Between 1989 and 2008, North Dakota managed to improve in five categories of highway infrastructure, and did not get worse in any. Road conditions improved on rural interstates and rural arterials, and stayed constant on urban interstates. Urban congestion remained at zero, the number of deficient bridges was drastically reduced, and the amount of narrow lanes on rural primaries was lowered. The highway fatality rate, however, only improved very slightly.

Roads in poor condition, which were few in number to begin with, reached zero or near-zero levels between 1989 and 2008. The amount of deficient bridges also dropped by 30.6 percentage points, the third best improvement in the country. The one concern was that the highway fatality rate only improved by 0.05, the smallest improvement in the country. Apart from that, North Dakota was one of the most successful states in the U.S. in terms of its highway infrastructure.

### Category ........................................... Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008

- Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency ................................................................. 1
- State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008) .................. 37
- Rural Interstate in Poor Condition ....................................................................................... 34
- Rural Arterials in Poor Condition ......................................................................................... 12
- Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes ....................................................................................... 12
- Urban Interstates in Poor Condition .................................................................................... 28
- Urban Interstate Congestion ................................................................................................. 31
- Deficient Bridges .................................................................................................................. 3
- Fatality Rate .......................................................................................................................... 50
- Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease) .... 10