outdated, and deteriorated: 74%
- Critical to increasing global competitiveness: 66%
- Need the investment to continue job creation: 24%
- It’s a safety issue: 18%
- Funding for roads/transit systems is core responsibility of federal govt: 15%
- None of these is an important reason: 2%
U.S. Travel members are nearly unanimous in the belief that investment in infrastructure is so important that all options to fund it should be on the table.

*With which one of the following statements do you agree more?*

Infrastructure is important to the US travel industry. Greater investment in maintenance and upgrades to infrastructure are needed, and all options to fund this should be on the table.

93%

While investment in maintenance and upgrades to infrastructure would help to improve the traveler experience or benefit my business, they are not worth the increased fees and taxes necessary to achieve this.

7%
Three in four members believe the U.S. infrastructure is not positioned to respond to competitive demands of increased travel.

The current state of our U.S. infrastructure, and especially infrastructure in my region:

Is positioned to respond to the competitive demands of increased domestic and international travel over the next 10 to 15 years

- 12%

Is NOT positioned to respond to the competitive demands of increased domestic and international travel over the next 10 to 15 years

- 76%

No answer

- 12%
America’s infrastructure is not improving at a pace to keep up with our needs.

- **Roads and highways**: 56% Getting worse, 16% Staying the same, 38% Getting better
- **Mass transit**: 30% Getting worse, 20% Staying the same, 50% Getting better
- **Passenger rail**: 29% Getting worse, 9% Staying the same, 61% Getting better
- **Aviation**: 22% Getting worse, 38% Staying the same, 40% Getting better
- **Ocean/water**: 12% Getting worse, 14% Staying the same, 74% Getting better