



# Research Needs Statements

## TRB RESEARCH NEEDS STATEMENTS (RNS) DATABASE

The Transportation Research Board's (TRB) Research Needs Statements (RNS) Database is a dynamic collection of research needs statements developed and approved by the standing committees in TRB's Technical Activities Division. As such, the database reflects the high priority research needs at any given time. The collection of research needs statements are augmented and kept up to date by the TRB standing committees as part of their regular portfolio of activities.

The database provides a shopping list for researchers and practitioners in the transportation community who fund and conduct transportation research, including TRB's cooperative research programs, federal agencies, state departments of transportation, university faculty and students, consultants, and others. The database provides a national and global perspective on the research needs in many different areas, and should be considered as a source for timely and critical research topics by university professors and student researchers.

Research needs statements can be searched through simple or advanced query screens, or browsed by committee or subject. Interested individuals can also subscribe to the database to receive monthly e-mail messages whenever new research need statements are posted in selected categories. Individuals can subscribe, or change categories of interest, by entering their email address on the research needs statements database Subscribe/Unsubscribe page at [rns.trb.org/subscribe.asp](https://rns.trb.org/subscribe.asp)

The RNS Database can be accessed on TRB's website at: [rns.trb.org](https://rns.trb.org)

A summary of currently posted research needs statements follows.



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

*The National Academies of*  
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

1300 statements in the following subject areas have been posted to date\*.

Subject Areas	RNS
Administration and Management	134
Aviation	63
Bridges and other structures	115
Construction	241
Data and Information Technology	186
Design	410
Economics	103
Education and Training	69
Energy	33
Environment	114
Finance	94
Freight Transportation	80
Geotechnology	72
Highways	920
History	12
Hydraulics and Hydrology	28
Law	24
Maintenance and Preservation	101
Marine Transportation	29
Materials	109
Motor Carriers	45
Operations and Traffic Management	290
Passenger Transportation	56
Pavements	159
Pedestrians and Bicyclists	143
Pipelines	10
Planning and Forecasting	312
Policy	105
Public Transportation	214
Railroads	50
Research	78
Safety and Human Factors	376
Security and Emergencies	40
Society	75
Terminals and Facilities	67
Transportation (General)	69
Vehicles and Equipment	104

\* Note: a single RNS can be assigned to more than one subject area

An excellent resource for identifying research funding is available online at [www.trb.org/ResearchFunding/Public/ResearchFunding.aspx](http://www.trb.org/ResearchFunding/Public/ResearchFunding.aspx)

<p>Questions about statements in the RNS Database or how to access the RNS Database should be directed to:</p> <p><b>James W. Bryant, Jr., Ph. D., P.E.</b>          Senior Program Officer          Transportation Research Board          202-334-2087   <a href="mailto:jbryant@nas.edu">jbryant@nas.edu</a></p>	<p>General questions or comments about the RNS Database should be directed to:</p> <p><b>Bill McLeod</b>          TRIS Manager          Transportation Research Board  <a href="mailto:Tris-trb@nas.edu">Tris-trb@nas.edu</a></p>
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