



# FEDERAL AID ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

2018

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# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## Executive Summary

The Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study assisted in the data collection of road inventory for Barry County in 2017 and 2018. The data collection efforts took place on Federal-Aid roads in the county. According to 23 USC 101, "Federal-aid eligible" roads are "highways on the Federal-aid highway systems and all other public roads not classified as local roads or rural minor collectors."

Within Barry County, there are:

**408 centerline miles of Federal-aid roads.** This includes:

- 119 miles of state trunkline roads that are maintained by the Michigan Department of Transportation
- 268 miles of County roads maintained by the Barry County Road Commission
- 21 miles of roads maintained by the cities and villages within the county.

This report compiles ratings records for the last two years and compares the results with those from 2010 through 2018 to analyze the condition and trends of the federal aid road system in Barry County.

# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## What is Asset Management?

The State of Michigan defines asset management as “an ongoing process of maintaining, upgrading, and operating physical assets cost effectively, based on a continuous physical inventory and condition assessment.” Asset management consists of a set of business principles and practices used to meet the goals of good ownership and effective, responsible management. The process allows transportation agencies to monitor the current condition of all federal aid eligible pavements, while also taking an inventory of potential preventative measures, to ensure the quality of the roads in the future. Implementation of asset management principles requires a shift from “Worst First” system management to one that considers the long-range view of how the system functions.

### Principles of Asset Management

Asset management follows five core principles. They are:

- **Performance-Based**-Allows policy objectives to be broken down into daily operations decisions and strategic maintenance decisions.
- **Decisions Based on Quality Information**-Accurate information regarding the inventory, condition, and available funding of any of the assets involved.
- **Policy-Driven**-Resource allocation decisions that are based on well-defined performance goals and objectives. Alternatives are examined, and often level of service, system conditions, and community goals are reflected.
- **Analysis of Mix of Fixes, Options and Tradeoffs**-A system-wide assessment is made to determine the most valuable alternatives to invest in current and future system performance.
- **Monitoring to Provide Clear Accountability and Feedback**-The system needs to be consistently monitored to ensure that the chosen investments are meeting the predetermined goals and policy objectives.

All agencies currently apply some form of these principles, and for that reason, existing principles can be easily built upon in order to implement a successful asset management plan.



# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## **Benefits of Asset Management**

Asset management provides public agencies with a better understanding of the relationship between cost and performance. This understanding allows for better management, which is often directly reflected in the improvement of performance. In addition to the overall improvement of an agency's performance, there are many benefits of implementing asset management principles and practices. These benefits include:

- Improved service to customers;
- Improved cost-effectiveness and use of available resources;
- Improved communication with elected officials and the public about level of service vs. cost of service; and
- Improved credibility and accountability for decision-making process and results.

To gain these benefits, an agency must evaluate its current business practices, establish where significant improvements can be made, and develop a plan to institute changes.

# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## PASER Rating System

PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating) is a simple “windshield” survey of road surface quality, which was developed by the University of Wisconsin-Madison to be used as the state’s standard road rating system. The system uses manuals that provide visual aids for identifying types and extents of various defects that may be visually present in any given section of road. This information is used to assign values from the ten point PASER scale to rate their condition. On the PASER rating scale, one represents a failed road, and ten, a new road. The time that it takes a road to cycle from excellent to poor on the PASER scale is largely dependent on traffic volume and construction quality.

Regularly recording and charting the PASER rating scale over time on paved surfaces aids in predicting deterioration rates of surfaces. This information is important to the creation of a plan of maintenance and replacement that is both efficient and cost effective.

### PASER Categories

When surveying a paved surface for defects, there are four main categories to keep in mind. These categories are:

- **Surface Defects-** These include raveling (loss of aggregate from the pavement surface), flushing (excess asphalt binder on pavement surface), or polishing (worn down and smoothed aggregate on pavement surface)
- **Surface Deformation-** Includes rutting of wheel paths and pavement distortion
- **Cracks-** Can be transverse, longitudinal, Reflection, slippage, alligator, and block cracks
- **Patches and Potholes-** Patches are when previous damage has been filled by new material, and potholes are isolated surface damage caused by traffic, fatigue, and poor drainage.

### How Data is Collected

Data is collected by three-person teams that consist of one MDOT employee, one member of the local road agency, and one member from the regional planning agency. Together, this team is responsible for evaluating pavement and recording information about each road segment using a laptop and a GPS receiver. This information includes the road surface type, number of lanes, and condition (PASER rating). Each segment of federal aid road in the county must be rated at least every two years. In most counties, half of the county is collected every other year.

### Treatments

Applying a rating system like PASER to a paved network of roads allows for an efficient way to inventory and evaluate transportation assets. These evaluations can then be used to create a prioritized arrangement of projects, and select from any of the treatment alternatives. Effective management of pavement keeps the condition of the road ahead of rapid deterioration with treatments that are lower cost.

There are a number of treatment options that directly correlate to the PASER score of a paved surface. The better the road is rated, the less intensive the treatment it requires. For example, roads with a PASER rating 8-10 only require routine maintenance through scheduled activities like sweeping, drainage clearing, shoulder clearing/grading, and crack seal/slurry coat to prevent water infiltration. Roads rated 5 - 7 require capital preventative maintenance such as chip seal or non-structural overlay. If the roadway deteriorates past a 4 on the PASER scale, capital preventative maintenance methods of treatment are not effective. A road rated 1-4 on the PASER scale requires some form of structural improvement or full reconstruction.

# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

The following table illustrates PASER ratings for asphalt pavements, which constitute the majority of roads in Barry County.

**Table 1**

Rating	Visible Distress	General Treatment & Conditions
<b>10</b> Good	None	New Construction less than 1 year old
<b>9</b> Good	None	Recent Overlay or newly constructed more than 1 year ago
<b>8</b> Good	No longitudinal cracks except reflection of paving joints. Occasional transverse cracks, widely spaced (40' or greater). All cracks sealed or tight (open less than 1/4").	Recent sealcoat or new cold mix. Little or no maintenance required.
<b>7</b> Fair	Very slight or no raveling, surface shows some traffic wear. Longitudinal cracks (open 1/4") due to reflection or paving joints. Transverse cracks (open 1/4") spaced 10' or more apart, little or slight crack raveling. No patching or very few patches in excellent condition.	First signs of aging. Maintain with routine crack filling.
<b>6</b> Fair	Slight raveling (loss of fines) and traffic wear. Longitudinal cracks (open 1/4"- 1/2"), some spaced less than 10'. First sign of block cracking. Slight to moderate flushing or polishing. Occasional patching in good condition.	Shows signs of aging. Sound structural condition. Could extend life with sealcoat.
<b>5</b> Fair	Moderate to severe raveling (loss of fine and coarse aggregate). Longitudinal and transverse cracks (open 1/2") show first signs of slight raveling and secondary cracks. First signs of longitudinal cracks near pavement edge. Block cracking up to 50% of surface. Extensive to severe flushing or polishing. Some patching or edge wedging in good condition.	Surface aging. Sound structural condition. Needs sealcoat or thin non-structural overlay (less than 2")
<b>4</b> Poor	Severe surface raveling. Multiple longitudinal and transverse cracking with slight raveling. Longitudinal cracking in wheel path. Block cracking (over 50% of surface). Patching in fair condition. Slight rutting or distortions (1/2" deep or less).	Significant aging and first signs of need for strengthening. Would benefit from a structural overlay (2" or more).
<b>3</b> Poor	Closely spaced longitudinal and transverse cracks often showing raveling and crack erosion. Severe block cracking. Some alligator cracking (less than 25% of surface). Patches in fair to poor condition. Moderate rutting or distortion (1" or 2" deep). Occasional potholes.	Needs patching and repair prior to major overlay. Milling and removal of deterioration extends the life of overlay.
<b>2</b> Poor	Alligator cracking (over 25% of surface). Severe distortions (over 2" deep) Extensive patching in poor condition. Potholes.	Severe deterioration. Needs reconstruction with extensive base repair. Pulverization of old pavement is effective.
<b>1</b> Poor	Severe distress with extensive loss of surface integrity.	Failed. Needs total reconstruction.

# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

**Table 2**

Treatment	Life Extension (Average Years)	PASER Rating	Cost per Mile	Average Cost per Additional Year
Overband Crack Filling	4	7 to 9	\$5,000	\$1,250
Fog Seal Coat	0	8	\$5,000	N/A
One Course Non-Structural Overlay	10	5 to 6	\$75,000	\$7,500
Milling and One Course Non-Structural Overlay	10	4 to 5	\$95,000	\$9,500
Single Course Chip Seal	7	6 to 7	\$23,000	\$3,286
Double Course Chip Seal	9	5 to 6	\$46,000	\$5,111
Structural Crush & Shape	25	2 to 3	\$200,000	\$8,000
Full-Depth Reconstruction	30	1 to 2	\$400,000	\$13,333

## Capital Preventative Maintenance and Reconstructive Treatments

Table 2 details historical cost, lifespan, and rating of pavement treatment types that have been used in Barry County. These treatments range from the minimal (overband crack filling) to major construction. As noted these treatments and costs are historical; as new technologies emerge and become adopted some of them may be amended or superseded. The following list provides a brief overview of each treatment:

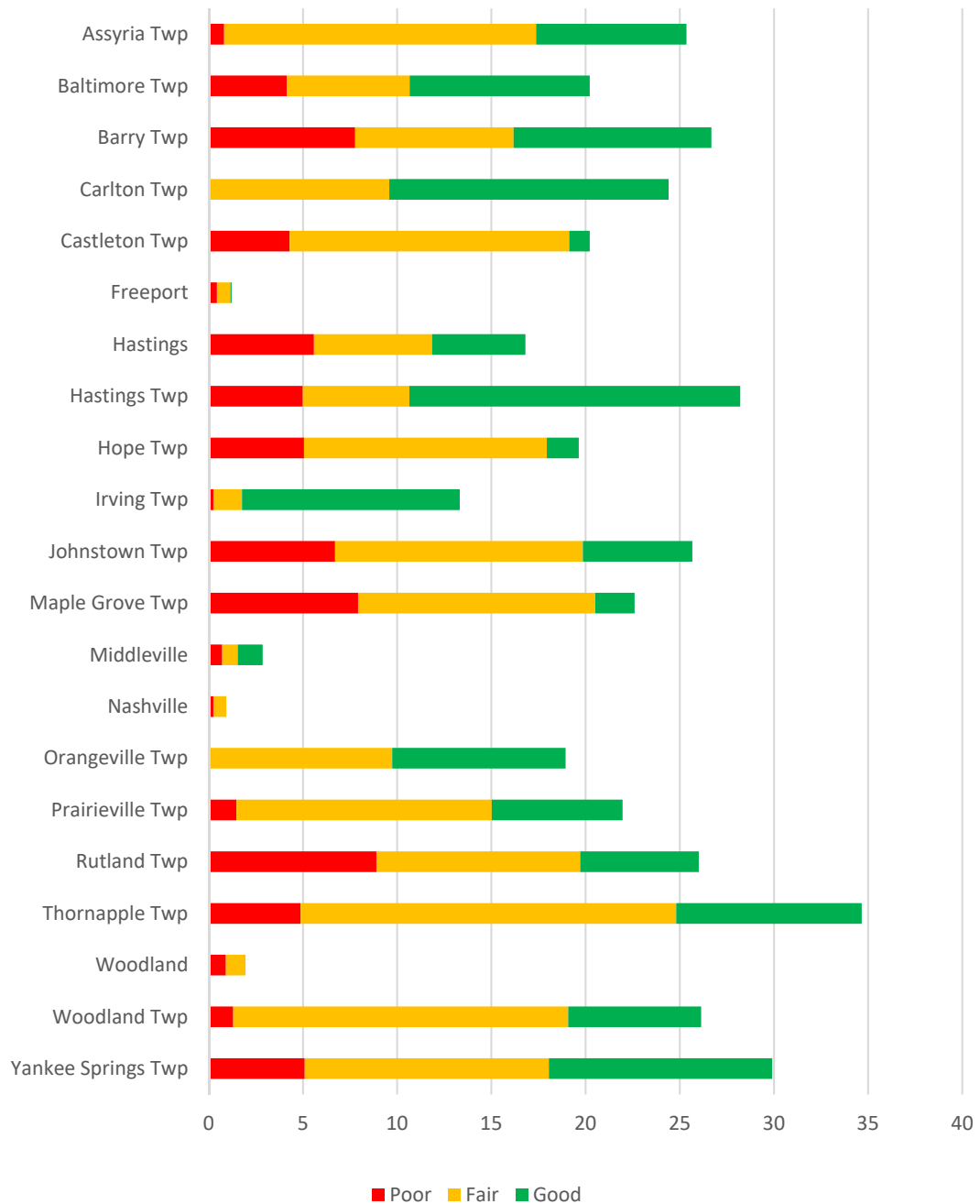
- Overband Crack Filling is used on cracks that are up to 1” wide, and are moving or unmoving. The process is done by pouring hot rubber material into and over cracks to seal them from water intrusion.
- Fog Seals provide a thin asphalt coating over existing pavement. This treatment seals aggregate in place, and prevents water permeation and oxidation of the asphalt binder.
- Non-Structural Overlays do not contribute to a pavement’s structural capacity. These treatments use thin layers of asphalt (1/2- 1 ½ inches) applied on top of existing pavement, with or without milling prior to placement. They improve surface ride quality and drainage, and help seal the surface from water permeation and oxidation.
- Chip Seals consist of a thin layer of emulsified asphalt applied to the road surface, which is topped with an aggregate usually consisting of crushed stone or slag. The treatment seals the underlying asphalt from water permeation and oxidation, and provides a renewed, high friction driving surface.
- Structural Crush and Shape recycles pavement by pulverizing existing material (including base and sub-base) and blending it with a new binding agent. The new mix is then used to repave the same road, and is sometimes topped with a new surface layer of asphalt.
- Full-Depth Reconstruction is the replacement of the entire roadway structure, including the base and subbase, with new material. It is used only when there is no salvage value to any of the existing components.



# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

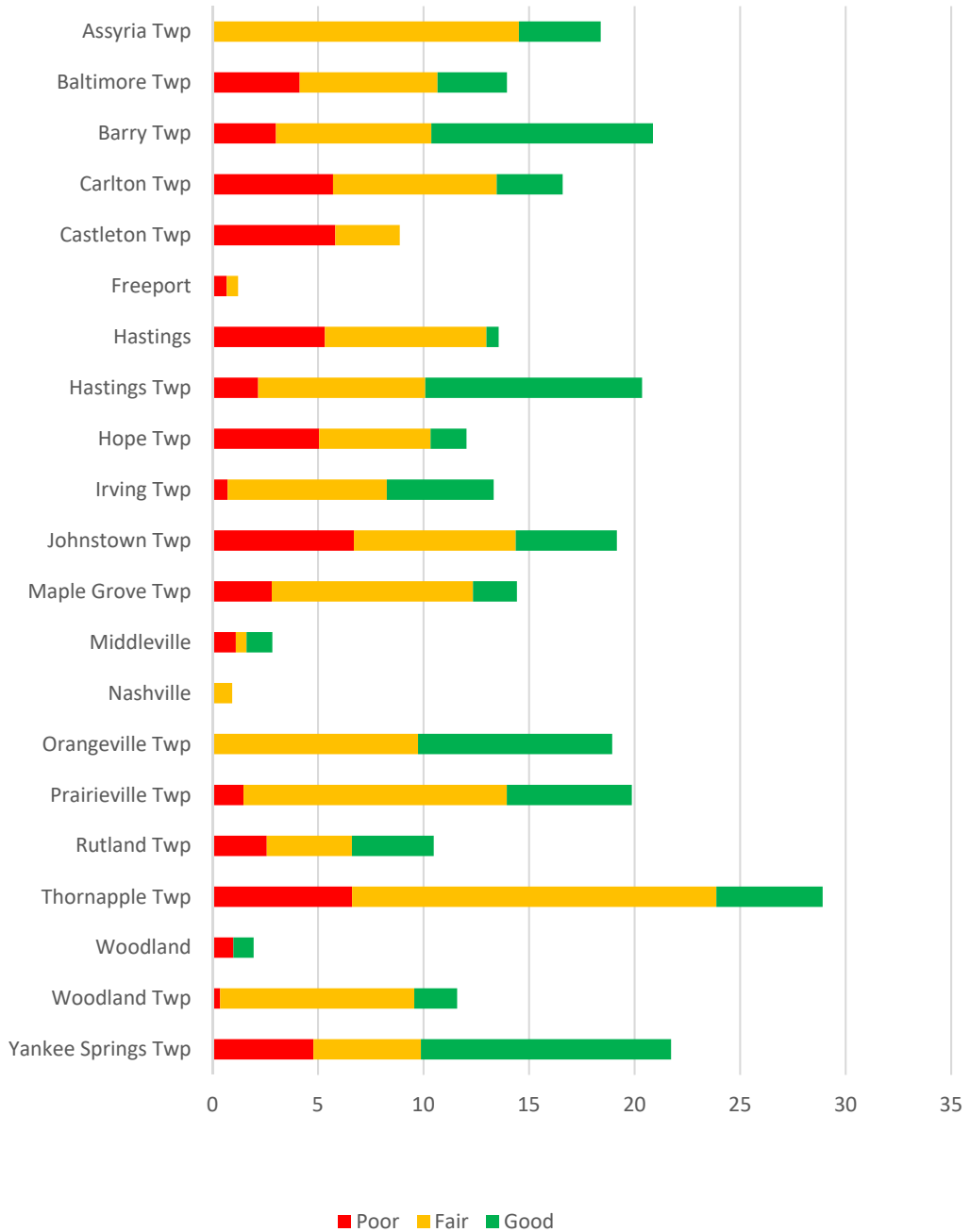
## Summary of 2017 and 2018 Ratings

2017/2018 PASER Ratings  
Barry County **All** Federal Aid - Miles by Jurisdiction



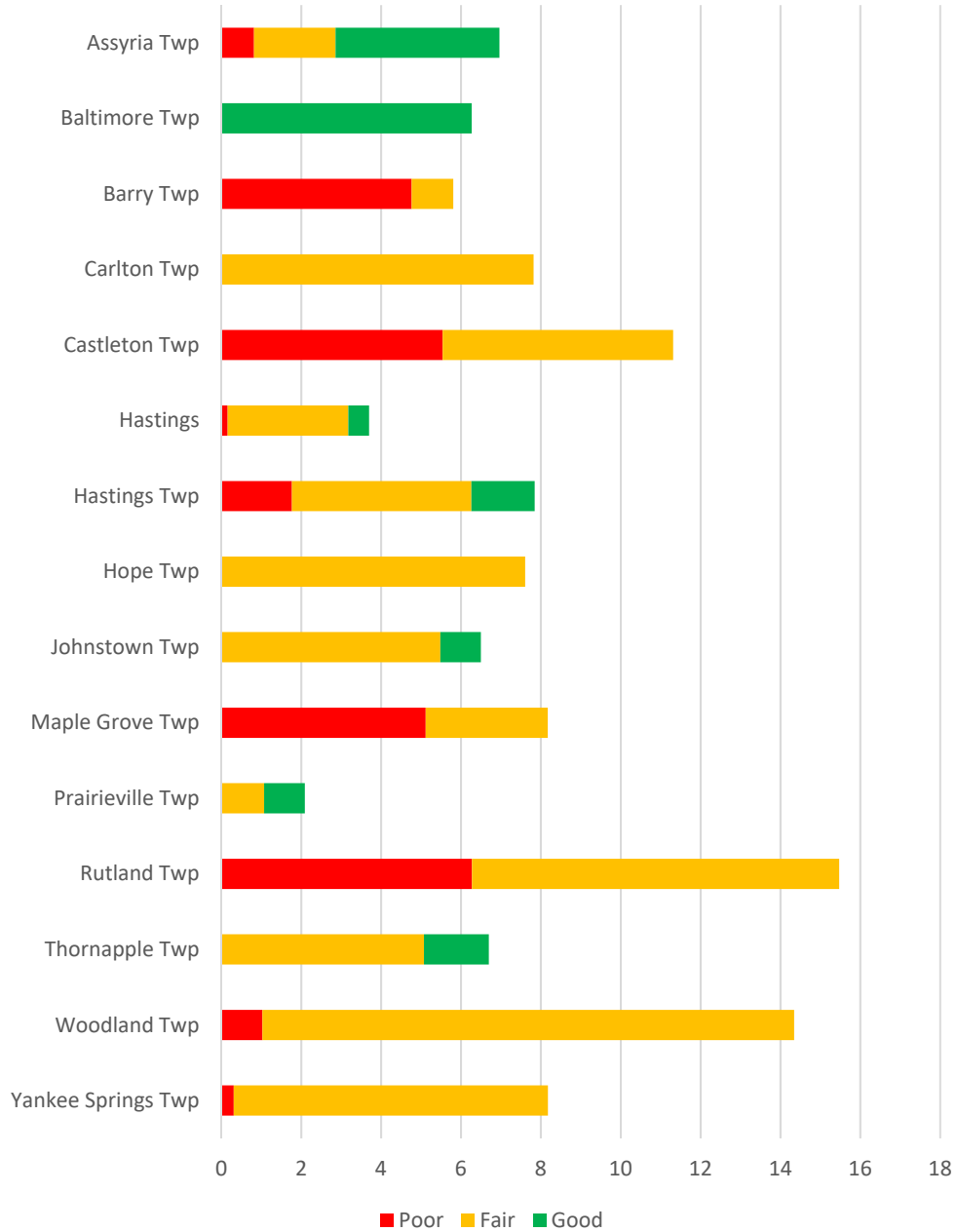
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2017/2018 PASER Ratings Barry County **Non-Trunkline** Federal Aid – Miles By Jurisdiction



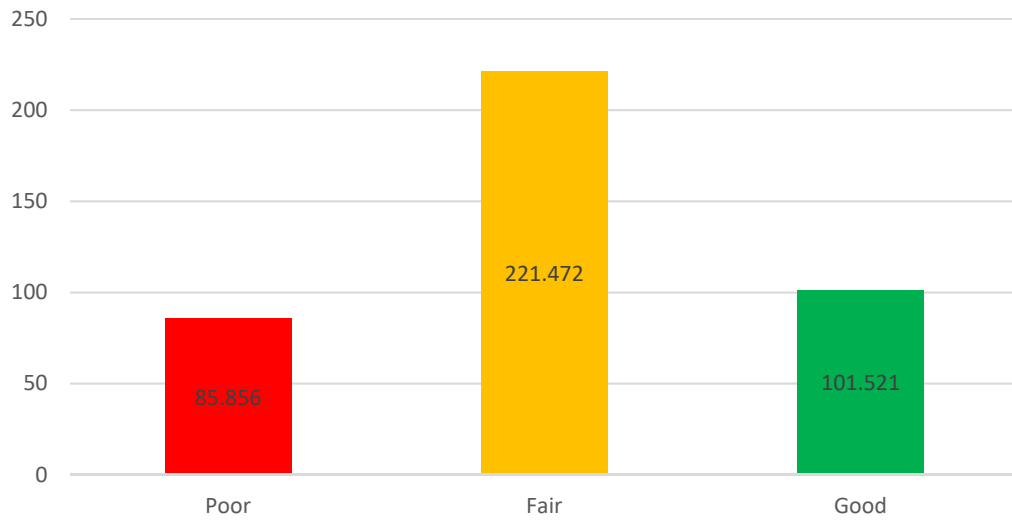
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2017/2018 PASER Ratings Barry County **Trunkline** Federal Aid – Miles By Jurisdiction

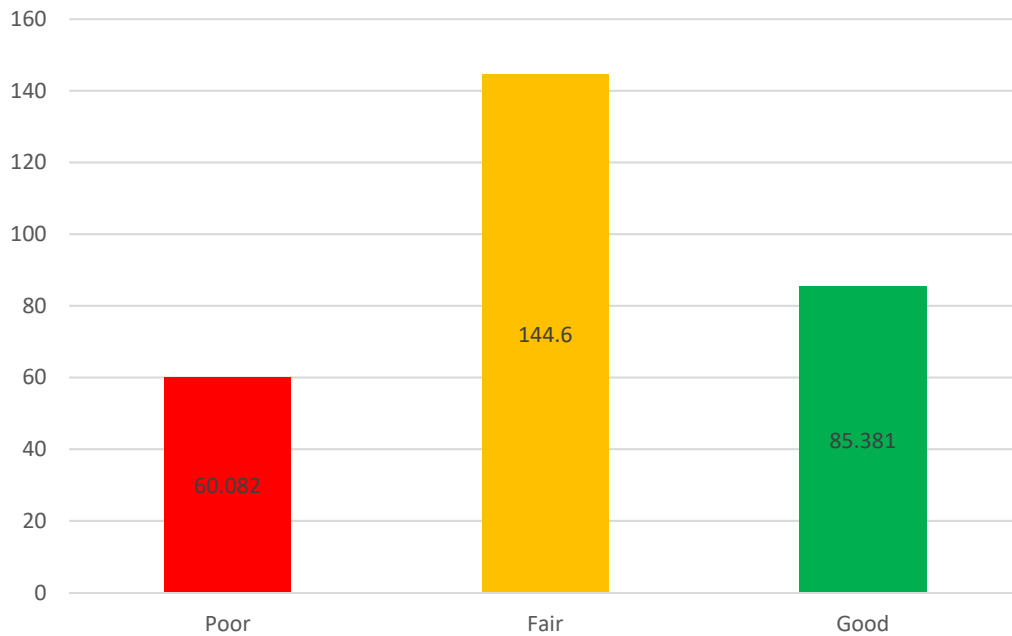


# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2017-2018 Barry Countywide Federal Aid PASER Condition Ratings

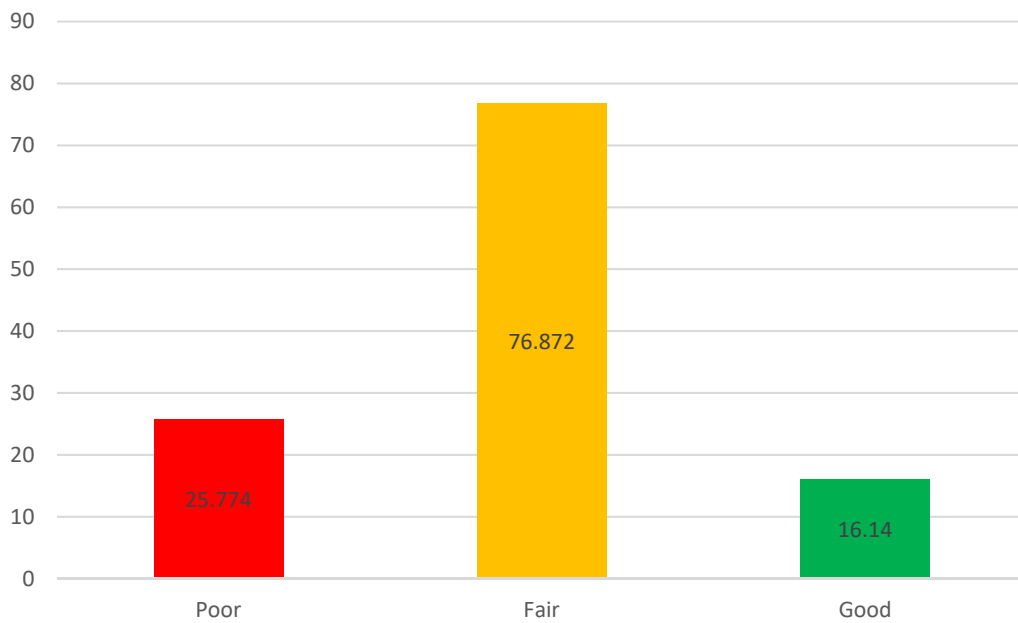


## 2017-2018 Barry Federal Aid Non-Trunkline PASER Condition Ratings



# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

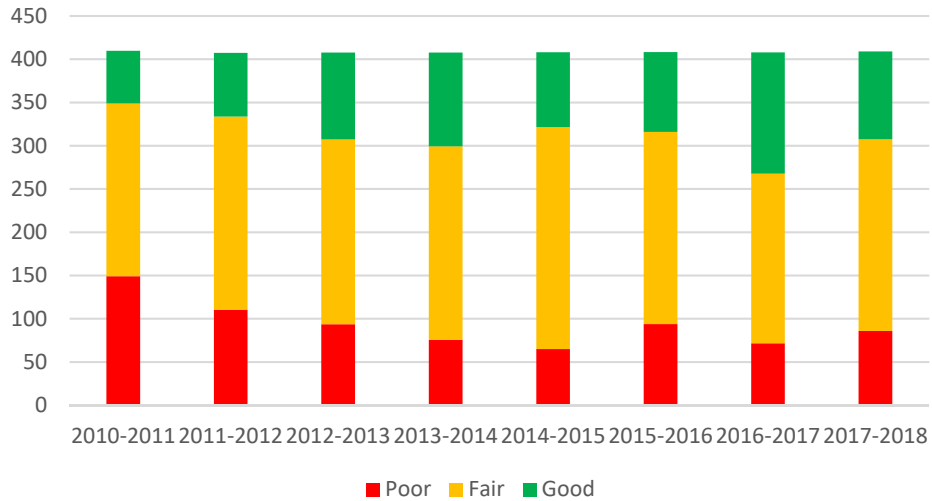
## 2017-2018 Barry Federal Aid Trunkline PASER Condition Ratings



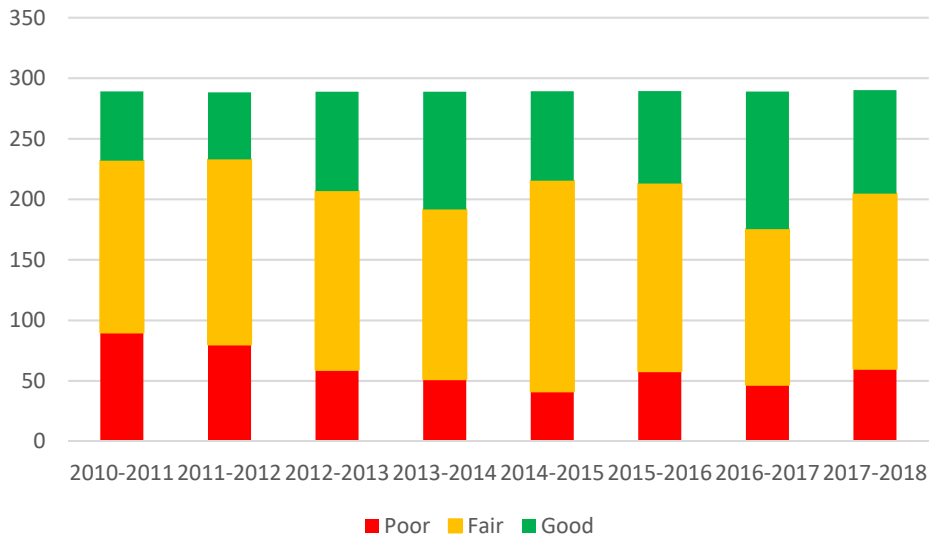
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## Federal Aid Conditions History and Trends

2010-2018 PASER Road Condition Ratings  
Barry County **All** Federal-Aid Roads

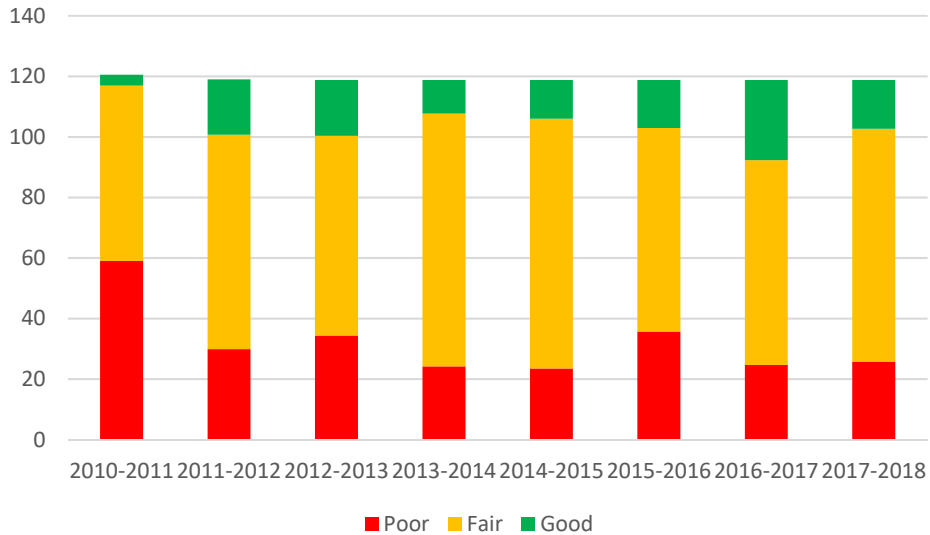


2010-2018 PASER Road Condition Ratings  
Barry County **Non-Trunkline** Federal-Aid Roads



# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2010-2018 PASER Road Condition Ratings Barry County **Trunkline** Federal-Aid Roads



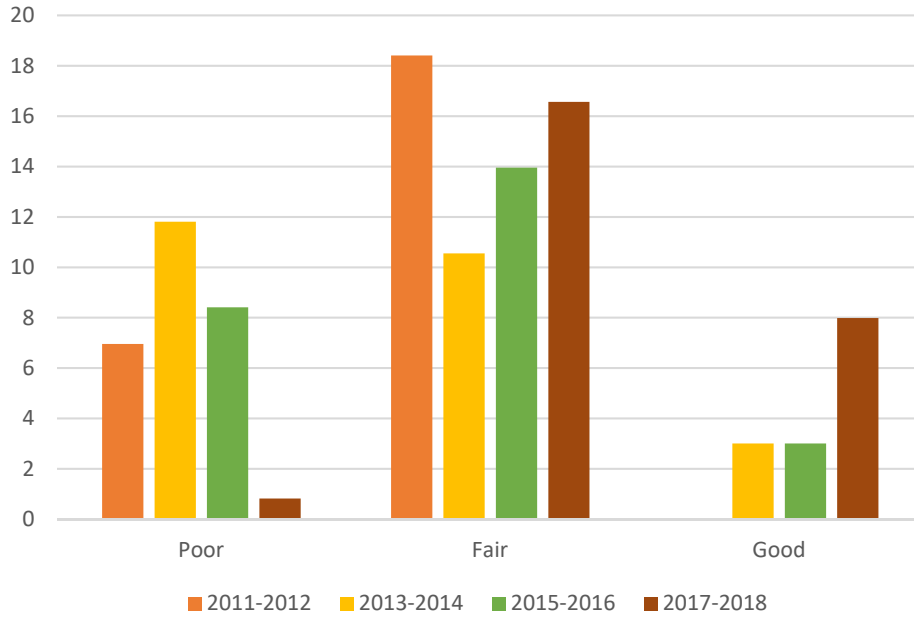
The charts above reflect the progression of the PASER rating conditions of Barry County’s federal-aid roads as recorded biennially since the 2010-2011 two-year period. Other than a significant uptick in the 2015 – 2016 period, there has been a general trend of decrease transitioning to holding steady in the mileage of roads rated Poor. The mileage of roads rated Good shows a cyclic trend of increase for several years followed by a marked decrease to begin another run increasing. The mileage of Fair rated roads increased for the 2017 – 2018 period after decreasing each of the previous three rating periods. Despite the smaller cycles within the ranges, the overall trend still appears to be toward a decrease in Poor and increase in Good rated road mileages, with each cycle starting at a slightly better point than the previous one. With some minor variations, the Trunkline and Non-Trunkline trends are generally the same.

When looking at township breakdowns from 2017/2018 on the following pages of this document, it can be seen that in most jurisdictions the largest share of Federal Aid roads are Fair, with Poor and Good roads alternating the predominance of the remainder depending upon the jurisdiction. This is a change from the recent past when “Good” rated roads were consistently the smallest component of Federal Aid miles in Barry County.

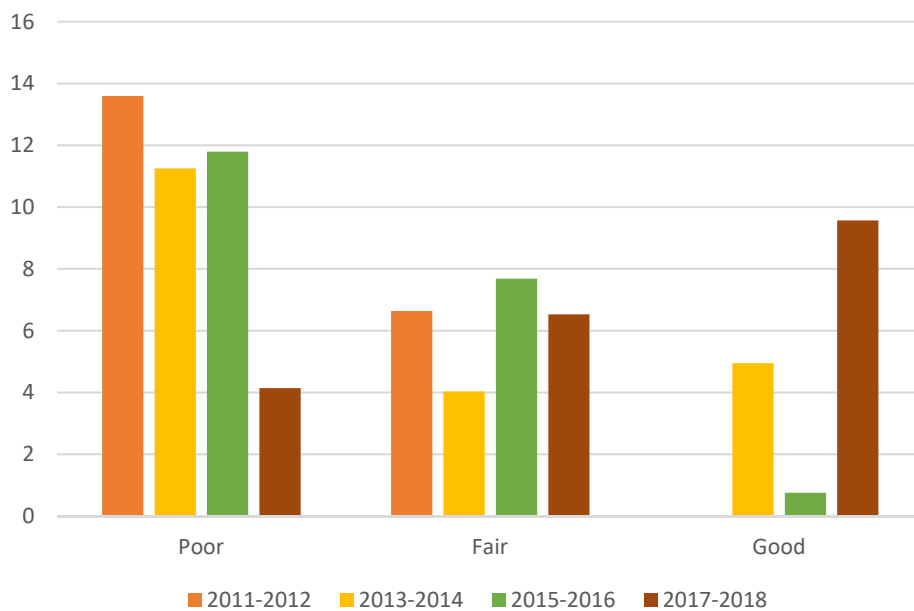
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Assyria Township  
(25.36 miles)



Baltimore Township  
(20.23 miles)

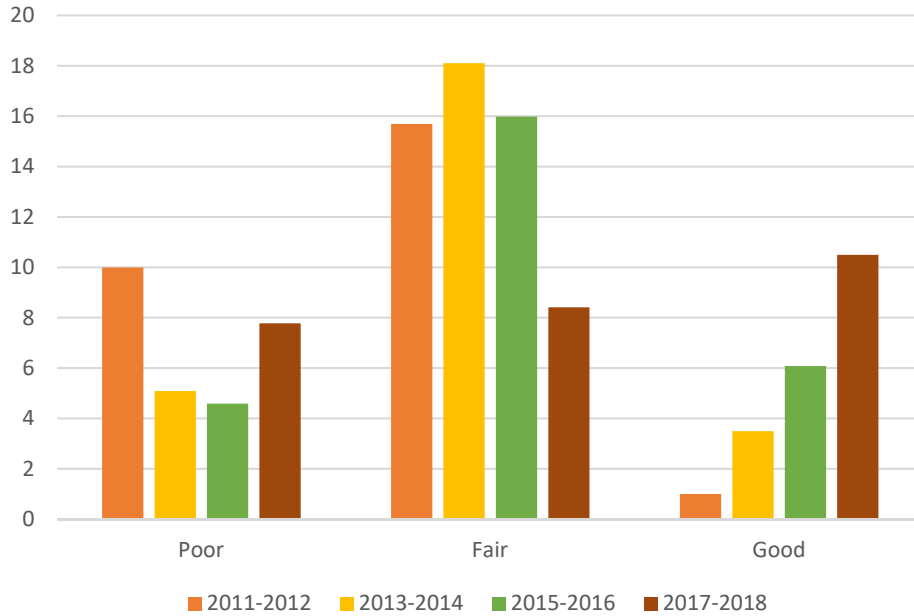




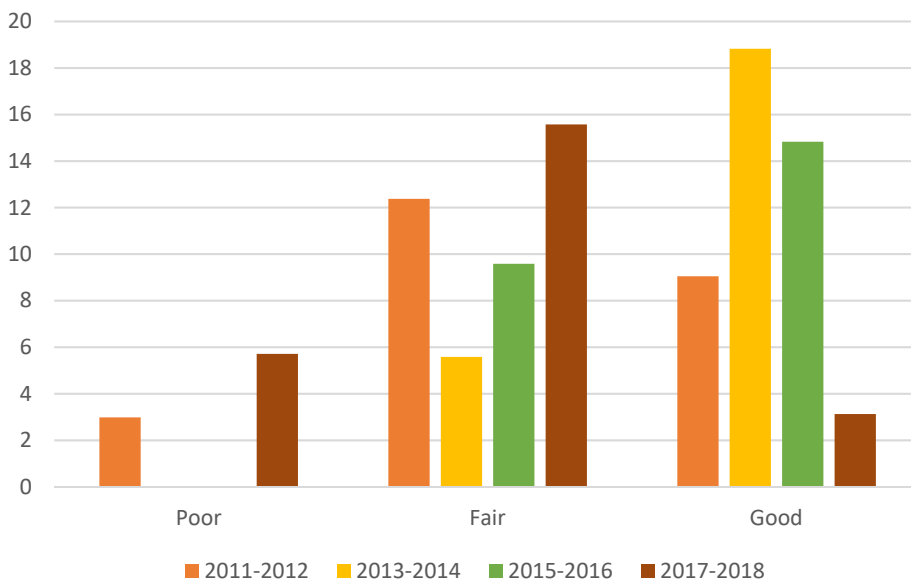
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Barry Township  
(26.68 miles)



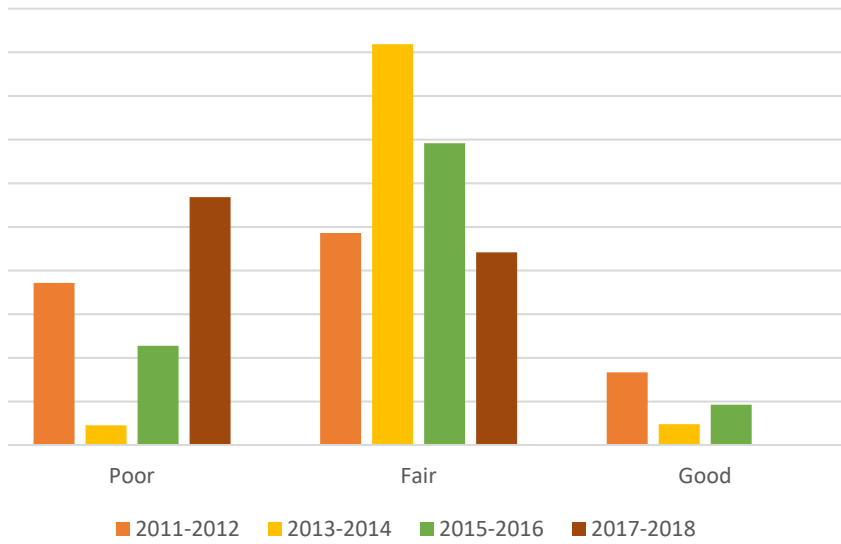
Carlton Township  
(24.41 miles)



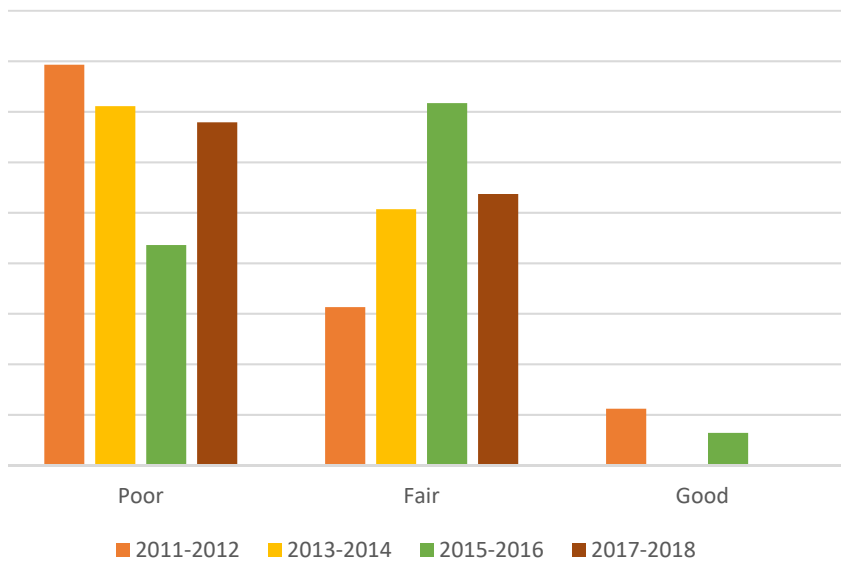
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Castleton Township  
(20.23 miles)



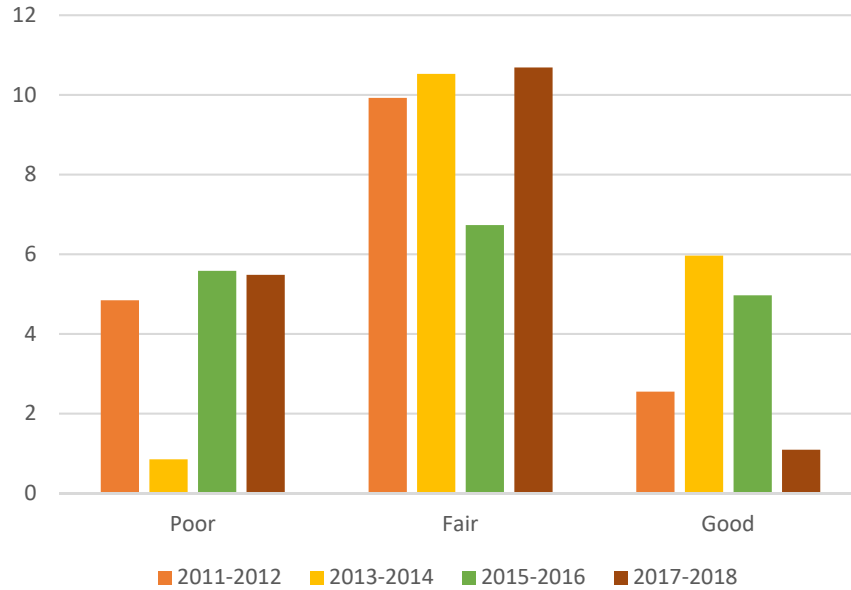
Freeport Township  
(1.22 miles)



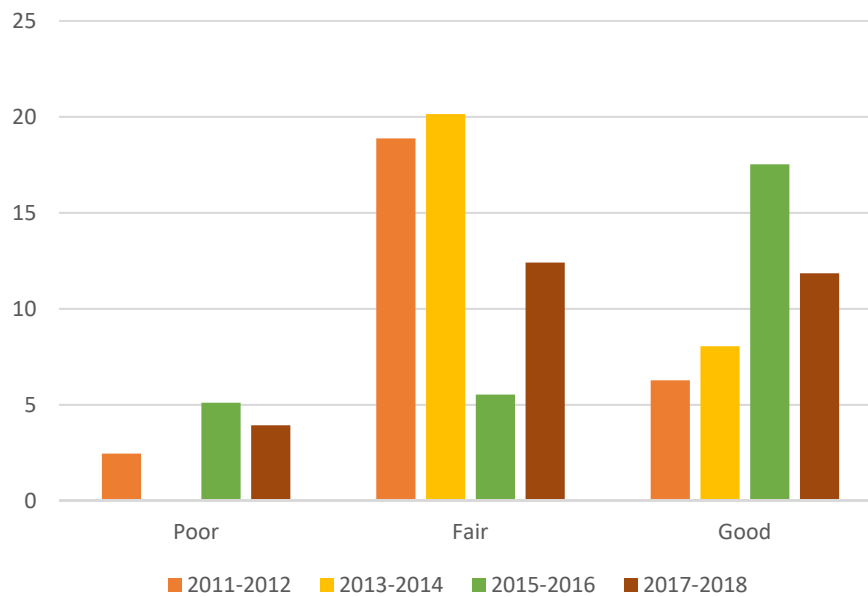
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Ratings City of Hastings  
(16.81 Miles)



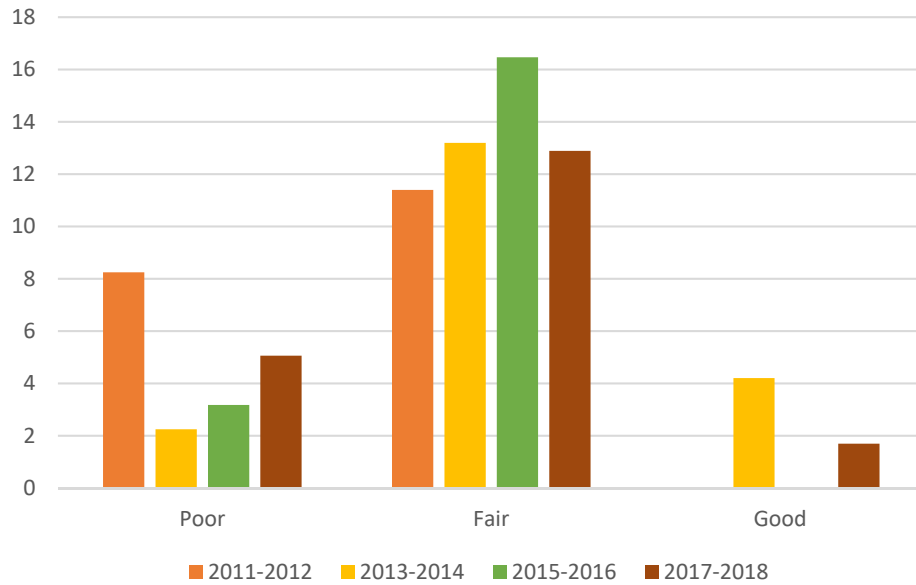
Hastings Township  
(28.21 miles)



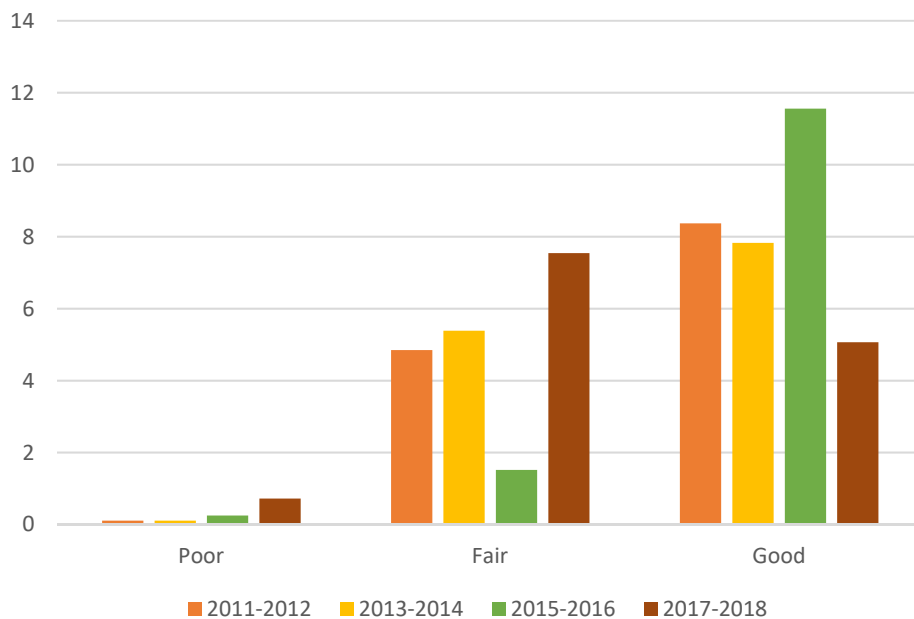
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Hope Township  
(19.64 miles)



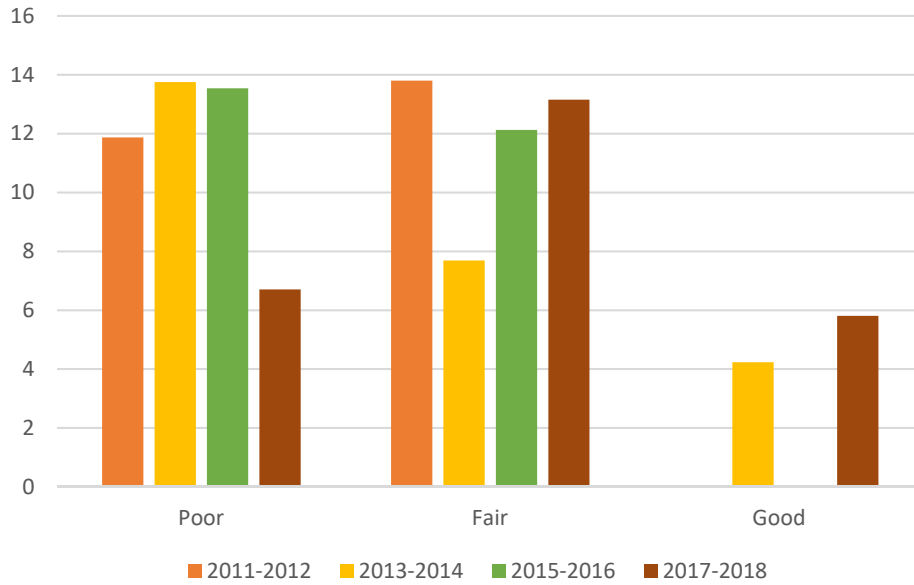
Irving Township  
(13.33 miles)



# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

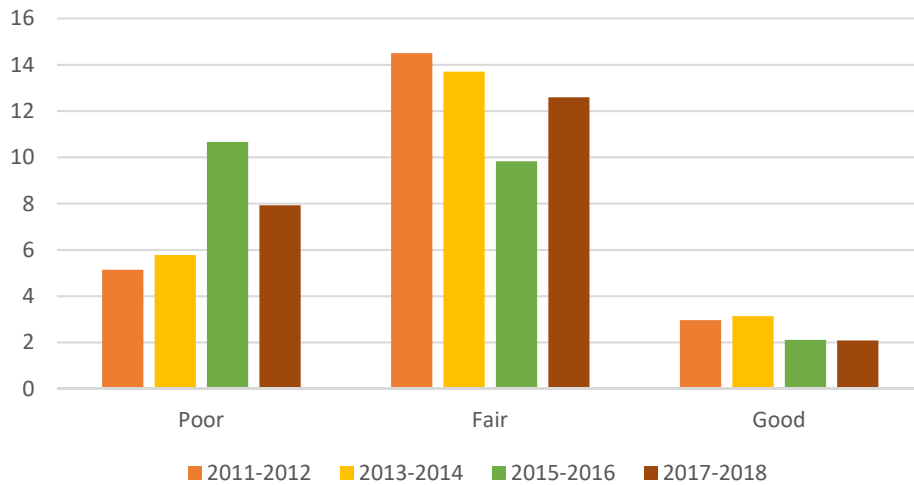
## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

### Johnstown Township (25.67 miles)



### Maple Grove Township (22.61 miles)

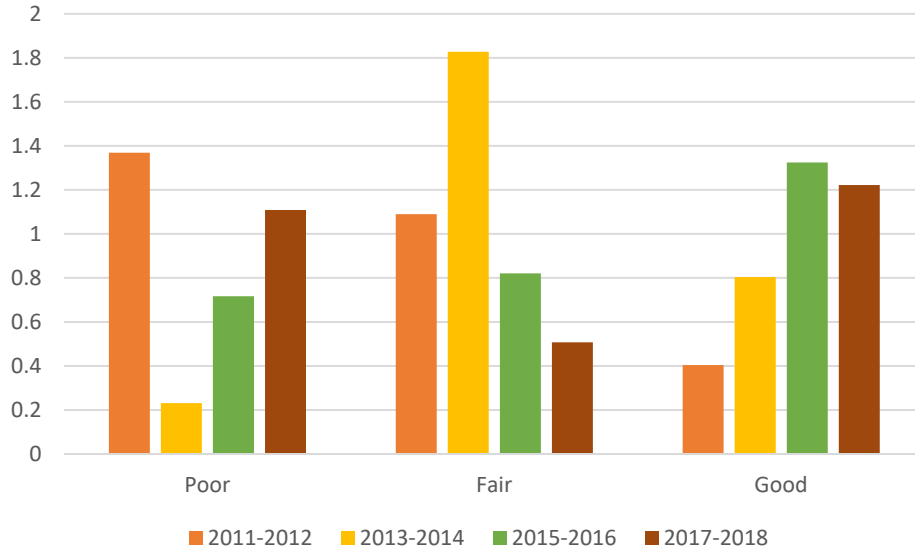
#### Maple Grove Township Federal Aid Condition Trends 2010 - 2017



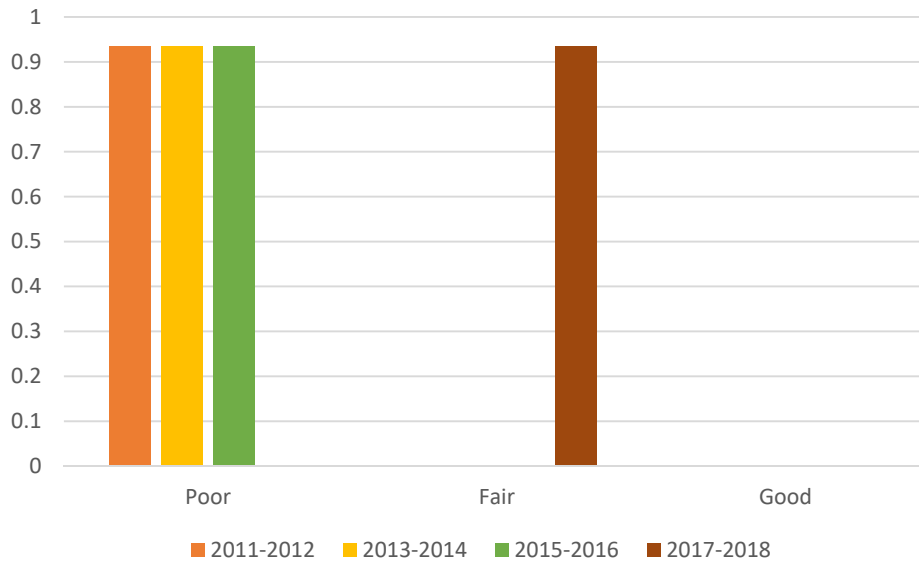
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Village of Middleville  
(2.86 miles)



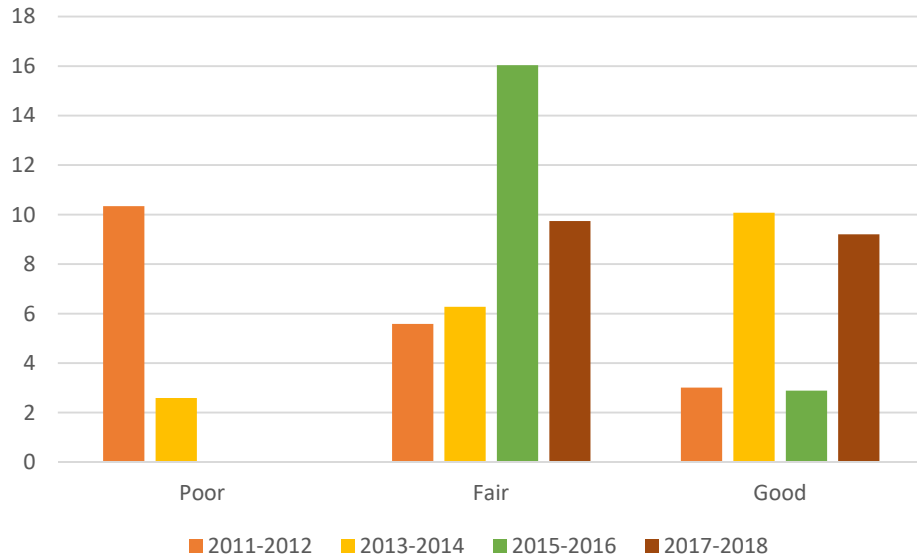
Village of Nashville  
(0.94 miles)



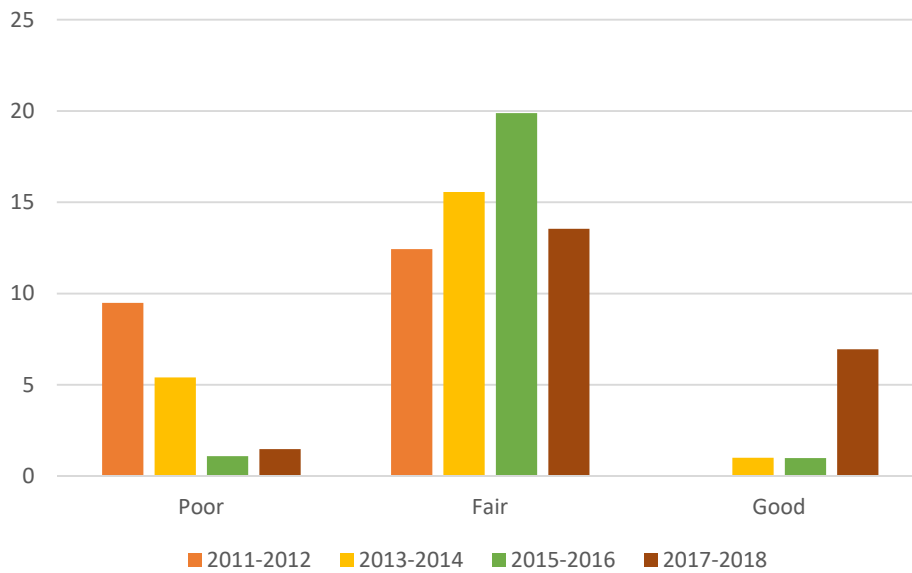
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Orangeville Township  
(18.94 miles)



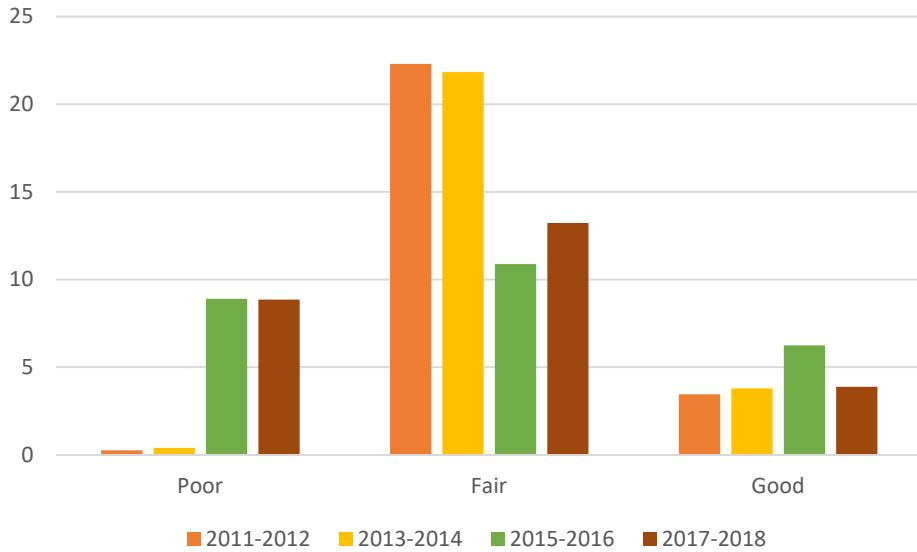
Prairieville Township  
(21.97 miles)



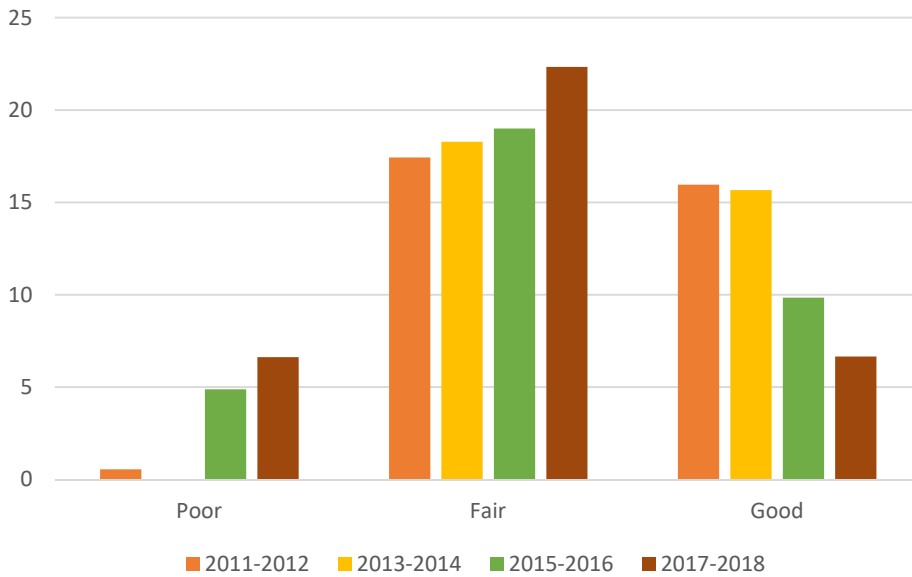
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Rutland Township  
(26.02 miles)



Thornapple Township  
(34.66 miles)

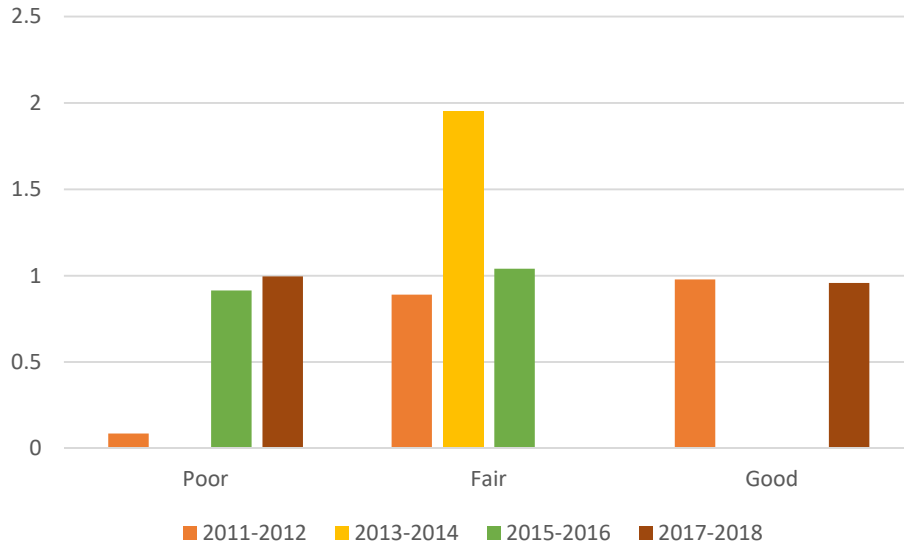




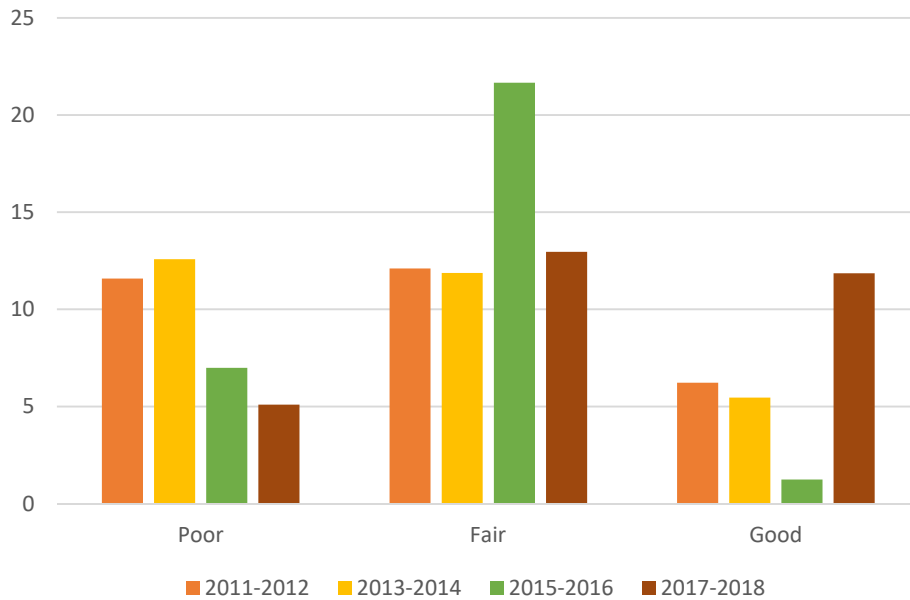
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## 2011-2018 Federal Aid Road Condition Trends

Woodland Township  
(26.14 miles)



Yankee Springs Township  
(29.91 miles)

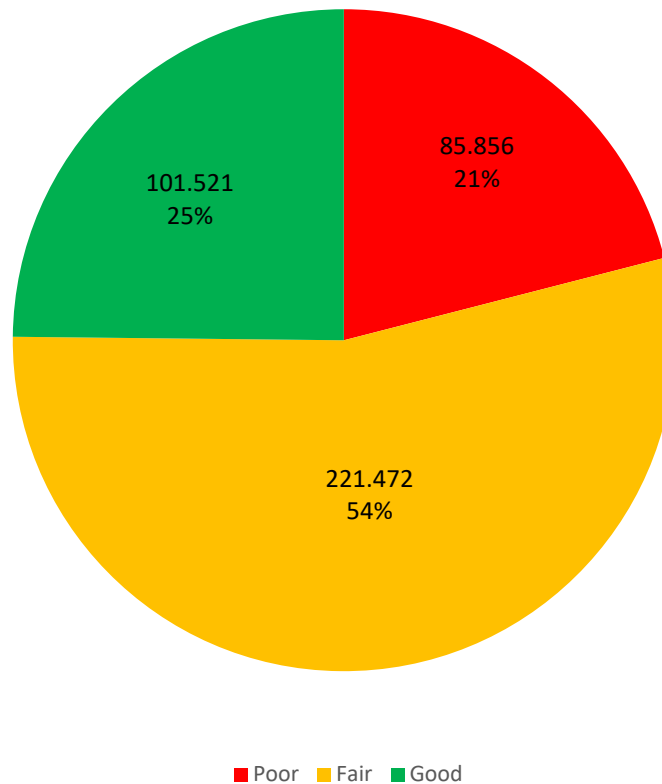


# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## Pavement Condition Summary

Of the 408 miles of federal-aid roads that were most recently rated (2017-2018), approximately 86 miles are rated as being in Poor condition, 221 miles rated Fair, and 102 miles Good. This distribution means that currently just over half of all federal-aid roads in Barry County are in Fair condition, one quarter are in Good and just over one fifth are Poor. The chart below illustrates the percentage distribution of road ratings for the most recent two-year period. When looking at this chart and the historical trends in previous charts, it appears that a number of roads have gone from good to fair since the previous two-year rating period. Viewed historically, it can be expected that this trend will be reversed over the next several years as emphasis will be put on performing preventive maintenance to bring more Fair rated roads up to Good. Through continued proper asset management strategies, the amount of poor road miles and the maintenance costs associated with structural improvements can be further diminished.

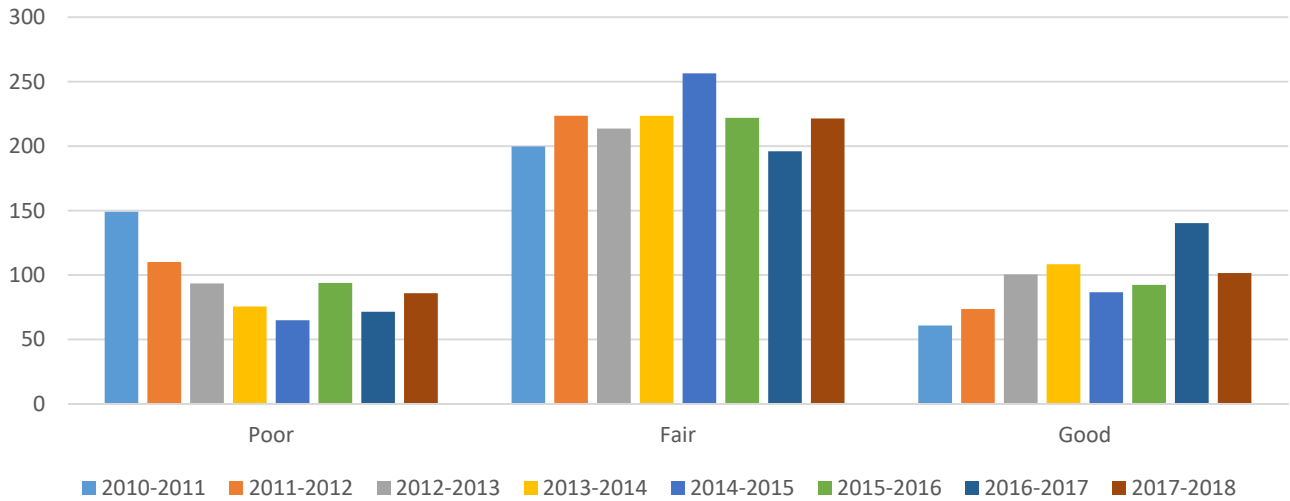
Barry County Federal Aid Conditions Distribution  
2017-2018



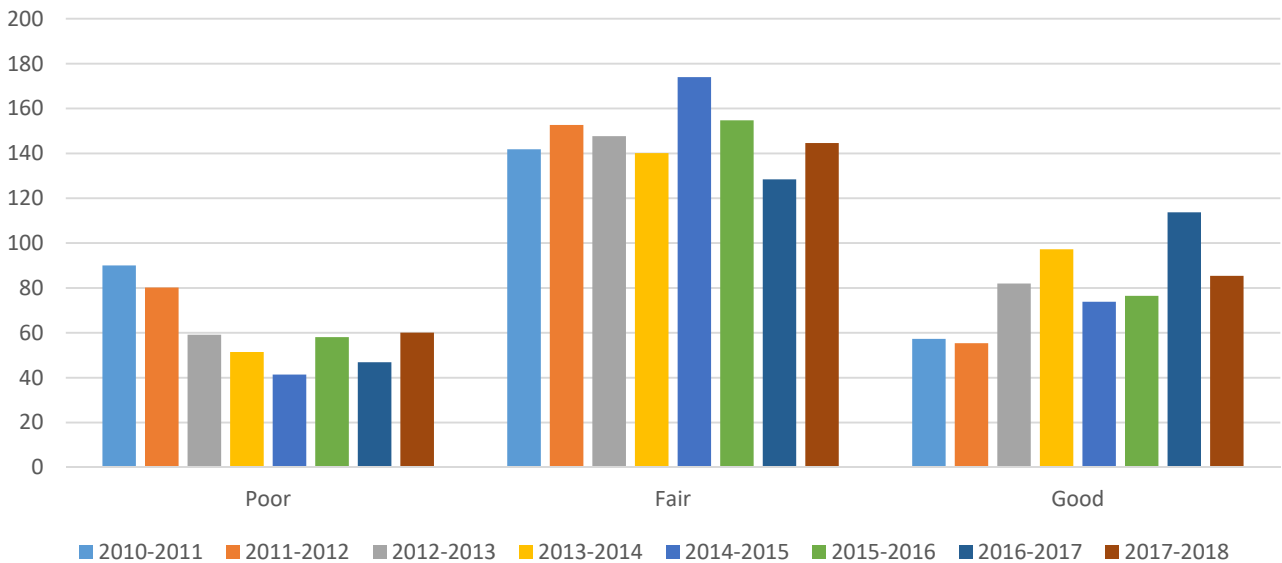
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## Condition Trends of Federal-Aid Roads Barry County 2010-2018

Barry County All Federal Aid Roads Condition Trends 2010-2018

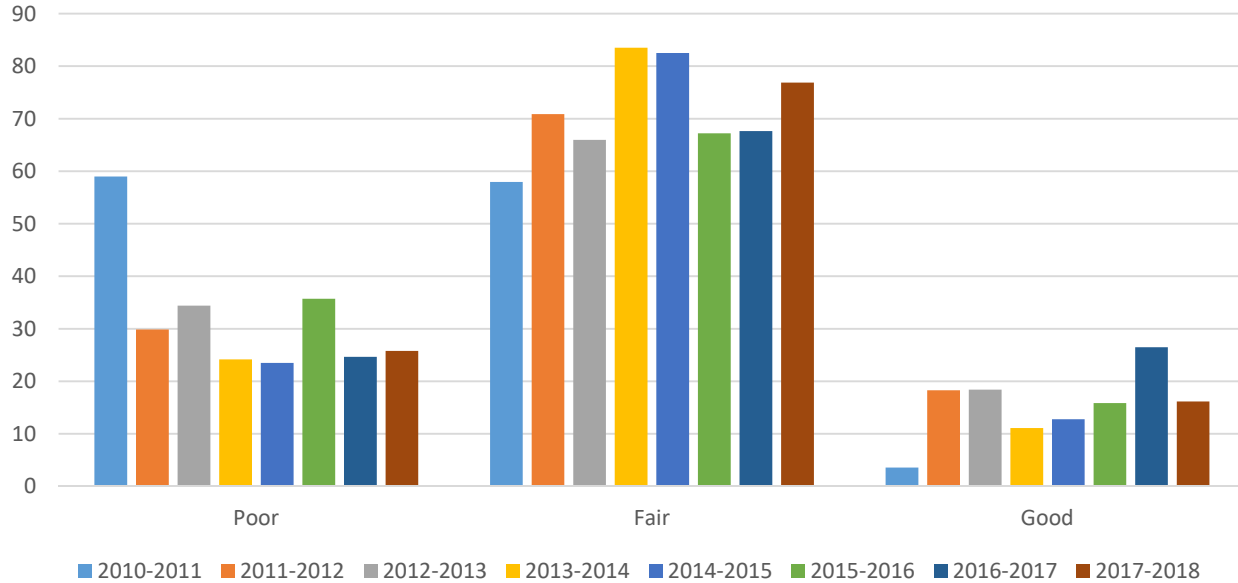


Barry County Non-Trunkline Federal Aid Roads Condition Trends  
2010 - 2018



# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

Barry Copunty Trunkline Federal Aid Roads Condition Trends  
2010 - 2018

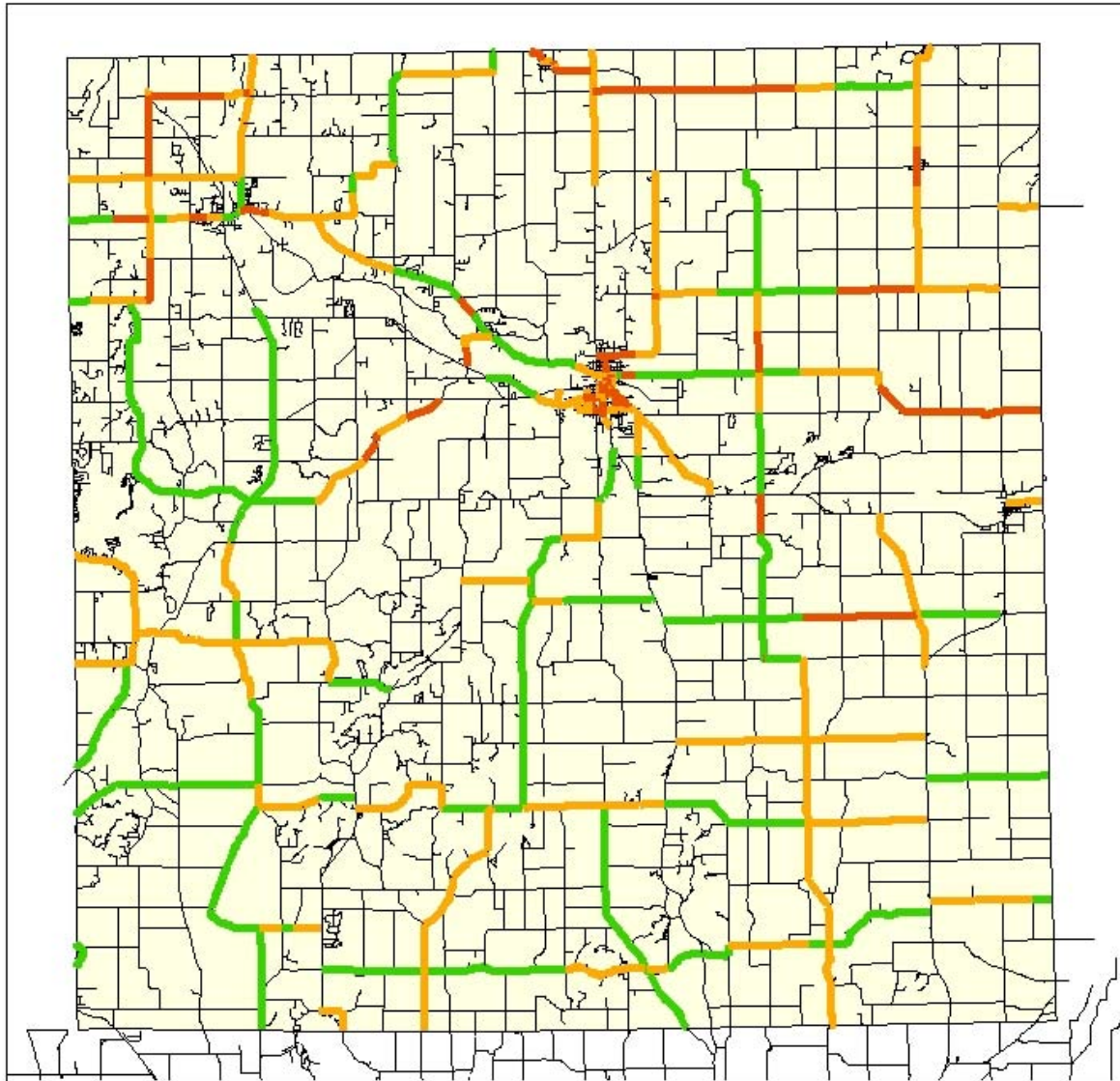


The above bar graphs summarize the condition trends of federal aid roads as rated in all of Barry County over the course of eight years, grouped by all, non-trunkline-only and trunkline-only. The graph shows that road agencies in Barry County have made generally steady progress in reducing the mileage of Poor rated roads. Fair rated road mileage has generally held steady for non-trunkline roads and generally increased slightly for trunkline. The general trend for Good rated road mileage has been to increase for all agencies. From the graphs, it appears that road agencies are doing well overall in keeping the Good and Fair roads maintained while working to improve the Poor rated roads as their budgets permit. Focus should continue to be placed on maintaining roads in fair and good condition while performing structural improvement on those in poor condition in order to continue decreasing the amount of poor roads countywide. It is important to administer capital preventative maintenance treatments that are less expensive before higher cost structural improvements become necessary.

The following pages contain maps showing the location and condition of federal aid roads in Barry County:

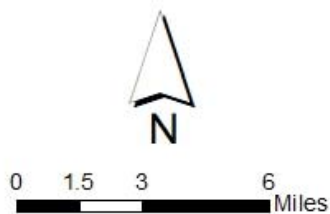
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## Barry County Non-Trunkline Federal Aid Road Conditions 2017 - 2018



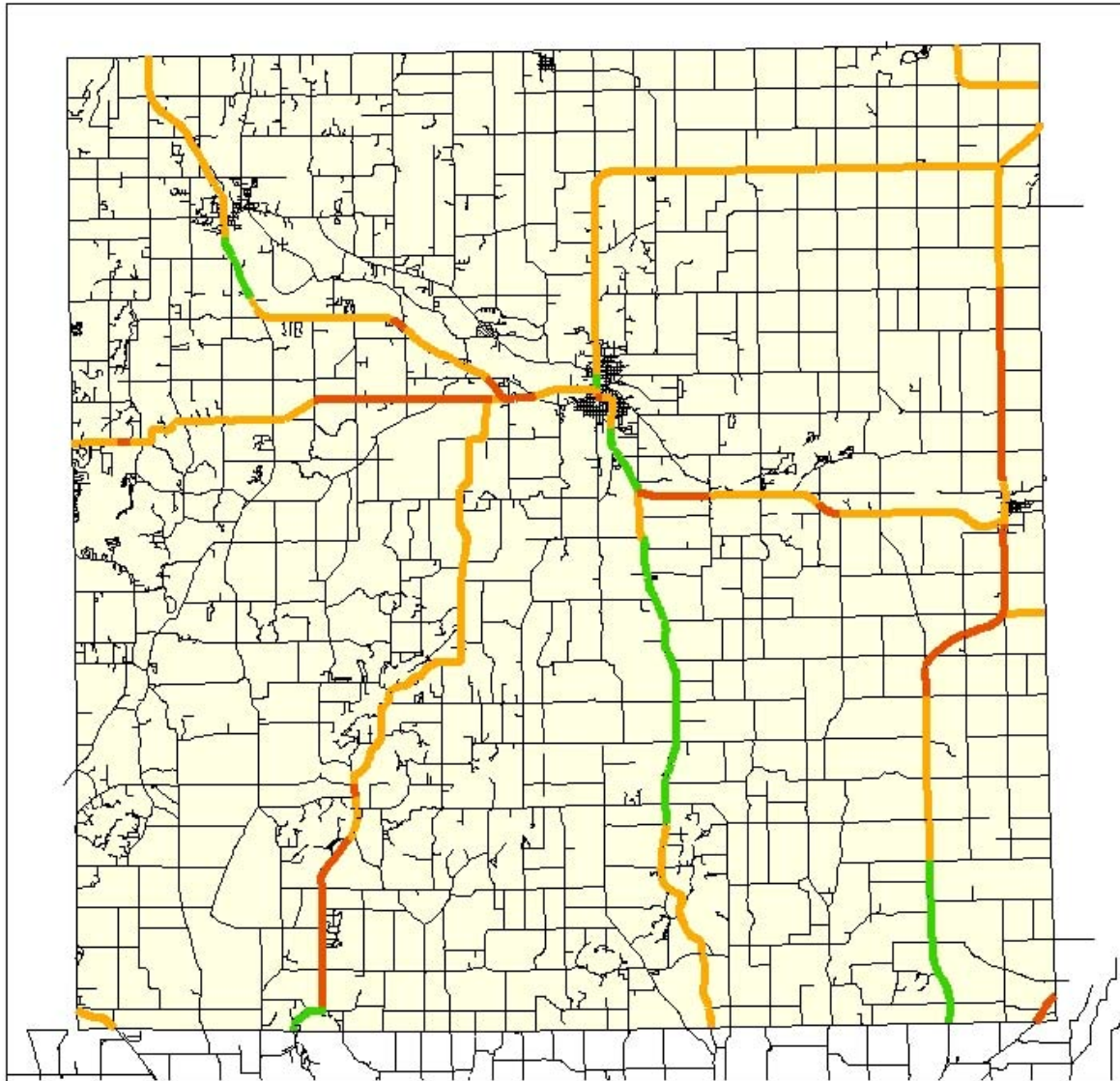
### PASER Road Conditions

- Poor (PASER 1 - 4)
- Fair (PASER 5 - 7)
- Good (PASER 8 - 10)
- Barry County



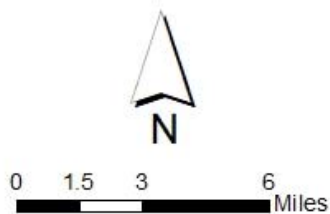
# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## Barry County State Trunkline Road Conditions 2017 - 2018



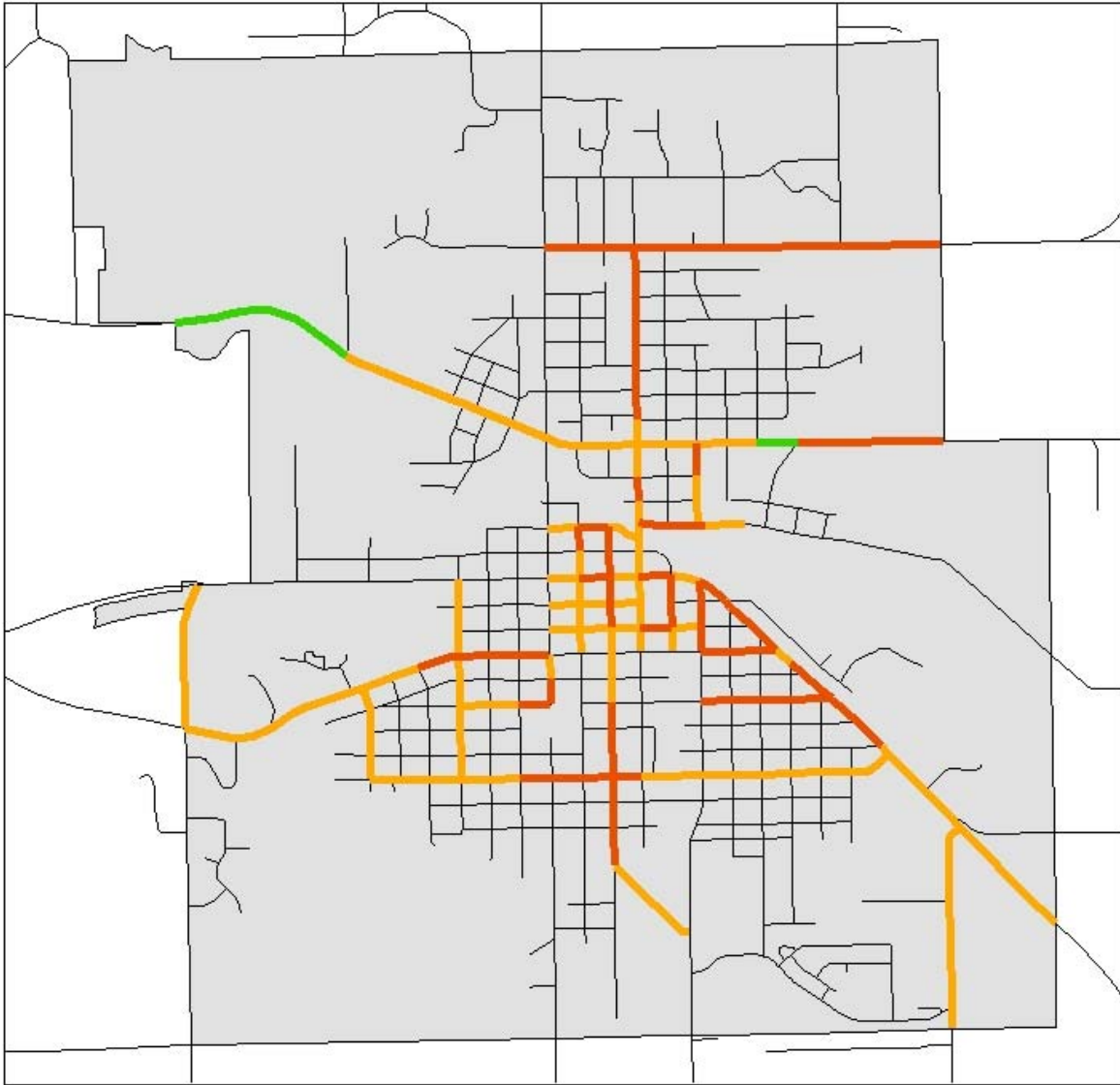
### PASER Road Conditions

- Poor (PASER 1- 4)
- Fair (PASER 5 - 7)
- Good (PASER 8 - 10)
- Barry County



# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## City of Hastings Federal Aid Road Conditions 2017 - 2018



### PASER Road Conditions

- Poor (PASER 1 - 4)
- Fair (PASER 5 - 7)
- Good (PASER 8 - 10)



0 0.175 0.35 0.7 Miles



# ROAD CONDITION REPORT FOR BARRY COUNTY

## Contact Information

For more information regarding the Barry County Road Condition report, contact:

- **Barry County Road Commission**  
1725 West M-43 Highway • Hastings, Michigan • 49058  
(269) 945-3449 • [administration@barrycrc.org](mailto:administration@barrycrc.org)
- **Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study**  
5220 Lovers Lane • Suite 110 • Portage, Michigan • 49002  
(269)343-0766 • [info@katsmpo.org](mailto:info@katsmpo.org)