

West Virginia

Performance: Improved in 4 / Worsened in 3 Categories



West Virginia improved on four key measures of highway performance between 1989 and 2008, but also got worse in three categories. Although the state did manage to improve its percentage of urban interstates in poor condition, the state of its rural interstates and rural arterials deteriorated.

Additionally, the proportion of narrow lanes on rural primaries increased considerably. West Virginia was successful in some categories, however. Urban congestion was vastly reduced, the percentage of deficient bridges was significantly improved, and the highway fatality rate was lowered.

According to the data, the state dropped its urban interstate congestion by 14.7 percentage points to just 7.5% in 2008. Additionally, West Virginia had the highest proportion of deficient bridges in 1989 at 61.3% and improved in this category by 24.9 percentage points. One source of failure was the state’s proportion of narrow lanes on rural arterials, which increased by 11.9 percentage points, the worst decline in the country in this category.

Category	Rank Showing Most Improvement 1989–2008
Overall Performance and Spending Efficiency	39
State-Administered Highway Mileage (ranked largest to smallest based on system size in 2008)	6
Rural Interstate in Poor Condition.....	38
Rural Arterials in Poor Condition	46
Rural Arterials with Narrow Lanes	50
Urban Interstates in Poor Condition	14
Urban Interstate Congestion.....	11
Deficient Bridges.....	6
Fatality Rate	6
Total Disbursements Per Mile (1=biggest spending increase, 50=biggest spending decrease).....	43