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SUN: Baltimore traffic, potholes cost drivers \$3,000 annually, report shows

By JOSH DAVIS | CHEVALL PRYCE | BALTIMORE SUN | Thursday, March 12, 2026



Aerial photo of traffic on I-695 near Security Square Boulevard. (Kevin Richardson/Baltimore Sun)

BALTIMORE, MD (WBFF) — Drivers in the Baltimore region are paying thousands each year because of rough roads, traffic congestion and crashes, according to a new report from the transportation research nonprofit TRIP.

The analysis found motorists in the Baltimore metro area pay about \$3,017 per year in added costs tied to deteriorating roads, delays and traffic crashes linked to inadequate safety features. Statewide, those problems cost drivers about \$12.5 billion annually, the report found.

Baltimore's road conditions rank among the worst in Maryland. The report found 41% of major roads in the Baltimore area are in poor condition and 21% are in mediocre condition, meaning more than half fall below good condition.

That's significantly worse than other parts of the state. In the Frederick-Hagerstown region, 25% of roads are rated poor and 18% mediocre, while in Maryland's Washington suburbs — including Montgomery and Prince George's counties — 27% are poor and 24% mediocre.