

Measuring Transportation Investments: The Road to Results

Wyoming 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.

The state is a leader in measuring its transportation system's progress in advancing safety and infrastructure preservation. But it lacks the capacity to assess transportation's role in driving four other key policy goals, including mobility, access, and jobs and commerce. For example, Wyoming tracks data core to mobility, including both car and truck traffic, but it does not compare that information to other benchmarks, such as its own past performance or that of other states, that could help decision makers gauge progress. In the area of jobs and commerce, the state does not have goals, performance measures or data to track transportation's efforts to advance that key policy objective.

\$1.01 BILLION

The state spent an estimated \$1.01 billion on transportation 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: Pew Center on the States interview with Martin Kidner, Wyoming Department of Transportation (DOT), October 27, 2010; DOT, "Wyoming Connects: The Long Range Transportation Plan," 2010, http://www.dot.state.wy.us/webdav/site/wydot/shared/Planning/Long%20 Range%20Transportation%20Plan%202010.pdf (accessed April 7, 2011).



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