

Your pothole premium is running \$648 a year*

A costly equation: Add tie-ups and poor road design, and Michigan drivers pay an average of \$1,976 each

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Driving on poorly maintained roads costs Michigan motorists an average of \$648 a year in vehicle wear and tear, according to a national transportation research group.

The study by TRIP says the extra expenses of road despair – totaling an estimated \$4.6 billion a year, divided by 7.1 million drivers - include accelerated depreciation, additional repair costs, and increased fuel consumption and tire wear.

The pothole premium isn't the only one Michigan's drivers pay, TRIP said.

Poor roadway design costs an estimated \$539 per driver, based on research that shows it contributes to a third of serious and fatal crashes. The costs include lost productivity and higher insurance rates.

Then there's traffic congestion, pegged at \$789 per motorists in the form of lost time and wasted fuel.

As far as maintenance goes, however, TRIP found only about 1 in 3 major Michigan roads were in good condition, according to its analysis of 2017 data from the Federal Highway Administration. About 1 in 7 roads were labeled fair, and about 2 in 5 were in either mediocre or poor condition.

Detroit and Flint had the highest proportion of major roads in poor condition at 44 percent.

Meanwhile, about 11 percent of the state's bridges are structurally deficient, the report said. The Saginaw-Bay-Midland region was highest with 20 percent of bridges in that condition.

The TRIP study broke down per-driver premiums for seven metro areas. The wear-and-tear cost was highest in Detroit at more than \$800 and lowest in Muskegon at just over \$450.

Detroit drivers also paid the highest share of an estimated \$5.6 billion a year statewide for traffic congestion, the group said, with an extra \$1,278 per year. The Saginaw region...

Potholes aren't the only extra costs for Michigan drivers

Poor roadway design

Costs an estimated average of \$539 per driver in lost productivity and higher insurance. Kalamazoo driver pay more at \$831.

Traffic congestion

Leads to lost time and wasted fuel at an average cost of \$789 per driver. Detroit drivers pay the most at \$1,278 a year

Decrepit bridges

Eleven percent of Michigan drivers are structurally deficient. The Saginaw-Bay City Midland region was highest with 20 percent

*** Your city may cost more**

Average cost per driver for vehicle wear and tear caused by bad roads, by metro area



TRIP report "Modernizing Michigan's Transportation System" at bit.ly/PotholePremium



"Michigan roads and bridges, as well as underground systems, are crumbling because of decades of underinvestment."

-Tony Kratofil, chief operations officer and chief engineer of the state Department of Transportation