

Poor roads cost Kalamazoo, Battle Creek drivers \$1,872 annually, study finds

by Donny Ede | News Channel 3



KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Lackluster road conditions in the state of Michigan are costing drivers a total of \$17 billion.

This costs drivers in the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek area roughly \$1,872 annually, according to TRIP, a national transportation research nonprofit group.

Drivers lose this money in the form of extra vehicle operating costs as a result of driving on roads that

need repair, traffic crashes, and congested-related delays.

According to TRIP's report, "Keeping Michigan Mobile: Providing a Modern, Sustainable Transportation System in the Great Lake State," Michigan faces a transportation funding gap of \$3.9 billion.

This gap could be higher if maintenance is deferred and repairs become more costly over time.

In the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek area, 28 percent of major locally and state-maintained roads are in poor condition, while 21 percent are in mediocre condition.

Location	VOC	Safety	Congestion	TOTAL
Ann Arbor	\$751	\$377	\$466	\$1,594
Detroit	\$1,148	\$447	\$1,410	\$3,005
Flint	\$1,136	\$682	\$332	\$2,150
Grand Rapids	\$898	\$492	\$907	\$2,297
Kalamazoo - Battle Creek	\$749	\$698	\$425	\$1,872
Lansing	\$940	\$501	\$420	\$1,861
Muskegon	\$810	\$612	\$354	\$1,776
Saginaw-Bay City-Midland	\$943	\$549	\$352	\$1,844
Traverse City	\$388	\$538	\$861	\$1,787
MICHIGAN STATEWIDE	\$5.9 Billion	\$5.4 Billion	\$5.7 Billion	\$17 Billion

In the same area, 12 percent of bridges are rated poor/structurally deficient, while 11 percent of Michigan's bridges statewide are rated poor/structurally deficient.

These poor roads cost average motorists \$749 a year in extra vehicle operating costs, including accelerated vehicle depreciation, additional repair costs, and increased fuel consumption and tire wear.

Traffic congestion in this area causes 15 annual hours of delay for average motorists, costing \$425 annually in lost time and wasted fuel.

A chart outlining the various costs associated with driving in Michigan (TIPS/WWMT)

A full version of TRIP's report can be found [here](#).