

## Mississippi

Performance: Improved in 2 / Worsened in 4 Categories



Mississippi only managed to improve in two categories while declining in four between 1989 and 2008. Its percentage of rural interstate roads in poor condition stayed the same, while its percentage of urban interstate roads and rural arterial roads in poor condition rose slightly. Urban congestion increased, as did the amount of narrow lanes on rural primary roads. The state did, however, vastly improve its deficient bridges and lowered its fatality rate.

Although the data tells us that Mississippi highway infrastructure declined significantly, a closer look renders the outlook less unhappy. For example, although road conditions did not improve in any category, they only declined slightly or stayed constant. And although urban congestion increased by 21.7 percentage points, the sixth biggest deterioration in the country, urban interstate congestion was still only 29.8% in 2008, well below the U.S. average of 48.6%. Mississippi did manage to have its percentage of deficient bridges drop 31.7 percentage points, the biggest improvement in the country in that category.

<b>Category .....</b>	<b>Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008</b>
Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency .....	45
State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008) .....	26
Rural Interstate in Poor Condition.....	35
Rural Arterials in Poor Condition .....	37
Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes .....	48
Urban Interstates in Poor Condition.....	32
Urban Interstate Congestion.....	45
Deficient Bridges.....	1
Fatality Rate .....	3
Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease).....	18