

Traffic, road problems cost Charlotte drivers an extra \$2,000 a year

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CHARLOTTE — Charlotte drivers spend more than a full work week each year stuck in traffic, and the combined costs of congestion and poorly maintained roads add up to nearly \$2,000 per year for the average motorist here — by far the highest amounts in North Carolina.

Local drivers lose an average of 47 hours annually because of traffic, costing them \$1,342 each in lost time and fuel. In addition, Charlotte drivers endure traveling on the worst roads in North Carolina, with 44% of area roads deemed to be in poor or mediocre condition, compared with 33% statewide.

Additional fuel, repairs, maintenance and tire wear caused by the poorly maintained roads cost each driver an average of \$559 per year. The state average is \$484.

Those are among the findings [in a new statewide report by TRIP](#), a Washington, D.C.-based transportation research nonprofit. TRIP assesses roads, bridges, and travel conditions for 10 to 15 states annually.

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