



Bridge Costs

A highway bridge is defined as any span of 20 feet or more in length. Not all bridges go over bodies of water. Overpasses and ramps that are part of highway interchanges are bridges too. A large proportion of the statewide highway construction budget, usually in excess of 20%, is devoted to bridge construction. Typically, the FDOT completes between 100 and 200 bridges each year. As a rule of thumb, bridges from 20 to 45 feet in length are short span bridges. Bridges from 45 to 150 feet are medium span bridges, and those extending over 150 feet are long span bridges.

In recent years, the overall trend has been an increase in bridge construction costs. However, a few categories of costs have decreased. These estimates, based on FDOT experience, are only provided for use in preliminary planning, and should not be used as a substitute for detailed engineering estimates.

New Construction

(Cost per Square Foot)

Bridge Type	Low	High
Short Span Bridges:		
Reinforced Concrete Flat Slab Simple Span*	\$115	\$160
Pre-cast Concrete Slab Simple Span*	\$110	\$200
Reinforced Concrete Flat Slab Continuous Span*	NA	NA
Medium and Long Span Bridges:		
Concrete Deck/ Steel Girder - Simple Span*	\$125	\$142
Concrete Deck/ Steel Girder - Continuous Span*	\$135	\$170
Concrete Deck/ Pre-stressed Girder - Simple Span	\$90	\$145
Concrete Deck/ Pre-stressed Girder - Continuous Span	\$95	\$211
Concrete Deck/ Steel Box Girder – Span Range from 150' to 280' (for curvature, add a 15% premium)	\$140	\$180
Segmental Concrete Box Girders - Cantilever Construction, Span Range from 150' to 280'	\$140	\$160
Movable Bridge - Bascule Spans and Piers	\$1,800	\$2,000
* Increase the cost by twenty percent for phased construction.		



Bridge Demolition and Widening

(Cost per Square Foot)

Bridge Demolition:	Low	High
Typical Bridge Removal	\$35	\$60
Movable Span Bridge (Bascule)	\$60	\$70
Widening:		
Bridge Widening Construction	\$85	\$160

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Structures Design Guidelines, FDOT Structures Manual, Volume 1, January 2014
<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/structures/StructuresManual/CurrentRelease/Vol1SDG.pdf>

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