

## **Measuring Transportation Investments:** The Road to Results

Oklahoma is one of 19 states trailing behind in having the essential tools—goals, performance measures and data—needed to help decision makers choose more cost-effective transportation funding and policy options.

Like all states, Oklahoma fares well in ensuring its transportation system is measuring its progress in advancing safety, a key policy goal. With other important goals, many of Oklahoma's challenges are a matter of following through on promising efforts. For example, when it comes to access, the state tracks transit trips by rural seniors and disabled individuals, an important performance measure, but it does not set targets to help gauge success. Similarly, in the area of jobs and commerce, Oklahoma tracks freight movement, but the data are not timely. And the state has established transportation-related goals to protect and enhance the environment and promote energy conservation, but it does not present performance measures or information about its progress.

The state spent an estimated \$1.55 billion on transportation BILLION in fiscal year 2010.\*



\*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: Parsons Brinckerhoff/PB Consult, "Intermodal Element: 2005-2030 Oklahoma Statewide Intermodal Transportation Plan," prepared for Oklahoma Department of Transportation (DOT), April 2005, http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/hqdiv/p-r-div/25yearplan/pdfs2030/25yearplan. pdf; Parsons Brinckerhoff, "2010-2035 Oklahoma Long Range Transportation Plan," prepared for DOT, December 6, 2010, 2-7, http://www. okladot.state.ok.us/p-r-div/lrp\_2010-2035/lrp\_2010-2035\_with-maps.pdf. Sources accessed February 28, 2011.



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