



# State of the Highway System:

## Asset Condition and System Performance

In 2022, America's public road network spanned more than 4.2 million miles and included more than 620,000 bridges—an infrastructure system vital to the Nation's mobility, economy, and daily life. That year, people drove for a total of 3.2 trillion vehicle miles traveled (VMT)—that's more than 92,000 trips to the sun and back.

Although they represent only a quarter of total mileage, Federal-aid highways carried 85 percent of all vehicle travel. The National Highway System (NHS), a subset of Federal-aid highways, accounts for just 5.2 percent of total mileage but carried 55 percent of total traffic in 2022. Within the NHS, the 48,890 mile Interstate System—1 percent of total mileage—moved more than one-quarter of national traffic.

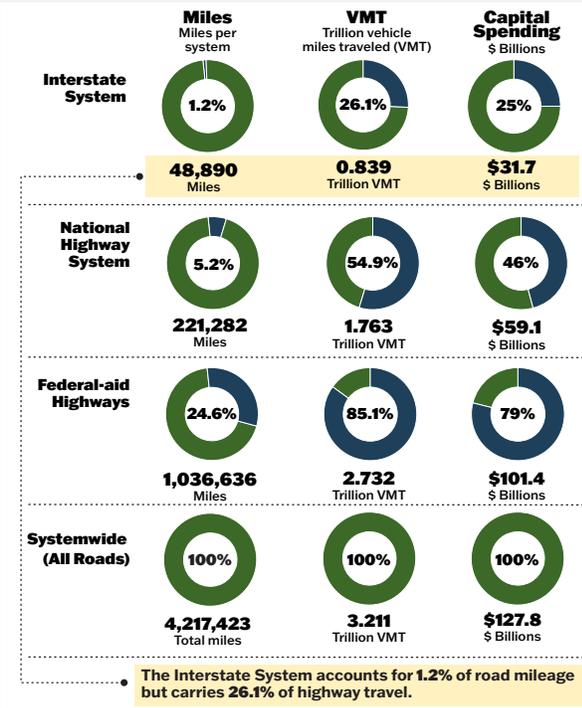
### Highway Funding

Highway investment remained a national priority in 2022, with combined highway expenditures by all levels of government totaling \$265.3 billion, with almost half, or \$127.8 billion, allocated to capital outlay. In contrast, overall revenue for highways reached \$364.5 billion, leaving a \$99.2 billion surplus. This surplus was largely driven by a one-time \$90 billion general fund transfer under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the largest transfer ever recorded. User charges such as fuel taxes, tolls, and vehicle fees accounted for 37 percent of total highway revenue, indicating a growing reliance on general funds and other non-user sources.

### Highway Spending Trends

Over the past decade, highway capital investment has not kept pace with inflation. While nominal capital spending grew by 21 percent between 2012 and 2022, the Federal Highway Administration Office of Transportation Policy Studies found that inflation-adjusted figures reveal a 25 percent decline. The Federal share of capital expenditures slipped slightly, from 43 to 42.5 percent, while State and local governments shouldered more of the burden. Spending priorities also shifted: In 2022, 64 percent of capital expenditures went to system rehabilitation, up from 59 percent a decade earlier, while the share devoted to system expansion declined from 25.8 to 21.5 percent.

### 2022 United States Highway System Statistics



Source: FHWA, Office of Transportation Policy Studies.  
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