

Rockford's rough roads cost drivers nearly \$2,000 per year, study finds



ROCKFORD, Ill. (WTVO) -- Deteriorated roads and bridges cost Rockford drivers \$1,981 per year in repairs, crashes, and delays, according to a [new study](#).

Washington D.C.-based non-profit transportation research outfit TRIP found that throughout Illinois, more than two-fifths of locally and state-maintained roads are in poor or mediocre condition, and 8% of bridges are rated poor/structurally deficient.

The report says drivers in Rockford lose money on extra vehicle operating costs (VOC) lost time and fuel due to congestion-related delays, accelerated vehicle depreciation, additional repair costs, tire wear, and the costs of traffic crashes in which roadway features were likely a contributing factor.

According to TRIP, 63% of roads in the Rockford area are in poor or mediocre condition.

“This report highlights how expensive it can be for Illinois drivers when the state does not maintain its basic infrastructure,” said Illinois Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Todd Maisch. “A stronger transportation system is vital to stronger business and a stronger Illinois. We must act now to improve our economy and quality of life in Illinois through infrastructure investment.”

| Location | VOC | Safety | Congestion | TOTAL |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Chicago | \$633 | \$387 | \$1,539 | \$2,559 |
| Champaign-Urbana | \$563 | \$569 | \$310 | \$1,442 |
| Metro East | \$405 | \$921 | \$1,086 | \$2,412 |
| Peoria-Bloomington | \$610 | \$542 | \$376 | \$1,528 |
| Rockford | \$680 | \$707 | \$594 | \$1,981 |
| Springfield | \$491 | \$497 | \$306 | \$1,294 |
| ILLINOIS STATEWIDE | \$5 Billion | \$4.8 Billion | \$8.5 Billion | \$18.3 Billion |

According to the report, Illinois road conditions costs motorists a total of \$18.3 billion annually, statewide.

Photo: TRIP