

BOOSTING U.S. INFRASTRUCTURE

By John Kosowatz

Infrastructure is the network of roads, bridges, ports, railroads, internet, electric grids, water and wastewater systems that the U.S. economy relies on. It has been underfunded and even neglected for years, resulting in systems that are overstretched and lagging behind economic competitors, particularly China.

Poor infrastructure imposes large costs on the economy, and impedes the ability to compete globally.

Henry Petroski, an engineer and professor emeritus at Duke University, points out in his book

The Road Taken:



The History and Future of America's Infrastructure, failing infrastructure costs billions of dollars in lost economic productivity. The American Civil Engineering Society graded U.S. infrastructure a C- in its last report card, up from the Ds of previous years.



In 2021, Congress passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the single largest investment in U.S. history to address climate change, roads, bridges, the electric grid, internet, water, and more. Here is where some of the investment will be placed.



\$55 billion to expand clean water accessibility.



\$65 billion for high-speed broadband internet infrastructure.



\$110 billion for road and bridge repair, and support for major transportation projects.



\$89.9 billion for public transit.



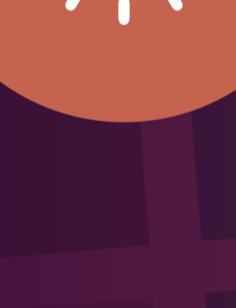
\$17 billion for ports and railways.



\$25 billion for airports.



\$66 billion for passenger rail.

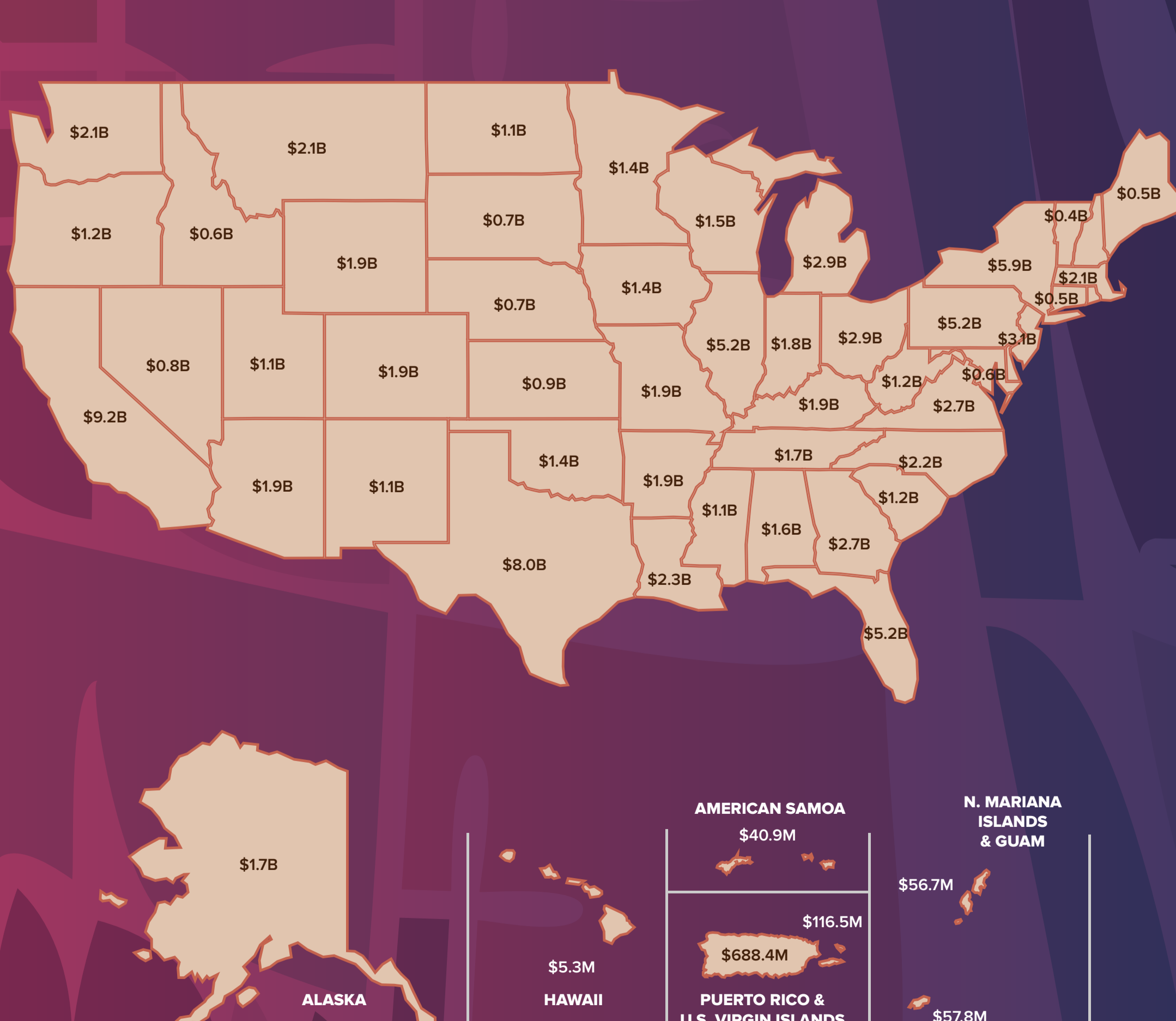


\$7.5 billion for EV charging infrastructure.



\$65 billion for clean energy and the electric grid.

Preliminary Infrastructure Funding



SOURCE: <https://d2d.gsa.gov/report/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-bil-maps-dashboard>