

## CT's Poor Roads Means We're Paying More: Here's How Much More

**A new report finds that a third of the country's urban roads are in poor condition and one area in CT is among the nation's worst.**

By [Brian McCready, Patch National Staff](#) | Oct 27, 2018

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 many roads in Connecticut, but I don't think we needed a study to tell us that. If you're driving in Connecticut, it appears the best roads are in the New London-Norwich corridor, while the worst roads are in the Bridgeport to Stamford area, according to the report.

And the condition of these poor roads, means we'll be paying more too.

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 Connecticut, TRIP examined roads in the **Bridgeport-Stamford, Hartford, New Haven, New London-Norwich** urban areas. According to TRIP, 40 percent of the roads in the **Bridgeport-Stamford** area are in poor condition, 29 percent are in mediocre condition, 15 percent are in fair condition and 16 percent are in good condition.

According to TRIP, 32 percent of the roads in the **Hartford area** are in poor condition, 30 percent are in mediocre condition, 16 percent are in fair condition and 21 percent are in good condition.

According to TRIP, 33 percent of the roads in the **New Haven area** are in poor condition, 24 percent are in mediocre condition, 15 percent are in fair condition and 28 percent are in good condition.

According to TRIP, 21 percent of the roads in the **New London-Norwich area** are in poor condition, 31 percent are in mediocre condition, 18 percent are in fair condition and 31 percent are in good condition.

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.

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### You'll Pay More For These Bad Roads

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 **Bridgeport-Stamford** urban area, TRIP says a driver spends \$730 annually in extra operating costs, which is much higher than the national average.

In the **Hartford** urban area, TRIP says a driver spends \$644 annually in extra operating costs, which is higher than the national average. In the **New Haven** urban area, TRIP says a driver spends \$621 annually in extra operating costs, which is higher than the national average.

In the **New London-Norwich** urban area, TRIP says a driver spends \$504 annually in extra operating costs, which is significantly less than the national average.

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### 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)