

Rhode Island

Rank in 2009: 49

Rank in 2008: 50

Rank in 2007: 49



Rhode Island's state highway system is ranked 49th in the nation in overall highway performance and efficiency in the latest *Annual Highway Report* by Reason Foundation. The state ranked last, 50th, in the previous report.

With 1,112 miles in the state-owned highway system, Rhode Island is the 2nd smallest system in the nation. However, disbursements per mile are 2.4 times higher than the national average, ranking 42nd in per-mile spending.

Despite this level of spending, the highway system has three significant problem areas: deficient bridges (which are 2.25 times the national average, ranked 50th—last), rural arterials in poor condition (which are almost 16 times the national average—ranked 49th) and urban interstate congestion (23 percent above the national average—ranked 42nd). The state's fatality rate ranks 19th.

The bottom line is that Rhode Island is spending two to three times the national per-mile average on its state road system, but its rural non-interstate roads, deficient bridges and urban congestion aren't improving.

Rhode Island	State Data			State Rank			Ratio to U.S. Data		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Capital-Bridge Disbursements per Mile	232,891	158,996	135,032	47	43	37	3.04	2.06	1.69
Maintenance Disbursements per Mile	80,457	80,506	98,270	47	46	47	3.37	3.51	3.85
Administrative Disbursements per Mile	47,775	19,270	27,782	46	36	42	4.92	1.46	2.45
Total Disbursement per Mile	436,320	361,089	345,970	46	43	42	3.26	2.49	2.39
Rural Interstate Percent Poor Condition	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1	1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rural Other Principal Arterial Percent Poor	10.20	10.20	10.20	49	49	49	15.89	19.34	15.80
Urban Interstate Percent Poor	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1	1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban Interstate Percent Congested	59.52	56.00	57.34	41	41	42	1.18	1.15	1.23
Rural Arterial Percent Narrow Lanes	2.08	4.17	6.35	15	19	27	0.20	0.41	0.66
Percent of Deficient Bridges	52.94	53.43	52.85	50	50	50	2.09	2.20	2.25
Fatality Rate	0.80	0.79	1.01	2	3	19	0.59	0.63	0.89
Overall Performance	3.00	2.92	2.75	49	50	49			