



Report: Lexington roads cost drivers \$1,500 annually

by: [Braxton Caudill](#) | Tuesday, February 15, 2022

LEXINGTON, Ky. ([FOX 56](#)) – A recent report by [TRIP](#), a nonprofit national transportation research group, found that the average urban [Lexington](#) driver loses \$1,513 annually through costs from driving congested, deteriorated, and non-safe roads.

The number was derived from vehicle operating costs (VOC), traffic congestion costs, and crash costs.

Location	VOC	Congestion	Safety	TOTAL
Bowling Green	\$170	\$788	\$563	\$1,521
Lexington	\$306	\$809	\$398	\$1,513
Louisville	\$586	\$868	\$430	\$1,884
Northern Kentucky	\$549	\$1,238	\$367	\$2,154
Owensboro	\$627	\$344	\$419	\$1,390
Kentucky Statewide	\$1.3 Billion	\$1.8 Billion	\$1.6 Billion	\$4.7 Billion

Kentucky annual driver cost breakdown (TRIP)

VOC

Seven percent of major locally and state-maintained roads in the Lexington area are in poor condition and another 13% are in mediocre condition. Poorly maintained roads increase vehicle costs because of accelerated vehicle depreciation, increased fuel cost, and additional repair costs.

Congestion

Traffic congestion causes urban Lexington drivers an average of 35 annual hours of delay and 17 gallons of fuel costing an estimated \$809.

Safety

An average of 68 people were killed in traffic crashes each year from 2015 to 2019 in the Lexington urban area. The financial implications because of unsafe road conditions cause Lexington drivers an average of \$398 annually.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet signed a law in November 2021 that will provide \$5.1 billion for road, highway, and bridge investments in [Kentucky](#) over the next five years, including a 35% funding increase in 2022.