

# **Safe and Reliable -- Nebraska's Highway System Priority**

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Last year was the first time the state achieved a goal outlined in the 2007 Nebraska Strategic Highway Safety Plan. We always want to prevent fatalities on our state's roadways. The state record was set in 1944 when 166 deaths were recorded. The 2010 fatality count of 190 was the lowest total outside of the World War II era when there was no civilian vehicle production and both fuel and tires were rationed.

Surface transportation improvement projects for Fiscal Year 2012 represent our ongoing efforts to provide a safe, efficient and reliable highway system throughout Nebraska. Preservation of our existing highway system and Nebraska's high priority bridges consume the vast majority of our highway construction budget. The Department of Roads strives to protect the multi-billion dollar investment taxpayers have made in the existing state system and we will continue to do our best to meet the transportation challenges that lie ahead.