Part 1

State-by-State Summaries

Alabama

Performance: Improved in 3 / Worsened in 3 Categories

Between 1989 and 2008, Alabama improved in only three key categories of highway performance. It grew worse in three others. It improved the state of its deficient bridges, it lowered its highway fatality rate, and it minimized the amount of narrow lanes on its major rural primary roads. However, Alabama also saw the state of rural and urban interstate roads deteriorate, and suffered a considerable increase in congestion on urban interstate roads.

It is interesting to note that Alabama had far fewer deficient bridges in 2008 than it did 1989, a decrease of 26.1 percentage points—almost double the U.S. average over that time period. However, its urban congestion increased by 22.7 percentage points, well above the U.S. average decrease of only 4 percentage points.

Category ......................................................... Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008
Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency ................................................................. 43
State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008) .................. 25
Rural Interstate in Poor Condition .................................................................................. 46
Rural Arterials in Poor Condition ................................................................................ 30
Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes .............................................................................. 11
Urban Interstates in Poor Condition .......................................................................... 33
Urban Interstate Congestion ......................................................................................... 47
Deficient Bridges ......................................................................................................... 5
Fatality Rate ................................................................................................................ 22
Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease) .......... 46