

## ALBANY REPORT CARD

TRIP has assigned the following letter grades to the components comprising the Albany metro area highway system.

	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>
<b>Roads</b>	<b>D</b>	<i>In 2003 (the latest year for which data is available), 30 percent of roads in the Albany metro area were rated in poor condition, and an additional 21 percent were rated in mediocre condition. TRIP has provided a list of heavily traveled roads in the Albany area that have significant deterioration and are in need of repair.</i>
<b>Bridges</b>	<b>C-</b>	<i>A total of 41 percent of bridges (20 feet or longer) in the Albany area are in substandard condition. Seven percent of bridges in the Albany area are rated as structurally deficient and 34 percent are functionally obsolete. TRIP has provided a list of the ten most structurally deficient, heavily traveled bridges in the Albany area.</i>
<b>Congestion</b>	<b>B-</b>	<i>Fourteen percent of urban arterials in the Albany area are considered congested because they carry more traffic than they were designed to handle, causing significant rush hour delays. TRIP has provided a list of ten sections of roadway in Albany that experience the highest level of traffic congestion.</i>
<b>Safety</b>	<b>C</b>	<i>The Albany area has a traffic fatality rate of 6.64 fatalities per 100,000 people, which is higher than the statewide urban fatality rate, but lower than the national urban fatality rate. Roadway safety features such as widened lanes, added or improved medians, improved intersection design, paved shoulders and added rumble strips can reduce traffic fatalities and serious accidents.</i>

**Pavement conditions on Albany’s major roads are well below desirable standards, with more than half of the roads in the metro area in substandard condition. This includes Interstates, highways, connecting urban arterials, and key urban streets that are maintained by state, county and municipal governments.**

- Thirty percent of Albany’s major roads are rated in poor condition, and an additional 21 percent are in mediocre condition. This includes Interstates, highways, connecting urban arterials, and key urban streets that are maintained by state, county and municipal governments.
- Twenty-eight percent of Albany’s major roads are in good condition. A desirable goal for state and local organizations that are responsible for road maintenance is to keep 75 percent of major roads in good condition.

*The following is a list of 10 heavily traveled sections of road in the Albany area that have significant pavement deterioration and are in need of repair:*

Route Name	City, Town, Village	From	To	Length (Miles)	Work Needed	Daily Traffic	Lanes
NY 85	Albany (C), Albany Co	NY State Thruway Overpass	I-90	2.2	Multi Course Overlay	32,000	4
NY 5	Albany (C), Albany Co	Colonie E Town Line	Everett Rd	1.0	Reconstruct	30,800	4
NY 5	Scotia (V), Schenectady Co	NY 147, Scotia	Washington Ave, Scotia	0.9	Multi Course Overlay	26,400	4
NY 7	Schenectady (C) & Niskayuna (T), Schenectady Co	I-890	Union St, Schenectady	2.3	Multi Course Overlay	24,300	4
NY 155	Guilderland (T), Albany (C), Colonie (T,V), Albany Co	US 20	NY 5	3.1	Reconstruct	20,800	2
I-890	Rotterdam (T) & Schenectady (C), Schenectady Co	NY State Thruway Exit 26	I-890 Exit 2A, NY 337	3.0	Multi Course Overlay	17,800	4, 6, 8
NY 146	Niskayuna (T), Schenectady Co	River Rd	Saratoga Co Line	1.6	Reconstruct & Widen	16,800	2
NY 67	Ballston Spa (V), Ballston (T), Malta (T), Saratoga Co	NY 50	I-87	4.3	Reconstruct	16,300	2
NY 9W	Bethlehem (T), Albany Co	Glenmont Elementary School	Bridge Over Normans Kill	1.3	Reconstruct	15,300	2, 4
Glenridge Rd, Route 914V	Glenville (T) & Clifton Park (T), Schenectady & Saratoga Co	CR 29 Maple Av	NY 146	2.3	Reconstruct	10,000	1, 2

**More than two-fifths - 41 percent - of bridges in the Albany metro area are deficient. This includes all bridges that are 20 feet in length or more and are maintained by state, local and federal agencies.**

- Seven percent of bridges in the Albany area are rated as structurally deficient, showing significant deterioration to decks and other major components.
- Thirty-four percent of bridges in the Albany area are functionally obsolete. These bridges no longer meet modern design standards for safety features such as lane widths or alignment with connecting roads or are no longer adequate for the volume of traffic being carried.
- Bridge deficiencies have an impact on mobility and safety within the state. Restrictions on vehicle weight may cause many vehicles – especially emergency vehicles, commercial trucks, school buses and farm equipment – to use alternate routes to avoid these bridges. Narrow bridge lanes, inadequate clearances and poorly aligned bridge approaches reduce traffic safety. Redirected trips lengthen travel time, waste fuel and reduce the efficiency of the local economy.

*The following is a list of the 10 most heavily traveled bridges in the Albany metro area that are also structurally deficient:*

City, Town, Village	Road Carried	Feature Crossed	Year Built	Work Needed	Daily Traffic	Lanes
Colonie (T), Albany Co	NY 7 & NY 2	I-87	1959	Replace	41,600	7
Colonie (T) & Clifton Pk (T), Alb & Sar Co	I-87	Mohawk River	1959	Rehabilitate	34,500	6
Colonie (T), Albany Co	NY 2	US 9	1959	Rehabilitate	34,100	6
Albany (C), Albany Co	NY 85	Berkshire Blvd	1962	Replace	30,500	2
Colonie (T), Albany Co	I-87	NY 155	1959	Replace	22,400	7
Colonie (T), Albany Co	I-87	Albany Shaker Rd	1959	Replace	22,400	6
Niskayuna (T) & Clifton Pk (T), Schenectady & Sar Co	NY 146	Mohawk River	1965	Replace	21,400	2
Glenville (T), Sch Co	NY 50	Indian Kill	1928	Replace	13,800	2
Albany (C), Albany Co	Washington Ave	NY 85	1962	Replace	12,500	4
Glenville (T) & Clifton Pk (T), Schenectady & Sar Co	Glenridge Rd Route 914V	Alplaus Kill	1935	Replace and Widen	11,800	1

**Increases in vehicle travel in the Albany area have led to rising levels of traffic congestion on the area's major roads and highways.**

- Fourteen percent of major highways and streets in the Albany area are considered congested, carrying levels of traffic that often result in delays during peak hours.
- The region's major highways and streets are rated based on their level of service using the letter grades A, B, C, D, E or F. Roads rated D, E, or F are considered moderately to severely congested. The following is a definition of each level of service designation:

A	Free flow of traffic with operation of individual vehicles largely unaffected by presence of other vehicles
B	Stable flow of traffic with slight decline in freedom to maneuver
C	Stable flow of traffic, but vehicle operation is significantly affected by presence of other vehicles in traffic stream
D	Crowded roadway with some decline in speeds. Large number of vehicles restrict mobility and stable traffic flow
E	Unstable, slow traffic flow with virtually no gaps in traffic stream, subject to traffic flow breakdowns
F	Stop-and-go traffic with low speeds and little or poor maneuverability

*The following is a list of the state-maintained roadways in the Albany area that have the highest level of traffic congestion, based on level of service rating:*

Route	City, Town, Village	From	To	Length (Miles)	Levels of Service	Daily Traffic
I-90	Albany (C), Albany Co to North Greenbush (T), Rensselaer Co	I-87 (Thruway Exit 24)	NY 43 (Exit 8)	7.4	D + E + F	120,700
I-87	Albany (C), Albany Co to Clifton Park (T), Saratoga Co	Jct I-787 (Thruway Exit 23)	NY 146, (Northway Exit 9)	19.9	D + E + F	113,500
NY 7	Colonie (T), Albany Co to Brunswick (T), Rensselaer Co	Schenectady-Albany Co Line	CR 134 McChesney Ave	10.0	D + E + F	60,000
US 9	Albany (C), Colonie (T) Albany Co	NY 5 Central Ave	NY 7 at Latham	7.2	D + E + F	23,000
US 4	East Greenbush (T), North Greenbush (T), Rensselaer Co	US 9 & US 20	Troy South City Line	6.9	D + E + F	20,400
NY 85	Bethlehem (T) Albany Co	NY 140	Blessing Rd	1.0	D + E + F	19,100
NY 146	Niskayuna (T), Schenectady Co	Union St	Saratoga Co Line	4.7	E + F	16,400
I-787	Albany (C) to Watervliet (C), Albany Co	I-87 (Thruway Exit 23)	NY 7	9.3	D + E	74,600
NY 5	Colonie (T, V), Albany Co	NY 155	CR 156 Fuller Rd	2.6	D + E	40,600
NY 155	Colonie (T), Albany Co	Albany Intl. Airport	US 9	3.1	D + E	19,200

**Improving safety features on Albany's roads and highways would result in a decrease in traffic fatalities in the state. Roadway design is an important factor in approximately one-third of fatal and serious traffic accidents.**

- The Albany area has a traffic fatality rate of 6.64 fatalities per 100,000 population. This is higher than the statewide urban traffic fatality rate of 5.15 fatalities per 100,000 urban population, and lower than the national rate of 8.0 fatalities per 100,000 urban population.
- Highway improvements such as removing obstacles, adding or improving medians, wider lanes, wider and paved shoulders, upgrading roads from two lanes to four lanes and better road markings and traffic signals can reduce traffic fatalities and accidents while improving traffic flow to help relieve congestion.
- The Federal Highway Administration has found that every \$100 million spent on needed highway safety improvements will result in 145 fewer traffic fatalities over a 10-year period.