

Arkansas

Performance: Improved in 5 / Worsened in 2 Categories



Arkansas improved in five key categories between 1989 and 2008, and declined in just two. It made a small amount of progress in taking care of its rural and urban interstate roads, it lowered its highway fatality rates, and it significantly reduced its quantity of narrow lanes on major rural primary roads. However, urban interstate congestion increased greatly and Arkansas saw slightly more rural arterial roads in poor condition in 2008 than in 1989.

Although Arkansas may have technically improved the state of its rural interstate and urban interstate roads, the improvements were almost insignificant—0.9 and 0.5 percentage points respectively— and well below national average improvements. Similarly, although the condition of Arkansas’s rural arterial roads worsened in technical terms, the change was nearly insignificant. Arkansas did, however, have 45.4% urban interstate congestion in 2008, up from just 26.8% in 1989.

Category	Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008
Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency	23
State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008)	15
Rural Interstate in Poor Condition.....	31
Rural Arterials in Poor Condition	40
Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes	3
Urban Interstates in Poor Condition.....	27
Urban Interstate Congestion.....	44
Deficient Bridges.....	14
Fatality Rate	4
Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease).....	23