

## Bridge Collapses in the U.S. from 1940 to 2013

Listing in **Red** indicates collision from water vessels

- 1) **7 November 1940** Tacoma Narrows Bridge (*Galloping Gertie*) Tacoma, Washington  
Aerodynamically poor design resulted in aeroelastic flutter Bridge completely destroyed, no person killed, but one dog killed and three vehicles lost.
- 2) **28 July 1942** Chesapeake City Bridge Chesapeake City, MD, Tanker *Franz Klasen*  
rammed the movable bridge supports, causing collapse Central span completely destroyed
- 3) **24 February 1946** John P. Grace Bridge Charleston, South Carolina, Three spans  
collapsed due to collision with the freighter *Nicaragua Victory* 5 killed
- 4) **2 July 1965** Kansas Avenue Bridge Topeka, Kansas, Structural deterioration Killed a  
Topeka man
- 5) **15 December 1967** Silver Bridge Point Pleasant, West Virginia and Gallipolis, Ohio,  
Material fault and corrosion 46 killed, 9 injured Bridge and 37 vehicles destroyed
- 6) **7 November 1972** Sidney Lanier Bridge Brunswick, Georgia, Struck by the freighter  
*African Neptune* 10 deaths, multiple injuries, Several spans knocked out
- 7) **24 February 1977** Benjamin Harrison Memorial Bridge, Hopewell, Virginia, An ocean-  
going tanker ship, the 5,700 ton, 523-ft long *S.S. Marine Floridian* struck the bridge  
collapsing a section of the bridge. 0 killed, minor injuries. Section of bridge destroyed
- 8) **15 March 1977** Green Island Bridge Troy, New York, Flooding undermined the lift span  
pier resulting in the western lift tower and roadbed span of the bridge collapsing into the  
Hudson River. 0 killed, 0 injured. Bridge destroyed
- 9) **13 February 1979**, Hood Canal Floating Bridge (William A. Bugge Bridge) Olympic,  
Washington, Blown pontoon hatches combined with extreme windstorm 0 killed, 0  
injured. Western drawspan and western pontoons sunk; other sections survived.
- 10) **9 May 1980** Sunshine Skyway Bridge near St. Petersburg, FL, Ship collision, 35 killed, 1  
injured 1,200 feet (370 m) of southbound span, several cars and a bus destroyed
- 11) **17 July 1981** Hyatt Regency walkway collapse, Kansas City, Missouri, Overload/weak  
joint/construction error, 114 killed, 200 injured, walkway destroyed
- 12) **15 April 1982** Cline Avenue over the Indiana Harbor and Ship Canal and surrounding  
heavy industry, East Chicago, Indiana, 1,200 feet (370 m) of the bridge collapsed while  
under construction when a concrete pad supporting shoring towers developed cracks. 14  
killed, 16 injured

- 13) **28 June 1983** Mianus River Bridge Greenwich, Connecticut, Metal corrosion and fatigue/Deferred maintenance 3 killed, 5 injured, 100-foot (30 m) section of the northbound lanes fell into the Mianus River
- 14) **5 April 1987** Schoharie Creek Bridge collapse Thruway Bridge Fort Hunter, New York, Improper protection of footings by contractor lead to scour of riverbed under footings. 10 killed, unknown injured. Total collapse
- 15) **11 April 1987** Schoharie Creek's Mill Point Bridge Wellsville, Amsterdam, NY, Flooding No deaths or injuries, Total collapse. The Mill Point Bridge is 3 miles (4.8 km) upstream from the Thruway bridge that collapsed on 5 April. Flood waters from the same flood that finally undermined the Thruway bridge were up to the girders of the Mill Point bridge. It was closed as a safety precaution. It collapsed six days after the earlier collapse.
- 16) **1 April 1989** Tennessee Hatchie River Bridge, Between Covington, Tennessee and Henning, Tennessee, Shifting river channel, deterioration of foundation timber piles. 8 killed. Total collapse
- 17) **17 October 1989** Cypress Street Viaduct, Oakland, California Destroyed in Loma Prieta Earthquake 42 killed
- 18) **17 October 1989** San Francisco ó Oakland Bay Bridge, connects San Francisco and Oakland, California, 50-foot (15 m) section of the upper deck and lower deck collapsed in Loma Prieta Earthquake. 1 killed
- 19) **28 October 1989** Swinging Bridge, Heber Springs, Arkansas, Destroyed by pedestrians swinging the bridge. 5 killed Structure destroyed
- 20) **25 November 1990** Lacey V. Murrow Memorial Bridge, Connects Seattle and Bellevue, Washington, Heavy flooding of pontoons, 0 killed 2,790 feet (850 m) of the bridge sank, dumping the contaminated water into the lake along with tons of bridge material
- 21) **28 May 1993** Claiborne Avenue Bridge, 9th Ward, New Orleans, Louisiana, Barge collision, 1 killed, 2 injured. Empty barge collided with a support pier for the bridge, causing a 145-foot section to collapse
- 22) **22 September 1993** CSXT Big Bayou Canot rail bridge, near Mobile, Alabama, Barge towboat, struck pier in fog; span shifted so next train derailed; impact of derailment destroyed span. 47 killed, 103 injured. Amtrak train Sunset Limited carrying 220 passengers plunged into water
- 23) **24 November 1993** Temporary bridge, Hopkinton, New Hampshire, Collapsed while being dismantled. 2 construction workers killed, 1 injured Collapsed onto roadway below. Bridge had been placed to divert traffic from resurfacing project on U.S. Route 202

- 24) **10 March 1995** I-5 Bridge Disaster, Coalinga, California, Structural failure - support piers collapsed. 7 killed, 0 injured. Complete failure of two spans on I-5 Due to extreme rainfall, the Arroyo Pasajero experienced high volumes of water at high speed. This caused scouring of the river bed undermining the support piers of both spans.
- 25) **January 1996** Walnut Street Bridge, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, As a result of rising flood waters and ice floe from the North American blizzard of 1996, when high floodwaters and a large ice floe lifted the spans off their foundations and swept them down the river. 0 killed, 0 injured. Lost two of its seven western spans, A third span was damaged and later collapsed into the river.
- 26) **13 December 2000** Hoan Bridge, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Northbound right lane began to buckle during the morning rush hour and sagged a few feet below normal. Damage was said to have been caused by extremely cold weather, snow, and heavy amounts of traffic. 0 killed, 0 injured Partial Collapse
- 27) **15 September 2001** Queen Isabella Causeway, Port Isabel, Texas and South Padre Island, Texas, 4 loaded barges veered 175 feet (53 m) west of the navigation channel and struck one of the bridge supports, causing a partial collapse of 3 sections measuring approximately 80 feet each. 8 killed, 13 survivors. Partial collapse
- 28) **26 May 2002** I-40 bridge disaster, Webbers Falls, Oklahoma, Barge struck one pier of the bridge causing a partial collapse. 14 killed Partial collapse
- 29) **26 March 2004** Interstate 95 Howard Avenue Overpass, Bridgeport, Connecticut, Car struck a truck carrying 8,000 US gallons of heating oil, igniting a fire that melted the bridge superstructure, causing collapse of the southbound lanes. 0 killed, 1 injured. Partial collapse
- 30) **21 July 2003** Kinzua Bridge, Kinzua Bridge State Park, Pennsylvania, Hit by tornado with 100 mph winds. 0 killed Partial collapse
- 31) **February 2004** Igor I. Sikorsky Memorial Bridge replacement project, Connecticut, Collapse occurred in during demolition of the original 1940 span. 1 killed. Single fatality occurred when the crane he was operating was knocked from its barge by falling steel from the bridge
- 32) **1 August 2007** Minneapolis I-35W bridge over the Mississippi River, Minneapolis, Minnesota, The NTSB said that undersized gusset plates, increased concrete surfacing load, and weight of construction supplies/equipment caused this collapse. 13 killed, 145 injured. Total bridge failure
- 33) **15 August 2007** Harp Road bridge, Oakville, Washington, Collapsed under weight of a truck hauling an excavator 0 killed, 0 injured

- 34) **29 April 2007** MacArthur Maze, Oakland, California, Tanker truck crash and explosion, resulting fire softened steel sections of flyover causing them to collapse. 1 injured in crash, 0 from collapse
- 35) **12 June 2008** The Cedar Rapids and Iowa City Railway (CRANDIC) bridge, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Railroad bridge during June 2008 Midwest Floods. 0 killed, 0 injured. Three of the bridge's four steel spans were swept into the river along with 15 CRANDIC rail cars loaded with rock
- 36) **15 July 2009** 9 Mile Road Bridge at I-75, Hazel Park, Michigan, collapsed due to tanker accident. 0 killed, 1 injured
- 37) **27 October 2009** San Francisco ó Oakland Bay Bridge, Connects San Francisco and Oakland, California, Two tension rods and a crossbeam from a recently installed repair collapsed during the evening commute, causing the bridge to be closed temporarily. 0 killed, 1 injury
- 38) **27 January 2012** Eggner Ferry Bridge over the Tennessee River, Between Trigg County, Kentucky and Marshall County, Kentucky, The MV Delta Mariner struck the bottom portion of a span of the bridge when travelling in the incorrect channel of the river. 0 Killed, 0 Injured. Span over the recreational channel of the river collapsed.
- 39) **23 May 2013** I-5 Skagit River Bridge collapse, Mount Vernon, Washington, Oversized semi-truck load carrying drilling equipment from Alberta clipped top steel girder causing bridge collapse. 0 Killed, 3 Injured. One 167 foot span collapsed.
- 40) **25 May 2013** Scott City roadway bridge collapse, Scott City, Missouri, A Union Pacific train T-boned a Burlington Northern Santa Fe train outside of Scott City, Missouri at approximately 2:30 am. The impact caused numerous rail cars to hit a support pillar of a highway overpass, collapsing two sections of the bridge onto the rail line. Two cars ended up driving onto the collapsed sections, injuring three people in one vehicle and two in the other. Two people on one of the trains were also injured. 7 injured. Two roadway bridge sections collapsed onto the rail line below