

Road Condition Evaluation

Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating ([PASER](#)) uses visual inspections to evaluate pavement surface conditions. The key to a useful evaluation is identifying different types of pavement distress and linking them to a cause. Understanding the cause for current conditions is extremely important in selecting an appropriate maintenance or rehabilitation technique.

The rating scale ranges from 10—brand new to 1—failed. Most pavements will deteriorate through the phases listed in the rating scale. The time it takes to go from excellent condition (10) to complete failure (1) depends largely on the quality of the original construction and the amount of heavy traffic loading.

Condition	PASER Rating	Description
Good	8, 9, 10	New or like new road; only requires regular maintenance.
Fair	5, 6, 7	Road surface shows some wear or aging; prime candidates for capital preventive maintenance such as crack sealing or a thin overlay to prolong the life of the road.
Poor	1, 2, 3, 4	Road surface reaching the end of its life; most cost effective repairs include rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Adapted from the Pavement Surface Evaluation Rating manuals and the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council's best practices.