

## New report says Oklahomans spend millions because of poor road quality

by Tyler Butler | Wednesday, May 10th 2017



TULSA, Okla. (KTUL) — Go ahead and ask anyone in Tulsa which road is the worst, and you'll get a different answer from every one of them.

"I would say Pine Street, anywhere from Yale to Sheridan," said Christian Moore.

"Highway 75 probably," said Nachele Biehler

"North Lewis, say Lewis Avenue, in general, is pretty bad," said Tiller Watson.

It's not surprising the answers vary. According to a [new report](#) released today by a research group called TRIP, 45 percent of urban roads in Oklahoma are in poor condition. That's not all. Apparently, each of us in Tulsa is spending \$2,092 per year on tires, gas, and accidents caused by poorly maintained and congested roads.

These results are no surprise to many Tulsans.

"We've got the worst roads in the country. Bar none as far as construction and potholes," said Watson.

Some of that construction on Lewis at 21st has been causing traffic backups in all directions which brings us to the next point. 44 hours. That's how long each year we're all sitting in traffic according to the report. But the main concerns from the people we interviewed are less about time wasted and more about bumpy rides.

"I'd say half of them need repairs, half of them are uneven," said Moore.

The real salt in the wound for some is how we compare to the neighbors.

"You can absolutely tell as soon as you cross the line that you're in Kansas. You don't even need a sign, you can just tell by the way the road rides," said Biehler.

And the same goes both ways, although your re-entry could be a bit bumpy.

It's not all bad news in the report. It says that the number of structurally deficient bridges has fallen 79 percent since 2002, so at least our bridges are doing much better.