

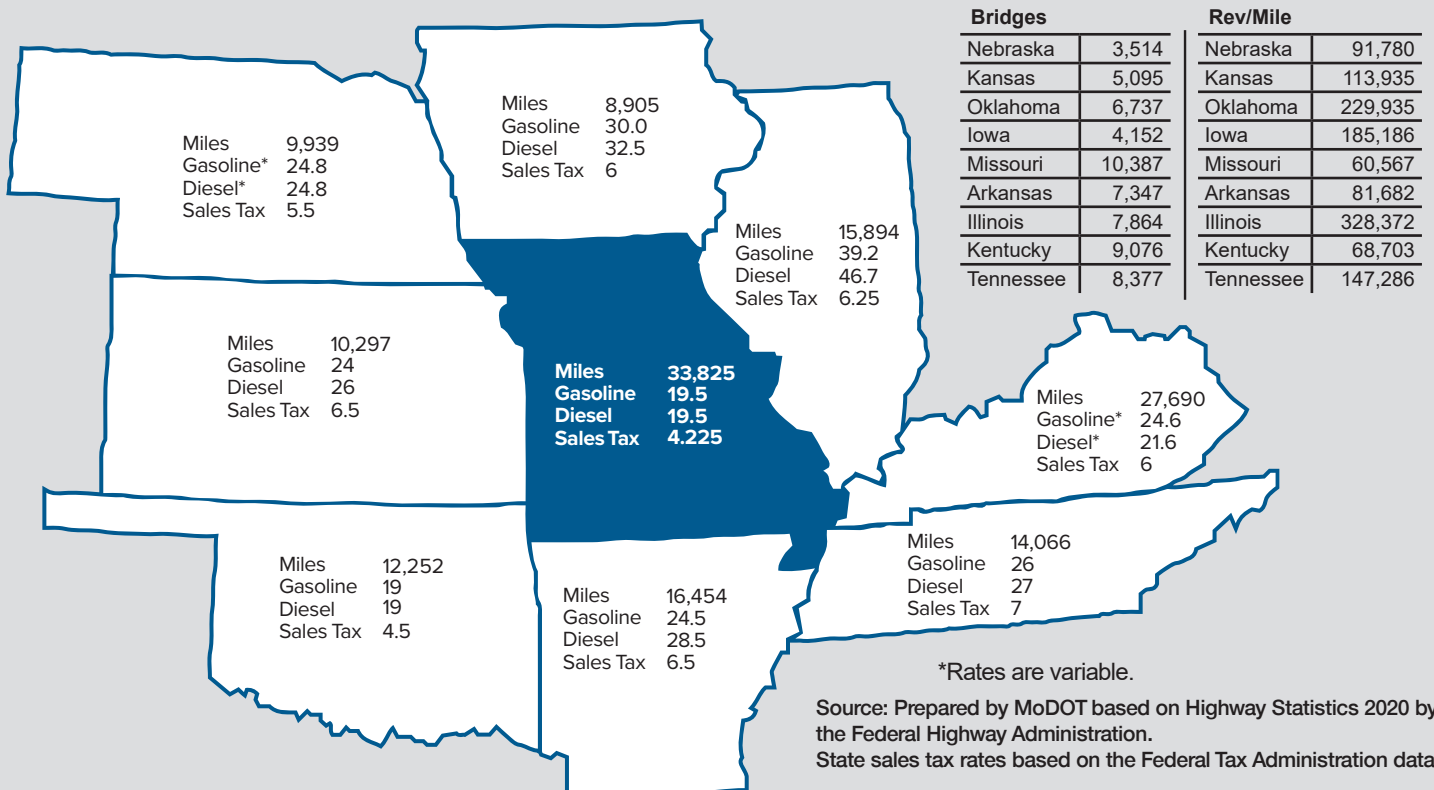
How Does Missouri COMPARE?

How Missouri Compares to the Nation and its Neighboring States

Missouri ranks 48th nationally in revenue per mile, primarily because the state’s large system – the nation’s seventh largest with 33,825 miles of highways – is funded with one of the lowest fuel taxes in the country. This ranking will be updated in subsequent years to reflect the increase in motor fuel tax. Missouri also ranks seventh nationally in the number of bridges with 10,387. This does not include the city and county system of roads and bridges, which includes an additional 97,000 miles of county roads and city streets, and nearly 14,000 bridges.

Missouri Lags Behind

Missouri has one of the lower fuel tax rates compared to its neighbors. Yet it has a larger state-maintained highway system than any of them.



*Rates are variable.

Source: Prepared by MoDOT based on Highway Statistics 2020 by the Federal Highway Administration. State sales tax rates based on the Federal Tax Administration data.

Gasoline and diesel fuel tax rates are shown in cents per gallon. Miles are shown in center line miles of the state maintained highway system.

The 2021 enactment of SB262 raises Missouri’s motor fuel tax 12.5 cents.

The motor fuel tax will increase gradually as follows:

- » 2.5 cent increase Oct. 1, 2021.
- » 2.5 cent increase each July 1 through 2025.
- » Totaling 29.5 cents per gallon Missouri motor fuel tax.

Over the last 20 years, due to inflation and ever-improving vehicle fuel economy, the purchasing power of Missouri’s state fuel tax has effectively dropped from 17 cents to 4 cents during a time when the cost of the primary road and bridge building materials of asphalt, concrete and steel have doubled. Labor costs have also significantly risen during that time frame.

Missouri’s revenue per mile is \$60,567, while the national average is \$261,021. By contrast, New Jersey’s revenue per mile of \$2,420,949 ranks first, although its state highway system includes only 2,329 miles and 2,400 bridges. When compared to its eight surrounding states, Missouri has the largest highway system and the lowest revenue per mile.

As of July 1, 2022, the rate increased 2.5 cents to 22 cents per gallon. Several of Missouri’s surrounding states also benefit from additional revenue sources for transportation like tolling and general sales taxes.

