

Road congestion, condition cost Cincinnati drivers more than anywhere else in Ohio

by JAMES PILCHER, WKRC | Tuesday, January 9th 2024



(WKRC file)

CINCINNATI (WKRC) – Cincinnati drivers spend an extra \$727 a year because of poor road conditions in the area, the highest amount amongst Ohio's largest cities, according to a new report issued Tuesday.

And area commuters spend an extra 48 hours in traffic every year, costing drivers an additional \$1,157 a year.

That's also tops in the state, according to TRIP, a national nonprofit transportation research agency.

TRIP, which receives some of its funding from road contractors, also reported 33 percent of the major roads in the Cincinnati region are in poor condition. That ranks second among Ohio's largest cities.

Policy and research director Rocky Moretti says that's concerning given how traffic has grown.

"We've returned in Ohio back to the level of pre-COVID when Ohio has some very heavily traveled roads and highways and we're seeing that level of travel has returned," he said.

Indeed, the report indicates there are two percent more vehicles on the road in 2023 than before the pandemic.

The report also recognizes a significant increase in road funding by Ohio both because of the federal infrastructure bill and an increase in the state gas tax.

Similar numbers were not yet available for roads in Indiana or Kentucky but reports on those states may be coming soon.