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# **County Transportation**

# **Funding Overview**

### Primary Transportation Funding Sources

Counties primarily rely on funding from:

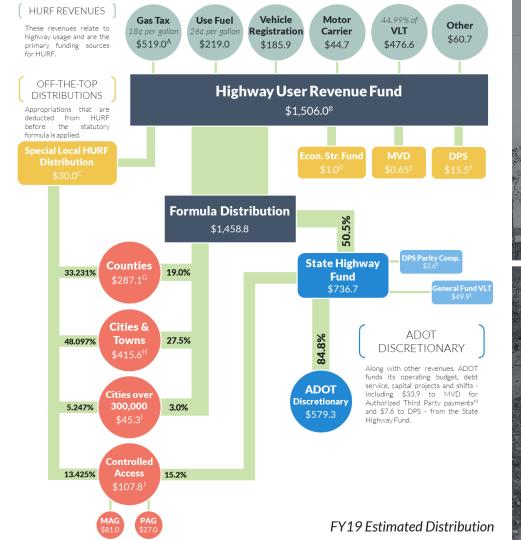
- Highway User Revenue Fund
- Vehicle License Tax

Counties with a population under 400,000 can adopt – with voter approval – a sales tax for roads, that is spent directly by the county.

In all counties voters can approve a regional transportation plan – funded by a sales tax – that is administered by a regional transportation authority.

Proportion of funding to the major regional spending on transportation by counties or by regional transportation authorities.

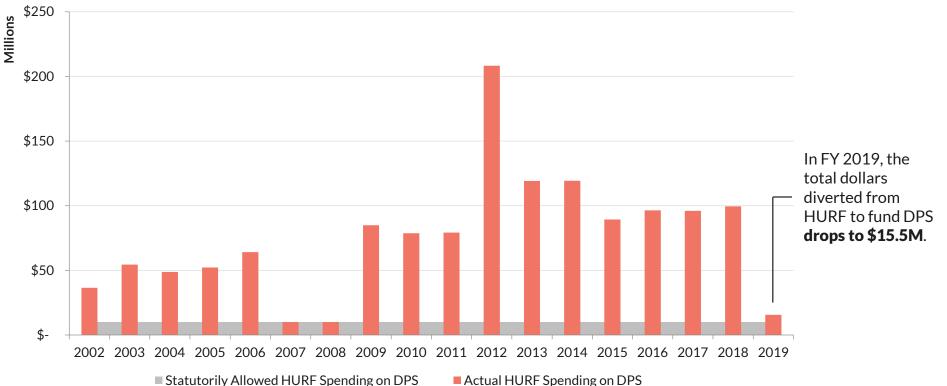




### **Highway User Revenue Fund**

### **Distribution Formula**

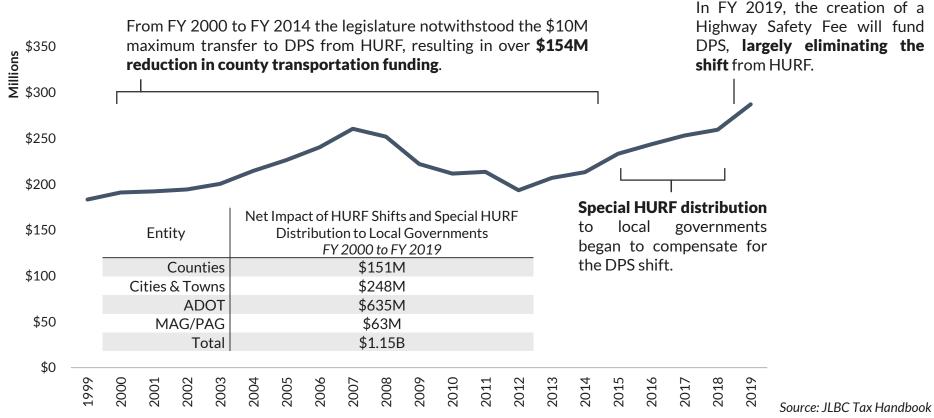
### HURF Sweeps for DPS and MVD



Source: JLBC Tax Handbook & Appropriation Reports

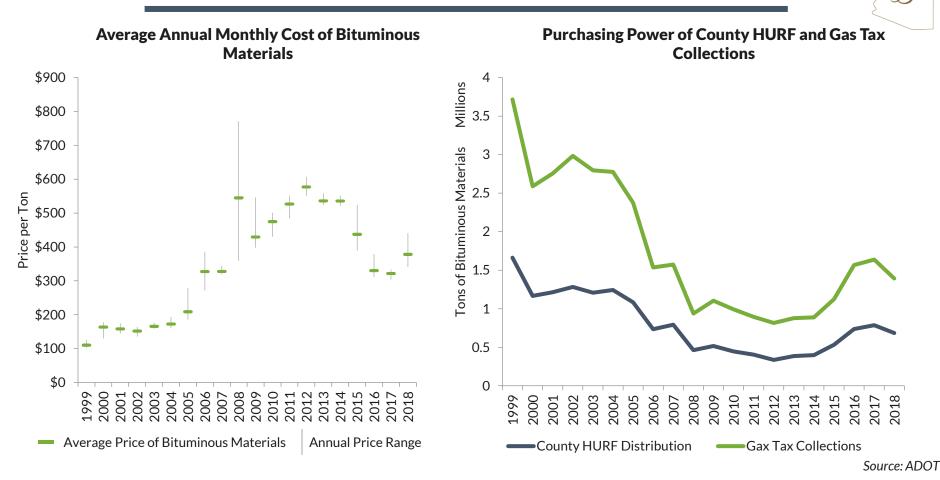
# **County HURF Distribution**

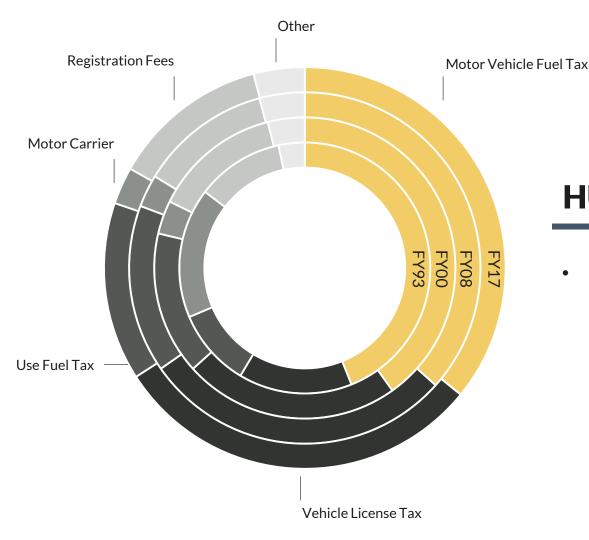




& Appropriation Reports

### **HURF** Purchasing Power is Down







### **HURF Funding : Gas Tax**

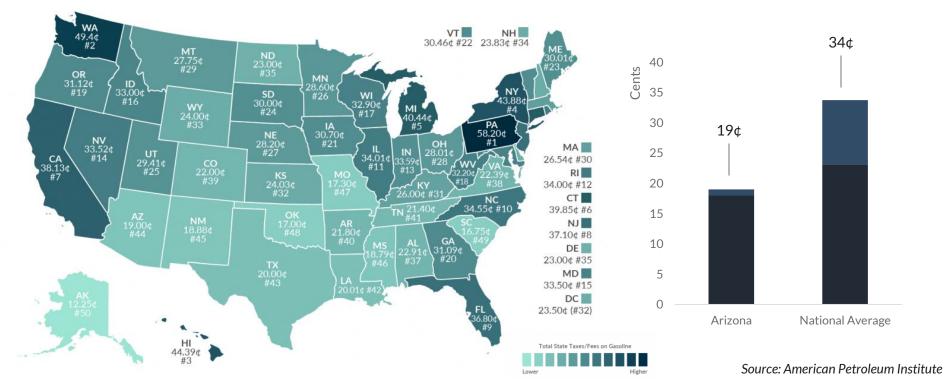
 In FY 1993, gas taxes accounted for 44% of HURF revenues. By FY 2017 that has dropped to 36%

Source: JLBC Tax Handbook

# Arizona v. National Gas Tax Rates



Arizona's motor vehicle fuel tax was last set in **1990** at **18¢ per gallon** (and an additional 1¢ on gas in underground storage tanks)



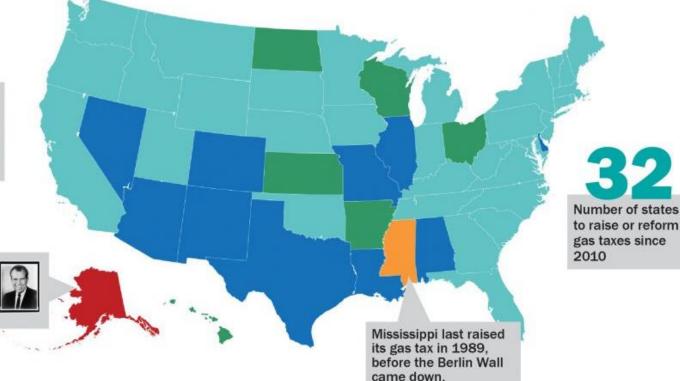
### **Decade States Last Increased Gas Taxes**



■ 1970s ■ 1980s ■ 1990s ■ 2000s ■ 2010s



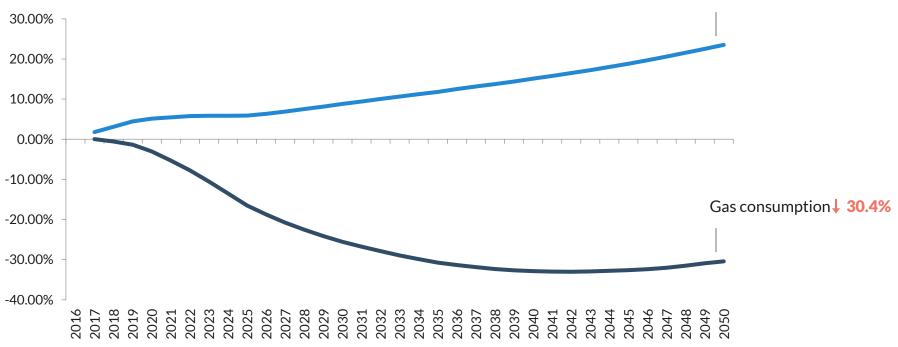
The last time Alaska raised its gas tax, Richard Nixon was President.



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy

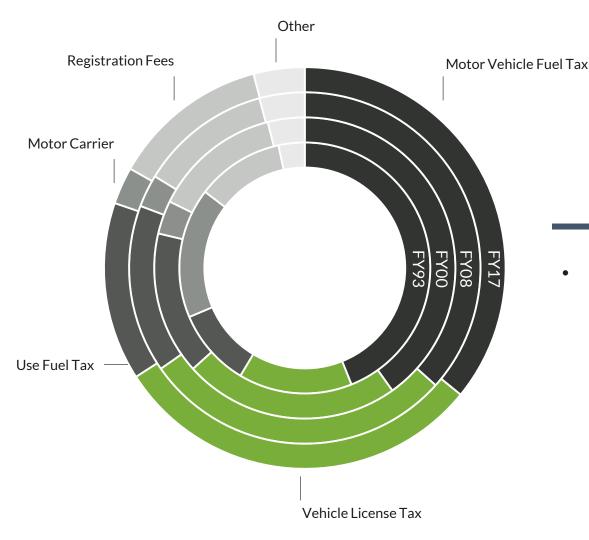
# **Projected Travel and Gas Consumption**

Revenues from gas tax will continue to decline as the economy shifts away from gasoline and MPG efficiencies continue to improve. However, roadways will continue to experience more and more use.



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

Vehicle miles 23.5%





### **HURF Funding : VLT**

 VLT has begun to make up a larger portion of HURF revenues, going from 15% in FY 1993 to 30% in FY 2017

Source: JLBC Tax Handbook

### **Vehicle License Tax Structure**

For new vehicles purchased after Jan. 1, 2020

#### **Traditional Vehicles**

*Year 1* 60% of the base retail price \$2.80 per \$100 assessed value

Each Subsequent Year 16.25% less than previous year \$2.89 per \$100 assessed value

#### **Alternative Fuel Vehicles**

Year 1 30% of the base retail price \$4 per \$100 assessed value

Each Subsequent Year 15% less than previous year \$4 per \$100 assessed value

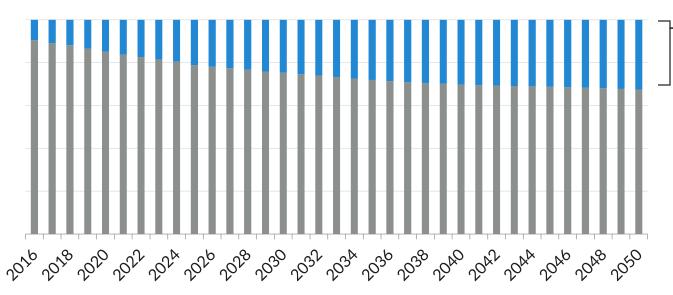
#### VLT paid on an alternative fuel vehicle will be roughly 70% of the VLT paid on a similarly priced traditional vehicle



# **Alternative Fuel Vehicles**



Alternative vehicles percent of total new vehicles sold



Alternative fuel vehicles are projected to make up over **30% of the cars** sold in 2050.

If alt. fuel vehicles continue to pay a lower VLT than traditional vehicles, in 2050 we will **forego almost 10% of revenue** that could be collected.

Reliance on gas tax and VLT on traditional vehicles to fund road maintenance will put a disproportionate burden of funding road construction and maintenance on the purchasers of gasoline.



# **Transportation Funding Implications**

- Transportation revenues are likely to decline in real purchasing power over time with no change to the gas tax
- The taxation of alt. fuel vehicles differently than traditional vehicles may degrade VLT revenues as more people shift to alt. fuel



# **County Transportation**

# **Funding Needs**

Counties own and maintain **20,800 miles** of roads



45% are paved 55% are unpaved

**County Roadway System** 

There are **1,101 bridges and structures** owned by counties 24% of bridges and structures are over50 years old

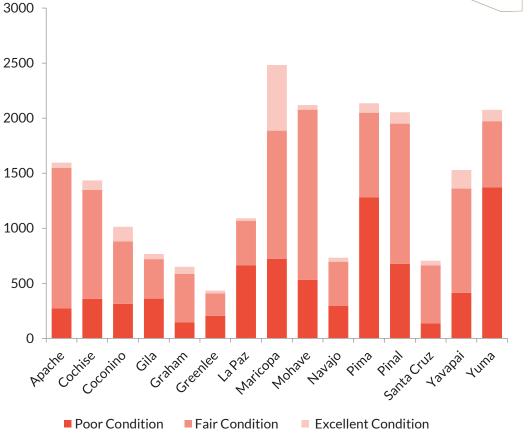
Source: ACCE 2018 Roadway Needs Study

### **Current Status of County Roadways**

Miles

- 35% of county roadways are in poor or very poor condition statewide
  - **5 counties** have **50% or more** of roadways in poor condition
- **10%** of county bridges and structures are **structurally deficient or functional obsolete**
- **70%** of county engineers are **not confident** they can **maintain roadways** at historic and current funding levels
- 90% of county engineers delay repairs and maintenance due to budget limitations





Source: ACCE 2018 Roadway Needs Study

#### **10-Year Projected Transportation Funding**

County	Revenue	Expenditure Needs	Funding Gap
Apache	\$100,804,846	\$181,684,454	\$80,879,607
Cochise	\$111,823,599	\$263,636,724	\$151,813,125
Coconino	\$226,382,320	\$385,019,478	\$158,637,158
Gila	\$66,466,714	\$188,785,459	\$122,318,745
Graham	\$36,783,141	\$86,461,242	\$49,678,102
Greenlee	\$12,421,039	\$64,211,476	\$51,790,437
La Paz	\$50,269,083	\$130,445,509	\$80,176,426
Maricopa	\$1,291,299,816	\$1,394,387,060	\$103,087,244
Mohave	\$171,735,053	\$479,263,569	\$307,528,516
Navajo	\$119,139,521	\$201,622,619	\$82,483,098
Pima	\$736,420,805	\$1,019,802,136	\$283,381,331
Pinal	\$388,743,359	\$587,387,800	\$198,644,441
Santa Cruz	\$48,337,051	\$87,656,422	\$39,319,370
Yavapai	\$256,037,072	\$351,859,558	\$95,822,486
Yuma	\$143,619,373	\$537,594,350	\$393,974,977
Total	\$3,760,282,792	\$5,959,817,855	\$2,199,535,062



### **Funding Gap**

- County engineers estimate that funding to repair and maintain proper roadways in counties over the next 10 years will fall short by \$2.2 billion.
- Materials alone to bring county roadways to a state of good repair would cost \$1.65 billion



# **County Transportation Funding Policy Options**



# **Transportation Revenue Options**

State and Local Level Revenue Options

#### Fuel Tax :

- Increase gas tax
- Index gas tax to inflation
- Local option
- Sales tax on fuel

#### **Other Tax:**

- TPT for transportation
- Property tax for transportation
- Local special districts
- Vehicle License Tax
- Additional regional sales tax authority for transportation

### Fee Based:

- Driver's license fee
- Registration fee
- In-lieu Gas Tax for alternative fuel vehicles
- Vehicle miles traveled
- Tolls

Italicized options were recommended by the 2016 Surface Transportation Task Force