



## SUMMARY REPORT

### FHWA LTBP Summary—Findings from the New Jersey Bridge Deck

FHWA Publication No.: FHWA-HRT-18-021

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#### About LTBP

This study was conducted as part of the Federal Highway Administration's Long-Term Bridge Performance (LTBP) Program. The LTBP Program is a long-term research effort, authorized by the U.S. Congress under SAFETEA-LU, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, to collect high-quality bridge data from a representative sample of highway bridges nationwide that will help the bridge community to better understand bridge performance. The products from this program will be a suite of data-driven tools, including predictive and forecasting models that will enhance the ability of bridge owners to optimize their management of bridges.

#### Introduction

The Long-Term Bridge Performance (LTBP) Program began with a pilot study of seven bridges throughout the United States that were selected to serve as representative examples of the most common superstructure types and environmental conditions encountered within the program. The seven pilot bridges are located in California, Florida, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Utah, and Virginia.

To properly implement the LTBP Program, it was necessary to balance the need for high-quality research data with the following factors:

- The availability of effective technologies and tools for the desired investigations.
- The availability of legacy data on the design, construction, condition, and maintenance of the subject bridges.
- The cost of obtaining, managing, and using the data needed to complete desired studies and reach program objectives.
- The safety of roadway users during the necessary lane closures.
- The costs of traffic delays.
- The coordination necessary with State transportation departments to administer the program in a smooth and efficient manner.

The investigation of the seven pilot bridges provided critical feedback needed to finalize the most effective approach for balancing these factors while meeting the LTBP Program objectives. The primary



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<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/research/infrastructure/structures/ltpb/16070/index.cfm>

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FHWA-HRT-18-021  
HRDI-30/12-17(100)E



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