

Characteristics of a good performance measure

Attribute	Explanation
Acceptable	The general community must assist in identifying and developing the performance measures.
Accurate	Must be based on accurate information, of known quality and origin.
Affordable	Must be based on readily available data or data that can be obtained at a reasonable cost.
Appropriate level of detail	Must be specified and used at the appropriate level of detail and level of aggregation for the questions it is supposed to answer.
Have a target	Must have a target level or benchmark against which to compare it.
Measurable	The data must be available, and the tools need to exist to perform the required calculations.
Relevant	Must be applicable and compatible with overall goals and objectives or considerations and issues.
Sensitive	Must detect a certain level of change that occurs in the transportation system.
Show trends	Must be able to show trends over time and provide early warnings about problems and irreversible trends.
Understandable	Must be understandable and easy to interpret, even by the community at large.