

Weight safety signs are there for a reason – it's important to know your limits when traveling across Kentucky's bridges.

Knowing your vehicle's weight rating, what you are hauling and if it is properly loaded and secured will not only help save our bridges but also can protect you from potentially being fined – and even save a life.

## LOAD POSTING SIGNS

Weight limit signs on bridges are intended to prevent loads that cause stresses above the safe limit from crossing a bridge or culvert. In Kentucky, signs like the one shown below are the most common and inform drivers of maximum weight limits for general vehicle types, based on the number of axles.



## GROSS LOAD SIGNS

Signs like the ones shown here are frequently used in situations where severe load restrictions apply. The gross vehicle weight or axle weight for any vehicle is limited regardless of the number of axles or axle configuration.



## BRIDGING KENTUCKY

With the Bridging Kentucky program, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is leading a transformational commitment to improve the safety and soundness of bridges across the Commonwealth.

Through the six-year program, which was launched in 2018, KYTC will rehabilitate, repair, or replace more than 1,000 critical structures in all 120 Kentucky counties. We will reopen closed bridges, remove weight restrictions that prevent use by school buses, emergency vehicles and businesses, and improve access and mobility for all Kentuckians.

This bridge improvement program is focused on improving the condition of some of Kentucky's most critical existing bridges, not expanding or widening the transportation system.

For more on Bridging Kentucky, visit [www.BridgingKentucky.com](http://www.BridgingKentucky.com).



# UNDERSTANDING BRIDGE WEIGHT LIMITS



## **PRESERVE BRIDGES, PREVENT LIABILITY.**

Not all bridges were designed to carry today's vehicles and some have deteriorated over time – reducing their load carrying capacity. Bridges that cannot safely support all legal vehicles must be weight restricted. Pay attention to the bridge weight limit signs when traveling.



## **STILL NOT SURE IF YOU SHOULD CROSS?**

Read the signs and know your vehicle's approximate weight:



**STANDARD CAR**  
**1.5 TONS**

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**AMBULANCE**  
**5 TONS**

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**LOADED  
SCHOOL BUS**  
**17 TONS**



**FIRE TRUCK**  
**19 TONS–30 TONS**

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**LOADED  
GARBAGE TRUCK**  
**25 TONS**

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**LOADED  
TRACTOR TRAILER**  
**40+ TONS**