

Hi, this is Sally Oxenhandler with your MoDOT minute.

Preliminary studies of all Missouri bridges with gusset plates similar to the collapsed bridge in Minnesota show 156 bridges to be safe. The remaining 76 require further study to make sure any weight that's been added to them will not cause a problem. National Transportation Safety Board findings show the Minneapolis bridge likely collapsed because of an original design error in some of its gusset plates, which couldn't support increased loads on the bridge. Gusset plates are steel plates that connect the beams of a bridge's frame. MoDOT doesn't expect to find any problems, but is doing a thorough analysis as a precaution.

On a related note, an MSNBC report issued this week on the state of the nation's bridges shows 99.9 percent of Missouri's bridges have been inspected on schedule. That's one of the best rates in the nation!

That's been your MoDOT Minute. Remember to visit modot.org every Tuesday for new information.