The Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) system is a visual survey method for evaluating the condition of roads. The method was developed by the University of Wisconsin Transportation Information Center to provide a simple, efficient, and consistent method for evaluating road condition. Michigan’s Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) has adopted the PASER system for measuring statewide pavement conditions in Michigan.

This manual describes the requirements and processes involved in collecting PASER data for TAMC in conjunction with the RPO/MPOs. It also includes information on how to split segments, rate sealcoats, and double-check collected PASER in Roadsoft.

Part of TAMC’s mission is to obtain accurate PASER that provides a clear view of the condition of the road network in Michigan. TAMC uses these ratings to communicate the condition of Michigan roads to the Michigan Legislature. At the local level, this data serves as the foundation upon which to build cost-effective pavement maintenance strategies.

TAMC chose Roadsoft—a roadway management system for collecting, storing and analyzing data—for use in developing its statewide pavement rating collection strategy. Roadsoft is funded through the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and developed, supported, and distributed by Michigan Technological University’s Center for Technology & Training (CTT).

TAMC also works in conjunction with Michigan’s Regional/Metropolitan Planning Organizations (RPO/MPO) to collect PASER data. Although these regional organizations operate under many different names and serve a variety of different areas, they all participate in coordinating and performing PASER data collection.