

## **LATEST NEWS**

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### **National group evaluates area bridges, roads**

Forty percent of major roads in the Buffalo metro area are in substandard condition and more than two-fifths of the region's bridges are in need of repair or replacement, according to a report by TRIP, a national nonprofit transportation research group.

Buffalo earned a C minus for its road conditions, bridges and traffic fatality rate as a result of the report's findings.

The report said 13 percent of major roads in the Buffalo area are considered congested because they carry more traffic than they were designed to handle, earning a B minus for traffic congestion.

Buffalo's traffic fatality rate of 7.50 fatalities per 100,000 people is higher than the statewide urban traffic fatality rate of 5.15 fatalities per 100,000 people, the report said.

Additional findings include:

- 17 percent of Buffalo's major roads are rated in poor condition; 23 percent are rated in mediocre condition.
- 4 percent of bridges in the Buffalo area are rated as structurally deficient, showing significant deterioration to decks and other major components. An additional 38 percent of the region's bridges are functionally obsolete. These bridges do not meet modern design standards or are no longer adequate for the volume of traffic they are forced to carry.