

Axle Load Approximation for Tunnels

Revised: 8/11/2015

All information, calculations, etc. from Paul J. Ford Structural Engineers, Columbus, OH. August 2015

In order to execute the following calculations, you will need to know two pieces of information about the vehicle in question: the GVW (Gross Vehicle Weight) and the number of axles.

For vehicles with only two axles:

Front Axle load = $(GVW) \times (0.20)$

Rear Axle Load = $(GVW) \times (0.80)$

For vehicles with more than two axles:

Front Axle Load = $(GVW) \times (0.20)$

Rear Axle Load = $\underline{\text{(GVW) x (0.80)}}$ (# of Rear Axles)

This approximation does not apply to vehicles on tracks such as dozers or certain mobile cranes. For those situations you must use the following calculation method.

For track vehicles

Track Load = Operating Weight
2 x (Track Length in feet)

TUNNEL CROSSING ALLOWABLE LOADS

Tunnel Crossing Location	Maximum Allowable
	Loading
Rike Hall – Allyn Hall	24,000 lb. axle load
	4,300 lb/ft track load
Allyn Hall – Oelman Hall	40,000 lb. axle load
	8,800 lb/ft track load
Oelman Hall – Millett Hall	40,000 lb. axle load
	8,600 lb/ft track load
Millett Hall – Fawcet Hall	40,000 lb. axle load
	7,300 lb/ft track load
Fawcet Hall – Oelman Hall	40,000 lb. axle load
	10,000 lb/ft track load
Fawcet Hall – Biological Science Building	16,000 lb. axle load
	3,750 lb/ft track load
Library – Creative Arts Center	9,600 lb. axle load
	1,250 lb/ft track load
Student Union – Medical Science Building	16,000 lb. axle load
	3,750 lb/ft track load
Student Union – Hamilton Hall	Pedestrian Traffic Only
University Hall – Student Success Center	40,000 lb. axle load
	5,500 lb/ft track load
Rike Hall – University Hall	24,000 lb. axle load
	4,300 lb/ft track load
University Hall – Medical Science Building	24,000 lb. axle load
	4,300 lb/ft track load

