



# 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)

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



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

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A summary of currently posted research needs statements follows\* (as of 12.31.19).

Subject Areas	RNS
Administration and Management	134
Aviation	58
Bridges and other structures	122
Construction	221
Data and Information Technology	214
Design	416
Economics	108
Education and Training	68
Energy	34
Environment	120
Finance	88
Freight Transportation	85
Geotechnology	70
Highways	934
History	15
Hydraulics and Hydrology	28
Law	27
Maintenance and Preservation	110
Marine Transportation	48
Materials	122
Motor Carriers	45
Operations and Traffic Management	309
Passenger Transportation	58
Pavements	151
Pedestrians and Bicyclists	164
Pipelines	11
Planning and Forecasting	331
Policy	113
Public Transportation	211
Railroads	59
Research	77
Safety and Human Factors	413
Security and Emergencies	47
Society	80
Terminals and Facilities	63
Transportation (General)	90
Vehicles and Equipment	112

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

<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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