



LOCAL

REPORT: Capital Region roads costing drivers \$2.1K a year

by: [Sara Rizzo](#)

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ALBANY, N.Y. ([NEWS10](#)) — New York roads and bridges that are rough, congested, or don't have certain safety features may be costing you money. A new report by TRIP, [a Washington, DC-based national transportation research non-profit](#), said the current status of Capital Region roads is costing drivers about \$2,098 a year. Statewide, it's about \$40.3 billion annually.

According to the report, these numbers are due to higher vehicle operating costs, crashes, and congestion-related delays. Broken down, it costs Albany-area drivers about \$575 in extra vehicle operating costs, \$583 from traffic crashes, and \$940 in congestion-related delays.

The report found that 42% of locally and state-maintained roads in the Capital Region are in poor or mediocre condition. About 10% of locally and state-maintained bridges are rated poor or structurally deficient.

“As freight volumes increase and businesses depend on faster, more precise logistics, New York’s inability to invest at a level that keeps pace with inflation threatens our competitiveness,” said Mark Eagan, president and CEO of the Capital Region Chamber and Center for Economic Growth. “Sustained and predictable funding is essential to completing the projects that reduce transport costs, support jobs, attract business investment, and keep our region’s economy growing.”

Additionally, the report found that traffic congestion in the Capital Region causes 43 hours of delay for drivers annually. It also found that 46 people were killed in traffic crashes each year from 2019 to 2023 in the Albany area, on average.

“New York’s transportation system is under growing strain as investment declines and costs rise,” said Joseph Alston, Senior Director of Government Affairs for the Business Council of New York State. “Modernizing New York’s transportation network is essential to protecting lives, controlling costs, and keeping the state competitive. Smart, sustained investment is the most cost-effective way to improve safety, restore affordability and protect the state’s economic future.”

The TRIP report includes statewide and regional pavement and bridge conditions, congestion data, highway safety data, and cost breakdowns for the areas around New York State. You can read the full report [on the TRIP website](#).