

Bridge Damaged in Semi-Truck Crash on I-96, Michigan

August 5, 2025

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Livingston County, MI – A major crash involving a semi-truck on westbound I-96 caused significant structural damage to an overpass bridge and forced lane closures in Michigan on Monday afternoon.

According to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), the collision occurred just after 2:30 p.m. near the I-96 and M-59 interchange in Howell Township, Livingston County.

The semi-truck struck the overpass, resulting in visible damage to the bridge's structure and prompting immediate safety concerns.

Emergency crews quickly responded to the scene. While no fatalities were reported, the driver of the semi-truck was hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries. Authorities have not yet released the driver's identity. Investigators are still working to determine the cause of the crash.

As a result of the incident, all westbound lanes of I-96 were closed between M-59 and Highland Road, with traffic diverted through alternate routes. MDOT confirmed late Monday that inspections had begun to assess the extent of the bridge damage and decide whether repairs or full replacement will be required.

"The integrity of the bridge is our top priority right now," said MDOT spokesperson Diane Cross. "Our engineers are evaluating the structure to ensure it's safe before reopening the lanes."

Local commuters experienced major traffic delays during rush hour. Authorities urged drivers to avoid the area and check for live updates before travelling.

Preliminary visuals from the crash show the semi-truck's trailer crumpled beneath the bridge and debris scattered across the roadway. MDOT stated that bridge inspectors were on-site within an hour of the incident and will continue their evaluation over the next several days.

The bridge in question carries traffic over I-96 and is part of a heavily used route for both commercial and local vehicles. Until repairs are complete, MDOT has advised that extended lane closures or partial re-routing may continue.

While no foul play is suspected, state police are conducting a full review of the driver's logs, vehicle maintenance records, and potential mechanical failures. Weather conditions at the time of the crash were clear, with no reports of road hazards or visibility issues.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has not been involved at this stage, but MDOT and Michigan State Police will collaborate to finalize the investigation.

This incident follows a series of infrastructure concerns across Michigan highways in recent years. State officials have increased pressure on lawmakers to boost funding for bridge maintenance and road safety upgrades.

Authorities have not provided a timeline for reopening the damaged stretch of westbound I-96. More updates are expected following structural assessments.