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# ADVOCATE FOR TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

*Tangible Result Driver – Jay Wunderlich, Governmental Relations Director*

Transportation issues can be extremely diverse and complex. An efficient transportation system requires leadership and, most importantly, a champion to ensure the resources support projects that will help the department fulfill its responsibilities to the taxpayers. MoDOT will be an advocate for transportation.



## Number of engagements with Missouri’s congressional members, statewide elected officials, and legislators-17a

**Result Driver:** Jay Wunderlich, Governmental Relations Director

**Measurement Driver:** Lisa LeMaster, Senior Governmental Relations Specialist

**Purpose of the Measure:**

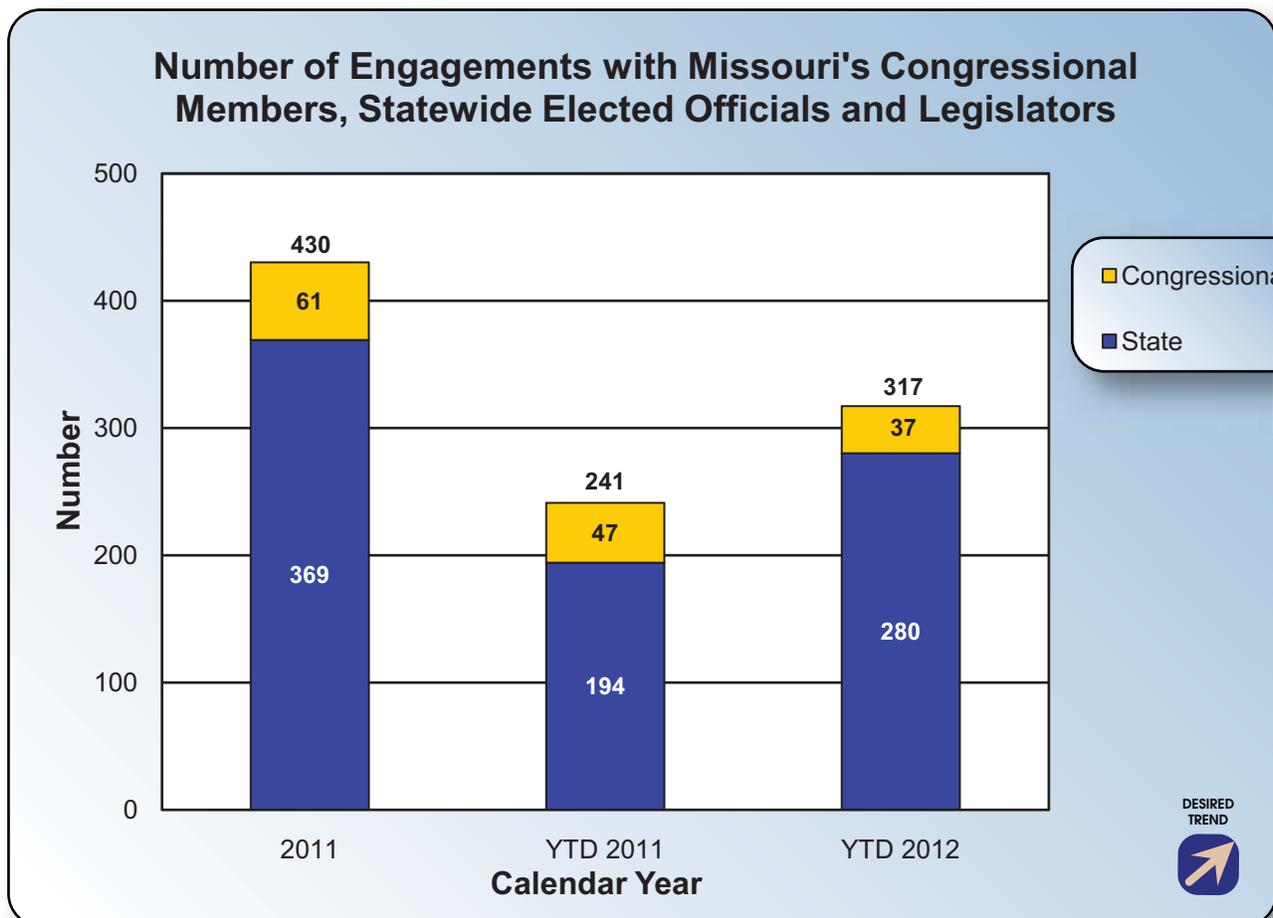
This measure tracks the number of formal legislative contacts between MoDOT and Missouri’s congressional members, statewide elected officials, and Missouri’s legislators for the purpose of either responding to inquiries or to inform the elected officials of important transportation-related issues. This measure includes contacts with the elected official’s staff members.

**Improvement Status:**

During the second quarter of 2012, MoDOT reported 317 engagements with Missouri’s congressional members, statewide elected officials and legislators. Of these engagements, 37 were with congressional members and 280 were with statewide elected officials and legislators. While the total number of legislative engagements increased by 63 percent over the same period in 2011, the number of engagements with Missouri’s congressional members decreased by more than 21 percent. The increase at the state level is partly attributable to a large number of introductory meetings with new department area engineers.

**Measurement and Data Collection:**

District customer relations managers and central office divisions collect contact information and report the information to the Governmental Relations Unit where the data is compiled to create a statewide report. This is a quarterly measure.



## Number of transportation-related legislative issues-17b

**Result Driver:** Jay Wunderlich, Governmental Relations Director

**Measurement Driver:** Lisa LeMaster, Senior Governmental Relations Specialist

### Purpose of the Measure:

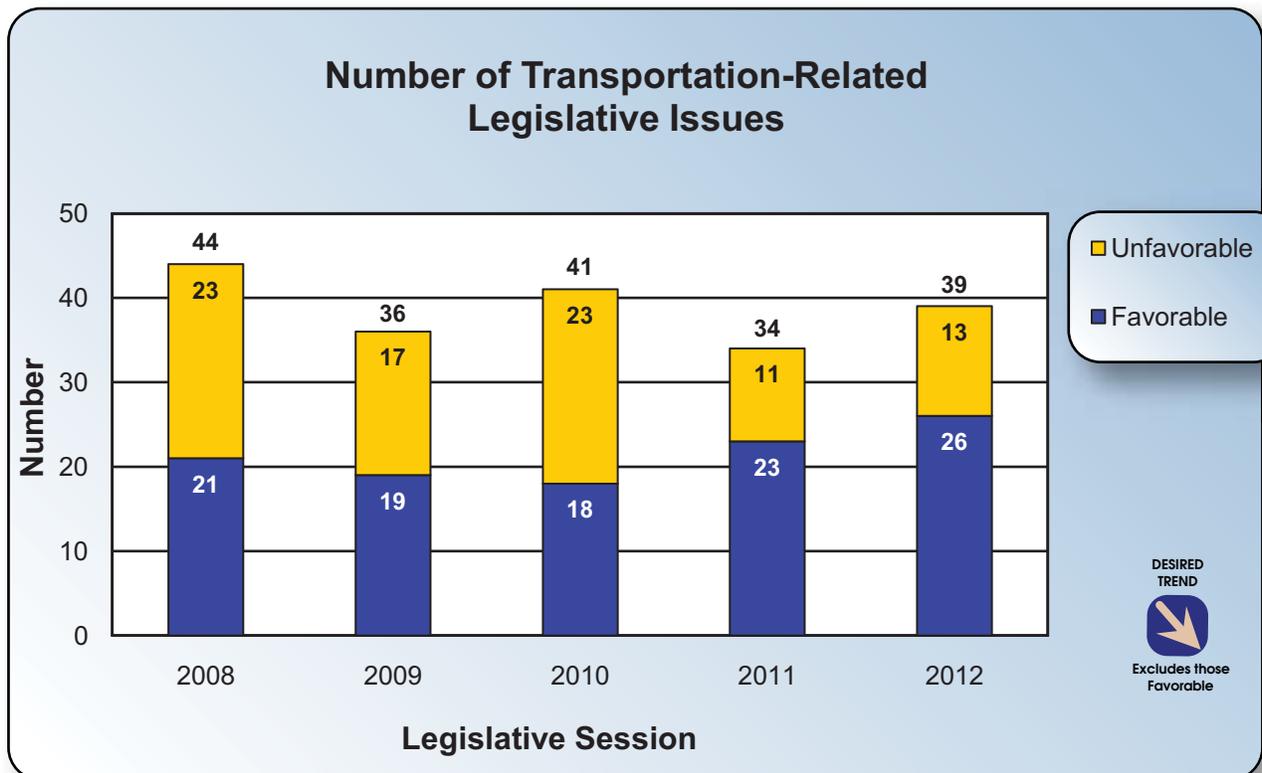
This measure tracks significant transportation-related legislative issues filed by the General Assembly. Significant transportation-related legislative issues are either favorable or unfavorable as they relate to transportation resources, supporting transportation projects, creating efficiency within the department, or promoting roadway safety. This measure reflects the need for continuous and effective communication between the department and Missouri legislators.

### Measurement and Data Collection:

Data is obtained by reviewing both the Senate and House websites for legislation in the transportation subject categories. Each bill is then reviewed to determine whether it contains an issue(s) that is favorable or unfavorable to transportation. The graph illustrates the total favorable transportation-related issues filed compared to the total unfavorable transportation-related issues filed. This measure is updated in July.

### Improvement Status:

MoDOT's desired trend as an advocate for transportation is to see a larger number of favorable transportation-related issues filed when compared to unfavorable transportation-related issues filed. Over the past five years, the percentage of transportation-related bills filed has remained fairly steady. During the 2012 session, a total 1,713 bills were filed with about 13 percent being transportation-related or 219 transportation bills. Within these transportation-related bills, there were 39 significant transportation-related issues. This is nearly a 15 percent increase from the previous session. Of the 39 significant issues, 26 were favorable and 13 were unfavorable. While both favorable and unfavorable issues increased, this is the second year in a row with more favorable issues being filed than unfavorable.



## Number of proactive communication efforts initiated specifically to advocate for key transportation issues-17c

**Result Driver:** Jay Wunderlich, Governmental Relations Director

**Measurement Driver:** Bob Brendel, Special Assignments Coordinator

### Purpose of the Measure:

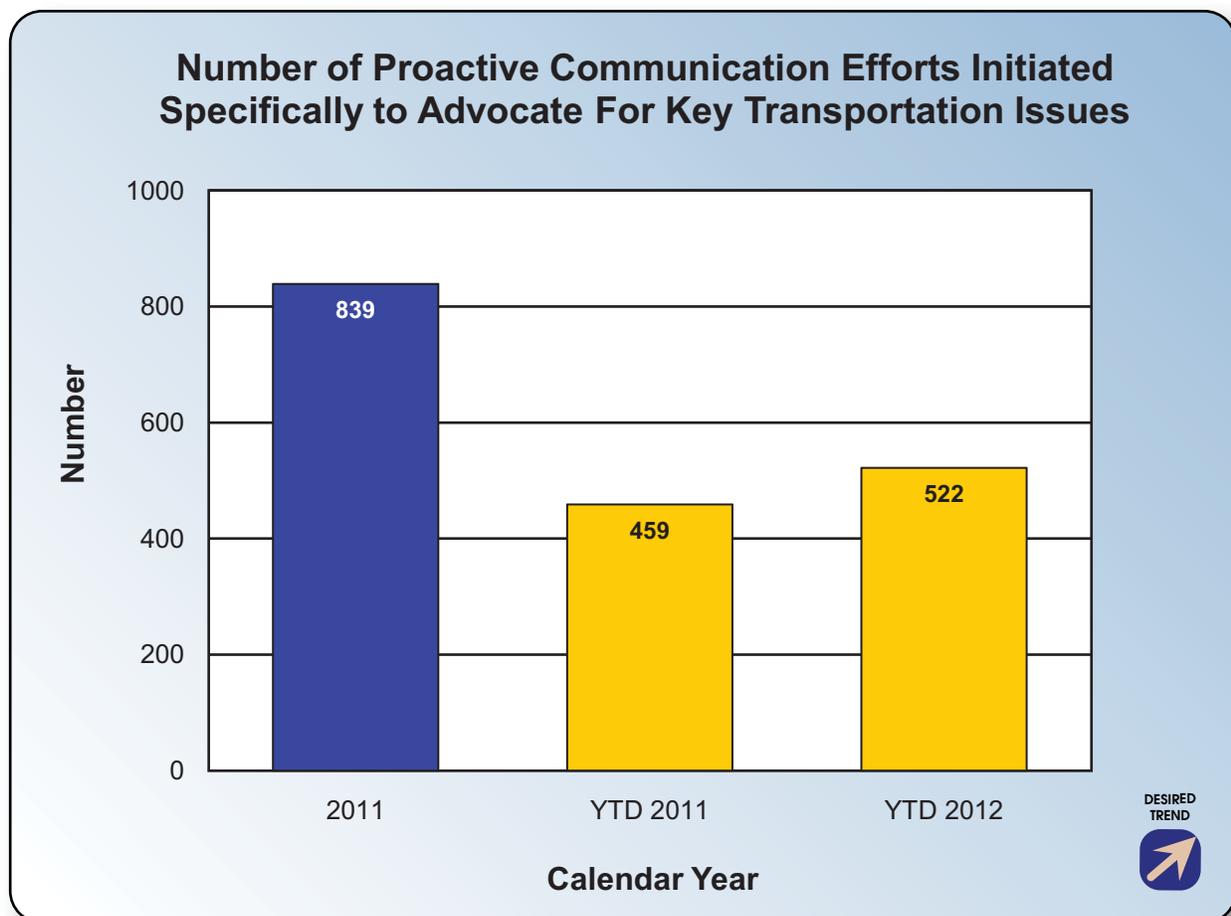
This measure tracks the number of proactive communication efforts initiated specifically to advocate for key transportation issues.

### Measurement and Data Collection:

District customer relations managers will track any external communication efforts (e.g., news releases, public appearances, events) that are initiated specifically to communicate MoDOT's Bolder Five-Year Direction and/or to discuss challenges related to transportation funding.

### Improvement Status:

Continued discussion in the Legislature about public-private partnerships and other potential sources of additional transportation investment drove MoDOT's efforts to advocate for key transportation issues during the second quarter of 2012. That effort intensified as the Blue Ribbon Citizens Committee on Missouri's Transportation Needs began holding its series of meetings across the state in May and June.



## Percent of customers who view MoDOT as Missouri's transportation expert-17d

**Result Driver:** Jay Wunderlich, Governmental Relations Director

**Measurement Driver:** Amy Niederhelm, Intermediate Governmental Relations Specialist

### Purpose of the Measure:

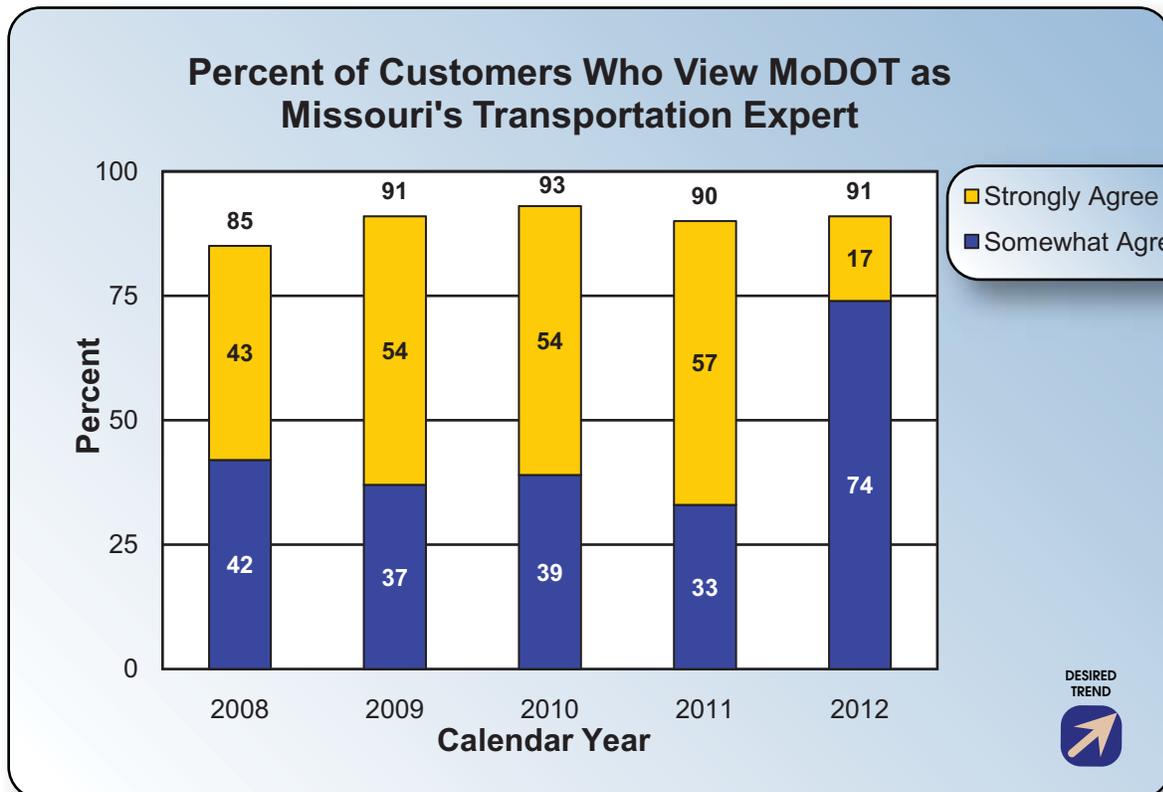
This measure tracks the percent of customers who view MoDOT as a leader and expert in transportation issues. The measure shows the department how effectively MoDOT conveys its expertise to the traveling public.

### Measurement and Data Collection:

Data is collected each May when more than 3,500 randomly selected Missourians are interviewed. MoDOT surveys public opinion on a yearly basis to determine whether or not the public views MoDOT as the primary transportation expert in Missouri. This is an annual measure updated in July.

### Improvement Status:

The current information shows that 91 percent of respondents indicate MoDOT is the transportation expert they rely upon. This represents an increase of 1 percent since last year's survey. While the percentage of Missourians answering "strongly agree" decreased by 40 percent, the 41 percent increase in the "somewhat agree" response resulted in only 9 percent of Missourians disagreeing. MoDOT continues to work on improving partnerships with citizens, legislators and special interest groups promoting MoDOT as a transportation expert. Ways to accomplish this include increasing awareness of MoDOT's responsibilities and services for the traveling public.



**Percent of customers who trust MoDOT to keep its commitments-17e** **New!**

**Result Driver:** Jay Wunderlich, Governmental Relations Director

**Measurement Driver:** Amy Niederhelm, Intermediate Governmental Relations Specialist

**Purpose of the Measure:**

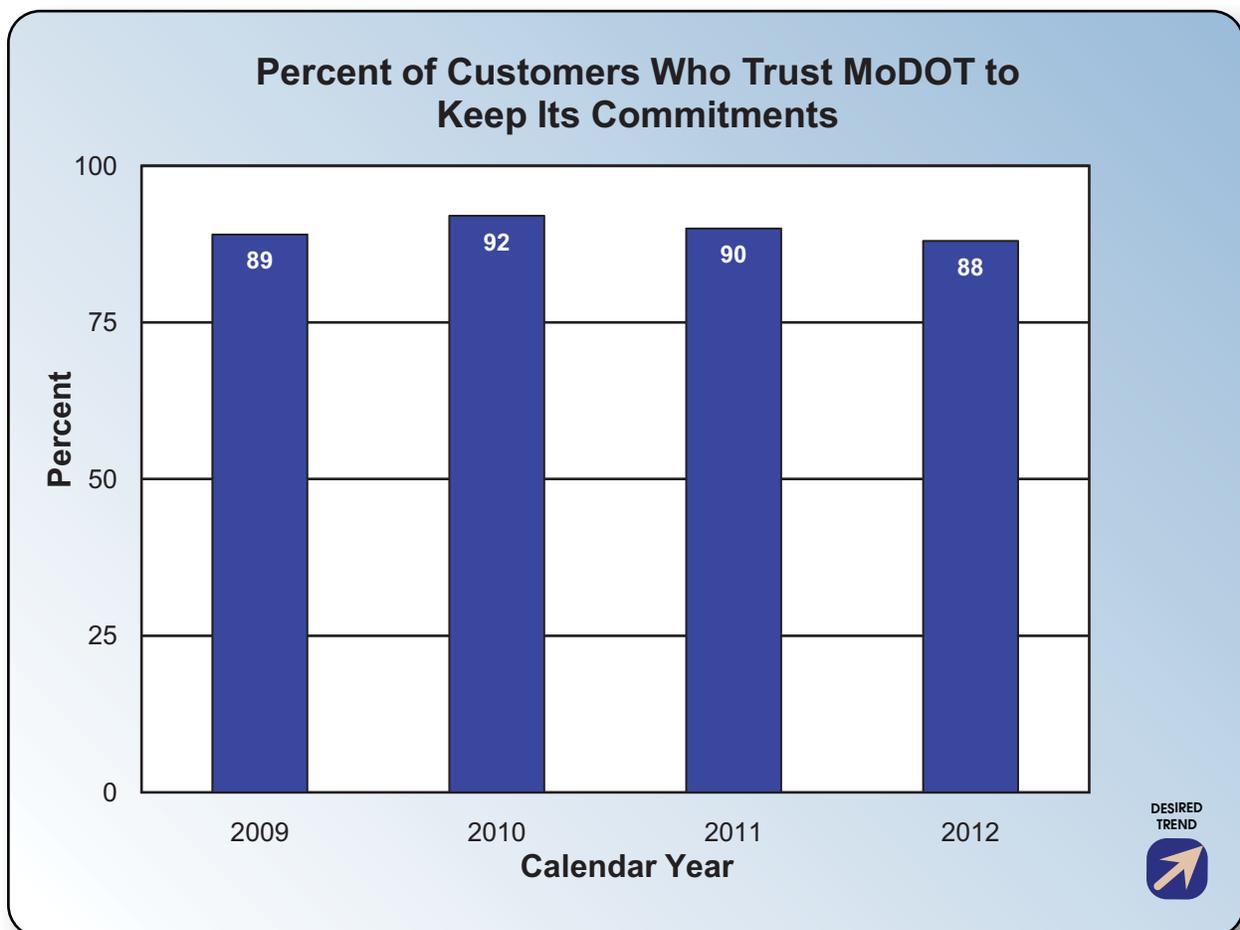
This measure tracks the percent of customers who trust MoDOT to keep its commitments. Public trust is an important component in building support for transportation issues.

**Measurement and Data Collection:**

Data is collected each May when more than 3,500 randomly selected Missourians are interviewed. MoDOT surveys public opinion on a yearly basis to determine whether or not the public trusts MoDOT to keep its commitments. This is an annual measure updated in July.

**Improvement Status:**

The current information shows that 88 percent of Missourians trust MoDOT to keep its commitments. This represents a decrease of 2 percent since last year's survey. While the overall level of trust continues to be high for a public agency, this year's survey results continue a slight downward trend over the past three years.



## Percent of public support by transportation funding source-17f

**Result Driver:** Jay Wunderlich, Governmental Relations Director

**Measurement Driver:** Doug Hood, Financial Services Manager

**Purpose of the Measure:**

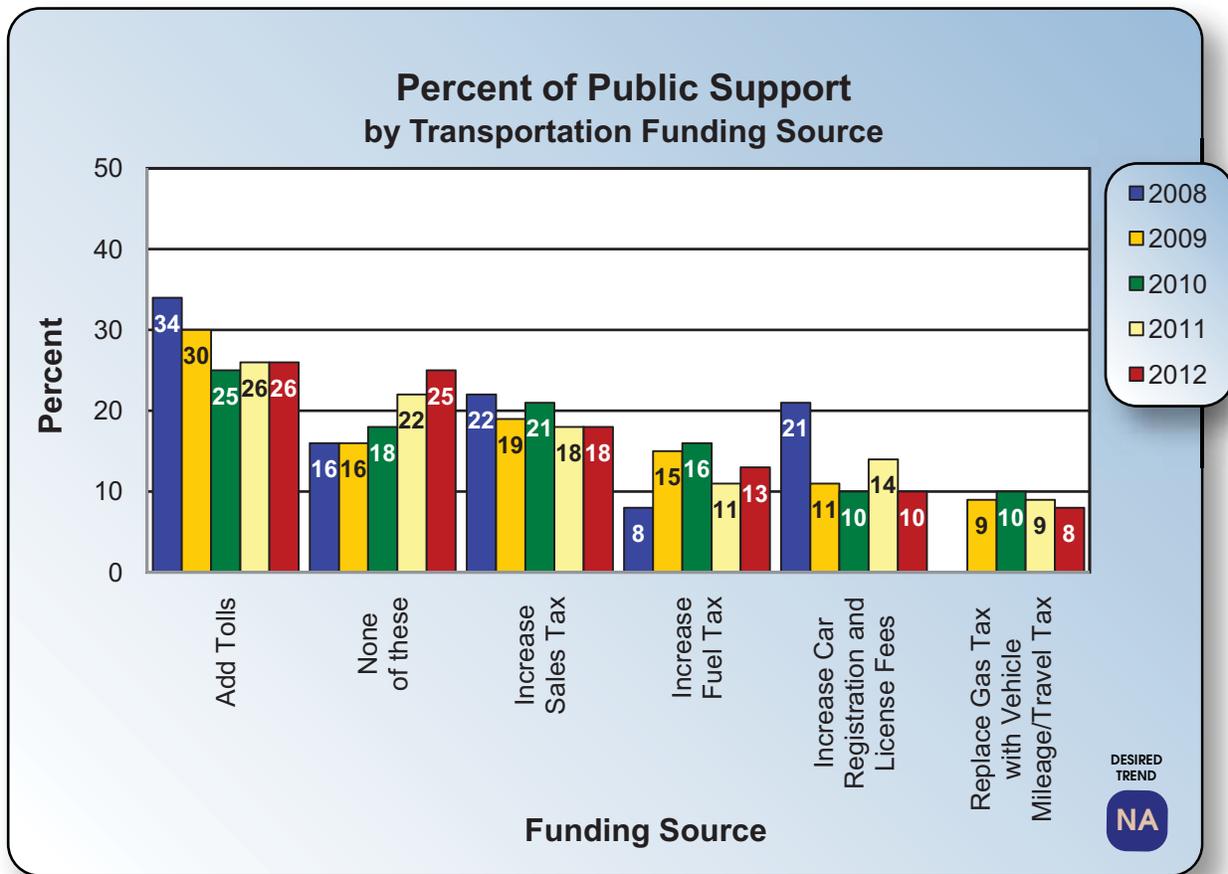
This measure tracks the public’s preference in transportation funding sources.

**Measurement and Data Collection:**

MoDOT asks Missourians through an annual statewide telephone customer satisfaction survey, “If it was determined that the state needs to increase revenues to adequately fund Missouri state highways and roads, which one of the following methods would be most acceptable to you?” In 2009, the revenue source option of replacing the gas tax with vehicle mileage/travel tax was added to the survey. This is an annual measure updated in July.

**Improvement Status:**

The survey reveals the public continues to prefer an increase in transportation funding from tolls as their first choice. In 2012, increasing fuel tax rose to fourth place with 13 percent support, while 25 percent of citizens polled did not support any of the funding sources. Support for increasing sales tax continues to decline.



## MoDOT national ranking in revenue per mile-17g

**Results Driver:** Jay Wunderlich, Governmental Relations Director

**Measurement Driver:** Amy Binkley, Resource Management Specialist

### **Purpose of the Measure:**

The measure shows Missouri's national ranking in the amount of revenue per mile that is available to spend on the state highway system.

### **Measurement and Data Collection:**

Revenue is the total receipts less bond proceeds as reported in the Federal Highway Administration's 2009 annual highway statistics report entitled "Revenues Used By States For State-Administered Highways." The mileage is the state highway agency miles as reported in the Federal Highway Administration's 2008 annual highway statistics report entitled "State Highway Agency-Owned Public Roads." Financial Services collects this information from the Federal Highway Administration. This measure is updated as the data becomes available from the Federal Highway

Administration. The mileage data has not been updated for the 2009 publication however no significant changes occur from year to year.

### **Improvement Status:**

Missouri's revenue per mile of \$58,829 currently ranks 41<sup>st</sup> in the nation. Missouri has a very large state highway system, consisting of 33,677 miles, which is the seventh largest system in the nation. New Jersey's revenue per mile of \$1,156,759 ranks first. However, its state highway system contains only 2,324 miles. MoDOT staff continues to communicate the need for additional transportation funding to the public. Missouri's transportation needs greatly exceed current available funding.



