

Montana

Performance: Improved in 6 Categories



Between 1989 and 2008, Montana managed to improve in six key metrics of highway infrastructure, and did not worsen in any. Across the board, the state improved road conditions, seeing fewer roads in poor condition among rural interstates, urban interstates and rural arterials. The state improved its deficient bridges and slightly improved its fatality rate, while also lowering the amount of narrow lanes on its rural primary roads.

Montana was able to take care of road conditions, exceeding the national average improvement among rural interstates, urban interstates and rural arterials (rural arterials, for instance, dropped from 16.7% in poor condition to 0%, the second biggest improvement in the country). The state maintained urban congestion at 0% between 1989 and 2008, a difficult feat. One cause for concern was that the highway fatality rate only improved by 0.07, the second lowest improvement in the country. The state had the worst fatality rate in the country in 2008 at 2.12 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles.

Category	Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008
Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency	5
State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008)	24
Rural Interstate in Poor Condition.....	8
Rural Arterials in Poor Condition	2
Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes	15
Urban Interstates in Poor Condition.....	15
Urban Interstate Congestion.....	30
Deficient Bridges.....	31
Fatality Rate	49
Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease).....	35