

Tennessee

Performance: Improved in 7 Categories



Tennessee managed to improve on all seven key measures of its highways between 1989 and 2008, one of only 11 states to do so. There were across the board improvements in the condition of rural interstate, urban interstate and rural arterial roads. Urban congestion and the proportion of deficient bridges in the state were significantly improved. The state was additionally able to improve its highway fatality rate and minimize the amount of narrow lanes on its rural primary roads.

Tennessee was particularly successful in taking care of its roads, improving road conditions on rural interstates, urban interstates and rural arterials. In fact, the proportion of urban interstate roads in poor condition fell by 16 percentage points, the fifth biggest improvement in the country. Furthermore, as well as improving in all seven categories, Tennessee eclipsed the national average improvements in many cases, making it one of the most successful states in the U.S. in terms of highway infrastructure.

Category	Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008
Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency	7
State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008)	17
Rural Interstate in Poor Condition.....	19
Rural Arterials in Poor Condition	15
Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes	9
Urban Interstates in Poor Condition	5
Urban Interstate Congestion.....	19
Deficient Bridges.....	9
Fatality Rate	23
Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease).....	48