

Between being fined nearly \$60,000 for House Ethics violations and being removed from his leadership positions on committees, Don Young's influence has dwindled. He used to Chair the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and was able to deliver funds for our highways and roads, but he lost his leadership positions, and Alaska has lost nearly \$1 billion in transportation dollars since then. Now our roads are in the gutter. Don Young was also a Ranking Member of the Natural Resources Committee but was forced to step down because of his role in a corruption scandal.

**Wall Street Journal: Young "Violated House Rules By Improperly Using Campaign Funds To Cover The Cost Of Personal Hunting Trips."** "Rep. Don Young (R., Alaska) violated House rules by improperly using campaign funds to cover the cost of personal hunting trips, the House Ethics Committee said in a report Friday." [Wall Street Journal, [7/20/14](#)]

**Washington Post: The House Ethics Committee Ordered Young "Pay A Nearly \$60,000 Fine For Taking 15 Inappropriate Trips, Using Campaign Funds For Personal Use And Accepting Other Unethical Gifts."** "The House Ethics Committee ordered Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska) to pay a nearly \$60,000 fine for taking 15 inappropriate trips, using campaign funds for personal use and accepting other unethical gifts." [Washington Post, [6/20/14](#)]

**2001 – 2007: Don Young Was Chair Of The House Transportation And Infrastructure Committee.** "Congressman Don Young currently serves as the most senior member of the House Natural Resources Committee and House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Young chaired the House Natural Resources Committee from 1995 to 2001. Young served as the Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee from 2001 to 2007." [Office of Congressman Don Young, accessed [7/28/20](#)]

**December 2006: Young Would Not Retain His Position As Top Republican On The House Transportation And Infrastructure Committee In The Next Congress.** "House Republicans on Tuesday ensured Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska, a powerful and sometimes divisive figure in transportation spending, will not be the next ranking Republican on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The chamber's Republican members approved their rules for the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress, including clarifying that a six-year term limit on being a committee chairperson applies also to serving as that panel's ranking member. When Republicans gained control of the House in 1994, they instituted a six-year term limit on committee chairpersons, but that rule hadn't been tested before as to whether it applies to ranking members." [Traffic World, [12/6/06](#)]

**Headline: Rep. Young's Influence Curbed.** [Traffic World, [12/6/06](#)]

**Young Had Unsuccessfully Sought To Maintain His Position As Ranking Member Of The Transportation And Infrastructure Committee.** "House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Don Young (R-Alaska) and House Small Business Committee Chairman Don Manzullo (R-Ill.) had also pushed to retain their senior Republican posts. Republicans want to settle these committee decisions as soon as possible so that the ranking members can determine their staffs in time to combat Democrats during the rollout of their priority legislation during their first 100 hours in power." [The Hill, [12/6/06](#)]

**Associated Press: "Young Lost His Bid To Be Ranking Minority Member On The U.S. House Transportation Committee."** "Alaska Rep. Don Young lost his bid to be ranking minority member on the U.S. House Transportation Committee but was elected to that post on the Resources Committee. The House Republican caucus on Tuesday approved rules that, under some interpretations, blocked Young from remaining as the ranking minority party member on the Transportation Committee under the new Democratic majority." [Associated Press, [12/7/06](#)]

**2019: USA Today: Over 18 Percent Of Alaska Roads Were In Poor Condition, The Second Highest Rate In The Country.** "2. Alaska • Roads in poor condition: 18.7% (2<sup>nd</sup> highest) • Structurally deficient bridges: 9.7%

(13<sup>th</sup> highest) • State highway spending per driver: \$2,374 (the highest) • Avg. travel time to work: 19.6 minutes (8<sup>th</sup> lowest).” [USA Today, [7/13/19](#)]

**2019: CNBC: 29 Percent Of Roads In Alaska Were In “Unacceptable Condition.”** “2019 Infrastructure score: 128 out of 350 points (Top States grade: D-) US population within 500 miles: 639,966 Average commute to work: 18.8 minutes (U.S. Average: 26.4 minutes) Bridges in poor condition: 9.7% Roads in unacceptable condition: 29% 20-year water-system needs: \$986.5 million” [CNBC, [7/11/19](#)]

**2008: Politico: Young Was “Forced Out” As Ranking Member Of The Natural Resources Committee Amid A Corruption Scandal; He Would Remain On The Committee But Not As Ranking Member.** “Alaska Rep. Don Young, under investigation for his role in a corruption scandal that has already toppled Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens, was forced out Wednesday as the top Republican on the Natural Resources Committee. Young said he was temporarily stepping down from his post, but GOP insiders said the veteran lawmaker did so because he was about to be removed by Republican leaders. ‘I ran for and won my 19<sup>th</sup> term as Alaska’s lone representative this year, confident that the cloud that hangs over me will eventually clear, as I know I have done nothing wrong,’ Young said in a statement. ‘However, for the good of the Republican Party, the right thing for me to do is temporarily step down from my post as ranking member on the House Committee on Natural Resources while my name is cleared. At that time, I look forward to regaining my post.’ Young, who was first elected to the House in 1972, will remain on the Natural Resources panel, just not as the ranking member.” [Politico, [12/11/08](#)]

**2007: Don Young Became A Subject Of A Federal Investigation.** “A senior House Republican has come under criminal investigation in the Justice Department’s widening inquiry into alleged influence-peddling and self-dealing in Congress. Rep. Don Young of Alaska, the former chairman of the House Transportation Committee, now is the subject of a continuing criminal inquiry involving possible political favors for a company in Alaska, people close to the case said. Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska, the powerful former chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the longest-serving Senate Republican, is also now under criminal investigation, these people said. Federal investigators are examining whether Rep. Young or Sen. Stevens accepted bribes, illegal gratuities or unreported gifts from VECO Corp., Alaska’s largest oil-field engineering firm, people close to the case said.” [Wall Street Journal, [7/25/07](#)]

**2009: The FBI Was Investigating Whether Young Received Improper Gifts In A Bribery Scheme.** “An Alaska businessman admitted to giving gifts to Republican Rep. Don Young, the state’s long-serving sole congressman, in a confession made public this week as part of an ongoing federal investigation into political corruption in the state. [...] They include former Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens and Young, whom the document referred to as to ‘United States Representative A.’ Until now, however, it wasn’t clear whether the FBI was looking at Young as part of Allen’s bribery scheme.” [McClatchy, [10/22/09](#)]

Service Level Agreement Year	Federal Appropriations For Department Of Transportation And Public Facilities In Raw Dollars	Federal Appropriations For Department Of Transportation And Public Facilities In 2020 Dollars
2001	\$715,741,000	\$1,042,070,118
2002	\$791,767,300	\$1,134,761,552
2003	\$781,833,600	\$1,095,652,225
2004	\$1,189,896,000	\$1,624,026,926
2005	\$800,230,700	\$1,056,353,698
2006	\$1,085,319,400	\$1,387,914,936
2007	\$600,714,800	\$746,892,391
2008	\$882,648,100	\$1,056,857,362
2009	\$772,174,000	\$927,877,899
2010	\$896,776,000	\$1,060,217,067

2011	\$883,085,100	\$1,012,081,147
2012	\$692,930,000	\$778,048,814
2013	\$793,882,300	\$878,532,953
2014	\$1,011,581,500	\$1,101,575,139
2015	\$1,130,302,400	\$1,229,399,448
2016	\$1,214,586,200	\$1,304,613,868
2017	\$1,078,000,000	\$1,133,753,416
2018	\$998,500,000	\$1,025,102,746
<b>2001 – 2008 Average</b>		<b>\$1,143,066,150</b>
<b>2009 – 2018 Average</b>		<b>\$1,045,120,249</b>
<b>2001 – 2008 Average Minus 2009 – 2018 Average</b>		<b>\$97,945,901</b>
<b>2009 – 2018 Total Decrease Compared To 2001 – 2008 Average</b>		<b>\$979,459,010</b>

[Alaskan Division of Legislative Finance, accessed [7/28/20](#) (2000 - 2009; 2010 - 2019); US Bureau of Labor Statistics, accessed [7/28/20](#)]

*Methodological Notes: 2020 dollars were calculated by multiplying federally appropriated dollars to the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities by the Bureau of Labor Consumer Price Index number for June 2020 (the most recent available at the time of this analysis) divided by the average Bureau of Labor Statistics for that year. The appropriations were downloaded from the Alaskan Division of Legislative Finance’s Historical Capital Budget Reports page by selecting “agency summary” and “federal receipts.” The dollar figures listed in those reports are 1/1,000<sup>th</sup> of the raw dollars based on the supporting documents linked in the Alaskan Division of Legislative Finance’s Historical Capital Budget Reports found under “project export” and “federal receipts.” Don Young was Chair of the Transportation Committee from 2001 to 2007 and then Ranking Member of the Natural Resources Committee from 2007 to 2008. The Alaskan Division of Legislative Finance’s Multi-year agency summaries are available online for years 2000 to 2019.*

<b>National Consumer Price Index By Month</b>													
<b>Year</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>June 2020 CPI / Year Average</b>
<b>2001</b>	175.1	175.8	176.2	176.9	177.7	178	177.5	177.5	178.3	177.7	177.4	176.7	<b>1.45593185</b>
<b>2002</b>	177.1	177.8	178.8	179.8	179.8	179.9	180.1	180.7	181	181.3	181.3	180.9	<b>1.43320083</b>
<b>2003</b>	181.7	183.1	184.2	183.8	183.5	183.7	183.9	184.6	185.2	185	184.5	184.3	<b>1.401388</b>
<b>2004</b>	185.2	186.2	187.4	188	189.1	189.7	189.4	189.5	189.9	190.9	191	190.3	<b>1.36484779</b>
<b>2005</b>	190.7	191.8	193.3	194.6	194.4	194.5	195.4	196.4	198.8	199.2	197.6	196.8	<b>1.32006145</b>
<b>2006</b>	198.3	198.7	199.8	201.5	202.5	202.9	203.5	203.9	202.9	201.8	201.5	201.8	<b>1.27880782</b>
<b>2007</b>	202.416	203.499	205.352	206.686	207.949	208.352	208.299	207.917	208.49	208.936	210.177	210.036	<b>1.24333942</b>
<b>2008</b>	211.08	211.693	213.528	214.823	216.632	218.815	219.964	219.086	218.783	216.573	212.425	210.228	<b>1.19737114</b>
<b>2009</b>	211.143	212.193	212.709	213.24	213.856	215.693	215.351	215.834	215.969	216.177	216.33	215.949	<b>1.20164354</b>
<b>2010</b>	216.687	216.741	217.631	218.009	218.178	217.965	218.011	218.312	218.439	218.711	218.803	219.179	<b>1.18225406</b>
<b>2011</b>	220.223	221.309	223.467	224.906	225.964	225.722	225.922	226.545	226.889	226.421	226.23	225.672	<b>1.14607431</b>
<b>2012</b>	226.665	227.663	229.392	230.085	229.815	229.478	229.104	230.379	231.407	231.317	230.221	229.601	<b>1.12283898</b>
<b>2013</b>	230.28	232.166	232.773	232.531	232.945	233.504	233.596	233.877	234.149	233.546	233.069	233.049	<b>1.10662872</b>

<b>2014</b>	233.916	234.781	236.293	237.072	237.9	238.343	238.25	237.852	238.031	237.433	236.151	234.812	<b>1.08896331</b>
<b>2015</b>	233.707	234.722	236.119	236.599	237.805	238.638	238.654	238.316	237.945	237.838	237.336	236.525	<b>1.08767304</b>
<b>2016</b>	236.916	237.111	238.132	239.261	240.229	241.018	240.628	240.849	241.428	241.729	241.353	241.432	<b>1.07412209</b>
<b>2017</b>	242.839	243.603	243.801	244.524	244.733	244.955	244.786	245.519	246.819	246.663	246.669	246.524	<b>1.05171931</b>
<b>2018</b>	247.867	248.991	249.554	250.546	251.588	251.989	252.006	252.146	252.439	252.885	252.038	251.233	<b>1.02664271</b>

[US Bureau of Labor Statistics, accessed [7/28/20](#)]