



# Measuring Transportation Investments: The Road to Results

## Illinois is one of 19 states with mixed results

in having the essential tools—goals, performance measures and data—needed to help decision makers choose more cost-effective transportation funding and policy options.

Illinois does well in tracking its transportation system's results in the areas of access and mobility; the state has performance measures, timely data and targets for benchmarking progress toward both goals. Policy makers can see, for example, that ridership on Amtrak—an important transportation option for Illinoisans—increased as the system's on-time performance improved between fiscal years 2008 and 2009, and whether senior citizens use and are satisfied with public transit. But Illinois has room for improvement when it comes to assessing transportation's success in driving jobs and commerce and environmental stewardship. In the area of jobs and commerce, for example, the state does not provide explanations for changes in its performance, so decision makers may not understand what is working and what is not.

**\$5.7 BILLION** The state spent an estimated \$5.7 billion on transportation in fiscal year 2010.\*

## HOW IS THE STATE DOING?

Does it have the tools to ensure transportation spending and policy decisions are advancing six key goals?

- Leading the Way
- Mixed Results
- Trailing Behind

- SAFETY
- JOBS & COMMERCE
- MOBILITY
- ACCESS
- ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP
- INFRASTRUCTURE PRESERVATION
- OVERALL

\*National Association of State Budget Officers State Expenditure Report 2010.

METHODOLOGY: States were given one of three ratings—leading the way, showing mixed results or trailing behind—based on whether they have the goals, performance measures and data needed to help decision makers ensure their surface transportation systems are advancing six key goals. The ratings are based on 10 criteria. Each state was rated for its performance in each of the six goal areas and given an overall rating.

SOURCES: Illinois Department of Transportation, "A Tradition of Service: Annual Report 2009," March 2010, [http://dot.state.il.us/annualreport/2009/FINAL2009AnnualReport\\_031710.pdf](http://dot.state.il.us/annualreport/2009/FINAL2009AnnualReport_031710.pdf); State of Illinois Office of the Comptroller, "Public Accountability Report: Fiscal Year 2009," May 2010, <http://www.apps.ioc.state.il.us/ioc-pdf/PAR2009.pdf>; Illinois Center for Transportation, "Effectiveness of Transit Strategies Targeting Elderly People: Survey Results and Preliminary Data Analysis," February 2009, <http://ict.illinois.edu/publications/report%20files/FHWA-ICT-09-033.pdf>. Sources accessed April 1, 2011.