Michigan

Michigan was able to improve in five key measures of its highways, while worsening in only two between 1989 and 2008. Although the state’s road conditions deteriorated on rural and urban interstates, they did slightly improve on rural arterial roads. Michigan was able to lower congestion, improve the state of its deficient bridges, lower its fatality rate, and reduce the amount of narrow lanes on major rural primaries.

According to the data, many of Michigan’s improvements were well under the U.S. national average. For instance, urban congestion improved from 70.1% to 68.1%, dropping only 2 percentage points (the U.S. average was 4 percentage points). The state’s one area of major improvement was minimizing the amount of narrow lanes on major rural primaries. These dropped by 9.5 percentage points, well above the U.S. average of 3.3 percentage points.

Category .................................................. Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008
Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency ................................................................. 30
State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008) ............ 30
Rural Interstate in Poor Condition .................................................................................. 44
Rural Arterials in Poor Condition .................................................................................. 24
Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes .................................................................................. 7
Urban Interstates in Poor Condition .............................................................................. 42
Urban Interstate Congestion .......................................................................................... 27
Deficient Bridges ......................................................................................................... 29
Fatality Rate .................................................................................................................. 14
Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease) .... 28