

Report: Morgantown roads worst for costing drivers money

By [Lauren McMillen](#)



MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (WDTV)-- A new report says the Mountain State is at the back of the pack when it comes to road conditions.

In the University City, it finds drivers pay the highest costs compared to any other major city in the state.

"I have to wait for other cars to pass. That's how bad some of the holes are. They will literally swallow your car," said Dalton Wright, Monongalia County resident.

Dalton lives on West Run Road and said it's always a rough ride.

"I've seen all kinds of hubcaps lying across the road where people hit potholes and it just tears up your cars.

It's terrible," said Wright.

Others, like Lois Campbell, have to add time to their daily commute because of the many potholes.

"It doesn't make any difference if it is icy or whatever, every single day we have potholes all the way out from the interstate and all the way into Morgantown on Route 7," said Campbell.

TRIP, which is a national transportation research group, founded the study. So how much are Morgantown drivers really paying?

"Extra vehicle operating costs total \$815. The safety costs \$313 and the congestion costs \$311 for total of \$1,439 annually per driver in the Morgantown area," said Will Wilkins, executive director of TRIP.

Statewide, TRIP reports nearly 30% of our major roads are in poor condition. Meanwhile in Morgantown, that same number jumps to 68%.

Both Dalton and Lois agree they would be willing to pay more taxes to have long lasting road repairs.

"Figure out which is going to be paved and which has high traffic first, but that doesn't mean we should leave the small side roads out, as well. They are just as important," said Campbell.