Charlotte Patch

See How Many Of North Carolina's Urban Roads Are In Bad Shape

A new report finds that a third of the country's urban roads are in poor condition. Here's how North Carolina's roads fared.

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A new report from a national transportation research group finds that one-third of the nation's major urban roadways are in poor condition, and that includes roads in North Carolina.

The non-profit group TRIP examined the state of major roads in the country, including the pavement conditions. TRIP says it used information provided by the Federal Highway Administration to categorize roads and highways into poor, mediocre, fair or good condition. TRIP further calculated what share of major roads in an urban area fall into each of the four categories.

The organization defined an urban area as including the major city in the region and its neighboring or surrounding suburban areas.

In North Carolina, TRIP examined roads in the Charlotte, Raleigh, Asheville, Greensboro, Durham, Hickory, Wilmington, Winston-Salem and Favetteville urban areas. According to TRIP, 21 percent of the roads in the Charlotte-metro area are in poor condition, 23 percent are in mediocre condition, 23 percent are in fair condition and 33 percent are in good condition. The Charlotte-metro urban area fares much better in TRIP's report compared to the 20 urban areas listed as having the highest percentage of roads in poor conditions. The top 20 urban areas with the worst roads range from having a 37 percent share of roads in poor condition to having 71 percent of roads in poor condition. Here's how the rest of North Carolina's urban areas fared:

Asheville, NC

- Poor condition— 15 percent
- Mediocre condition 17 percent
- Fair condition 20 percent
- Good condition 48 percent

Raleigh, NC

- Poor condition— 10 percent
- Mediocre condition 16 percent
- Fair condition 25 percent
- Good condition 49 percent

Durham, NC

- Poor condition 20 percent
- Mediocre condition 21 percent
- Fair condition 23 percent
- Good condition 37 percent

Fayetteville, NC

- Poor condition 11 percent
- Mediocre condition 21 percent
- Fair condition 22 percent
- Good condition 46 percent

Greensboro, NC

- Poor condition 17 percent
- Mediocre condition 29 percent
- Fair condition 21 percent
- Good condition 33 percent

Hickory, NC

- Poor condition 11 percent
- Mediocre condition 18 percent
- Fair condition 25 percent
- Good condition 47 percent

Wilmington, NC

- Poor condition 17 percent
- Mediocre condition 26 percent
- Fair condition 21 percent
- Good condition 36 percent

Winston-Salem, NC

- Poor condition 12 percent
- Mediocre condition 25 percent
- Fair condition 25 percent
- Good condition 38 percent

TRIP's report also looked at how much extra money drivers spend in a year due to driving on roads that are in bad condition. On average, TRIP says a driver spends \$599 annually in extra vehicle operating costs. In the Charlotte-metro urban area, TRIP says a driver spends \$551 annually

in extra operating costs, lower than the national average.

Here's how much drivers spend annually on average in other urban areas in North Carolina:

- Asheville \$420
- Raleigh \$348
- Durham \$522
- Fayetteville \$383
- Greensboro \$521
- Hickory \$370
- Wilmington \$509
- Winston-Salem \$435

The top 20 urban areas with the highest share of roads in poor conditions are:

- San Francisco-Oakland, California (71 percent)
- San Jose, California (64 percent)
- Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, California (57 percent)
- Milwaukee, Wisconsin (54 percent)
- Honolulu, Hawaii (54 percent)
- Akron, Ohio (49 percent)
- Cleveland, Ohio (49 percent)
- New York-Newark, New York-New Jersey-Connecticut (46 percent)
- Providence, Rhode Island-Massachusetts (46 percent)
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Delaware-Maryland (43 percent)
- Seattle, Washington (41 percent)
- Sacramento, California (41 percent)
- Riverside-San Bernardino, California (40 percent)
- Memphis, Tennessee-Mississippi-Arkansas (40 percent)
- Bridgeport-Stamford, Connecticut-New York (40 percent)
- Fresno, California (40 percent)
- Denver-Aurora, Colorado (40 percent)
- Baton Rouge, Louisiana (38 percent)
- Colorado Springs, Colorado (37 percent)
- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (37 percent)