

# Bridge collapses into Mississippi

The dramatic rush hour bridge collapse in Minneapolis-St Paul, which killed at least seven people, has been called a sign of America's widespread problem with its ageing infrastructure. Over the past 10 years there has been an average of one bridge failure in the U.S. every week

## Minneapolis-St Paul

### Interstate 35W bridge:

Built 1967, average traffic of 100,000 vehicles per day

Width: 33m, 8 lanes

Before

After

St Paul

Wednesday, 18:05:

50 vehicles hurled into river when bridge suddenly buckles and plunges 20 metres

Main span: 147.8m

Mississippi River

■ **U.S. – Apr 2007:** Section of freeway off San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge collapses after tanker truck overturns

■ **Canada – Sep 2006:** Bridge collapse in Quebec kills five people

■ **Spain – Nov 2005:** Section of bridge under construction near Granada collapses, killing six people

■ **U.S. – May 2003:** Truck hits bridge support in western Nebraska, causing bridge to collapse, one killed

■ **U.S. – May 2002:** 152m section of bridge spanning Arkansas River in Oklahoma collapses and kills 14 people after being hit by barge

■ **China – Jul 2002:** Two bridges collapse, killing 19 people

■ **U.S. – Sep 2001:** Queen Isabella Causeway in Texas collapses after string of barges collides with bridge support. Eight people killed

■ **Portugal – Mar 2001:** Bridge collapses after heavy rain, causing tour bus to plunge into river, killing 50

■ **Germany – Jun 1998:** Train derails in Hanover, causing overpass to collapse. 101 people killed

■ **U.S. – Apr 1987:** Bridge on state thruway near Amsterdam, New York, gives way, killing 10 people

■ **U.S. – May 1980:** Sunshine Skyway Bridge in Tampa Bay collapses when ship hits bridge during storm. 35 killed