



Measuring Transportation Investments: The Road to Results

Utah is one of 13 states leading the way in having the essential tools—goals, performance measures and data—needed to help decision makers choose more cost-effective transportation funding and policy options.

The state is a national leader in measuring its transportation system's progress in advancing five key policy goals: safety, infrastructure preservation, mobility, access and environmental stewardship. In the area of mobility, for example, Utah tracks performance measures such as the time it takes to clear accidents, and it compares its performance to previous years to gauge improvement. The state reports road condition data by type of road to focus more of its resources on maintaining the most heavily traveled routes, which deteriorate more quickly and are more costly to repair. In the area of environmental stewardship, Utah tracks emissions from transit. The state has some room for improvement in measuring transportation's progress in advancing jobs and commerce.

\$2.26 BILLION The state spent an estimated \$2.26 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: Pew Center on the States interview with Stan Burns and Austin Baysinger, Utah Department of Transportation (DOT), December 16, 2010; DOT, "2011 Strategic Direction and Performance Measures," <http://www.udot.utah.gov/main/uconowner.gf?n=4309713963076909>, and "UDOT Statewide Intercity Bus Study," February 2010, <http://www.udot.utah.gov/main/uconowner.gf?n=13066708739966547>; Utah Transit Authority, "2009 Sustainability Report," 2009, <http://www.rideuta.com/uploads/2009SustainabilityReport.pdf>. Sources accessed April 2011.