

# Estimated Spring Load-Carrying Capacity

[According to TONN]

1. Convert the FWD deflections to Benkelman Beam equivalents, BB.

For Conventional Pavements:

$$\mathbf{BB = 5.15 + 1.05 \times D1_{(9k)}}$$

For Fulldepth Pavements:

$$\mathbf{BB = 3.8 + D1_{(9k)}}$$

Where: BB = Equivalent Benkelman Beam deflection, in mils  
D1<sub>(9k)</sub> = FWD No.1 sensor deflection normalized to 9,000 lbs, in mils

2. Correct the individual deflections, BB to 80° F

Temperature ≥ 80°F

$$\text{Temperature Correction} = 0$$

Temperature < 80°F

- ◆ BB < 25 mils:

$$\text{Temperature Correction} = [16 - 0.2 \times \text{Temperature (°F)}] \times [0.375 + 0.025 \times \text{BB}]$$

- ◆ 25 ≤ BB ≤ 35 mils:

$$\text{Temperature Correction} = [16 - 0.2 \times \text{Temperature (°F)}]$$

- ◆ BB > 35 mils:

$$\text{Temperature Correction} = [16 - 0.2 \times \text{Temperature (°F)}] \times [0.125 + 0.025 \times \text{BB}]$$

$$\mathbf{BB_{80} = BB + \text{Temperature Correction}}$$

3. Convert the “Present Deflection” to “Spring Deflection”, **BBS** by multiplying **BB<sub>80</sub>** by the appropriate deflection ratio.
4. Find the “Allowable Deflection” for the particular pavement and Traffic.

$$\mathbf{AD = 0.9 \times \text{Allowable Spring Deflection}}$$

*{from Allowable Spring Deflections Table}*

5. Compute the “Allowable Spring Axle Load”.

$$\mathbf{\text{Allowable Axle Load (Tons), } L_A = 10 \times \frac{AD}{BBS}}$$

**Deflection ratios to calculate critical spring deflections from  
deflections taken during other non-frozen times of the year (1983 Revision)**

<b>PLASTIC EMBANKMENTS</b>									
<b>Asphalt Surface Thickness</b>	<b>Date of Test</b>								
	5/1	5/16	6/1	6/16	7/1	7/16	8/1	8/16	Sept.
	5/15	5/31	6/15	6/30	7/15	7/31	8/15	8/31	
≤ 2 in.	<b>1.12</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>1.65</b>	<b>1.69</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>1.79</b>
> 2 ≤ 3½	<b>1.17</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.59</b>	<b>1.63</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>1.75</b>
> 3½ ≤ 5½	<b>1.14</b>	<b>1.24</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.58</b>	<b>1.64</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>1.71</b>
> 5½ ≤ 8 in.	<b>1.17</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>1.30</b>	<b>1.41</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.55</b>
> 8 in. Conventional Construction	<b>1.13</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>1.45</b>
> 8 in. Full-Depth Construction	<b>1.12</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>1.10</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>1.55</b>

<b>SEMI-PLASTIC EMBANKMENTS</b>									
<b>Asphalt Surface Thickness</b>	<b>Date of Test</b>								
	5/1	5/16	6/1	6/16	7/1	7/16	8/1	8/16	Sept.
	5/15	5/31	6/15	6/30	7/15	7/31	8/15	8/31	
≤ 5 in.	<b>1.16</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.52</b>	<b>1.51</b>	<b>1.48</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>1.45</b>
> 5 in.	<b>1.29</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>1.58</b>	<b>1.64</b>	<b>1.69</b>	<b>1.71</b>

<b>NON-PLASTIC EMBANKMENTS</b>									
<b>Asphalt Surface Thickness</b>	<b>Date of Test</b>								
	5/1	5/16	6/1	6/16	7/1	7/16	8/1	8/16	Sept.
	5/15	5/31	6/15	6/30	7/15	7/31	8/15	8/31	
≤ 2 in.	<b>1.30</b>	<b>1.41</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>1.83</b>	<b>1.83</b>	<b>1.88</b>	<b>1.88</b>	<b>1.88</b>
> 2 ≤ 5½	<b>1.21</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>1.47</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>1.58</b>	<b>1.56</b>	<b>1.52</b>	<b>1.49</b>	<b>1.44</b>
> 5½ ≤ 8 in.	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>1.11</b>

**Allowable Spring Deflections**

Traffic	Two-Way HCADT	< 50	50 - 100	100 - 150	> 150
	Two-Way ADT	< 500	500 - 1000	1000 - 3000	> 3000
Bituminous Surface Thickness		Allowable Deflection (mils)			
< 3 in.		<b>75</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>45</b>
3 to 6 in.		<b>65</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>40</b>
> 6 in.		<b>55</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>35</b>