

New Mexico

Performance: Improved in 6 / Worsened in 1 Category



Between 1989 and 2008, New Mexico improved in six key categories of its highway infrastructure, while only worsening in one. The condition of rural interstate, urban interstate and rural arterial roads improved. Deficient bridges were also taken care of. In addition, the state experienced a drastic reduction in highway fatalities and reduced the amount of narrow lanes on rural primaries. Urban congestion, however, increased slightly.

The percentage of roads in poor condition fell to zero or near-zero levels throughout the state. In addition, although urban congestion rose, it was only by 0.6 percentage points. Furthermore, the 2008 level of congestion in New Mexico—18.7%—was far lower than the national average of 48.6%. The other statistic that stood out was the fatality rate, which improved by 2.01 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles. This was the biggest improvement in the entire country.

Category	Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008
Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency	15
State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008)	20
Rural Interstate in Poor Condition.....	33
Rural Arterials in Poor Condition	27
Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes	16
Urban Interstates in Poor Condition.....	20
Urban Interstate Congestion.....	33
Deficient Bridges.....	37
Fatality Rate	1
Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease).....	41