**Home**

Under the leadership of City Controller Rebecca Rhynhart, the Controller’s Office is committed to increasing transparency around city services and spending. To that end, the Controller’s Office will release datasets and/or interactive reports to help inform the public about areas of interest. Questions and concerns about the state of Philadelphia’s streets are frequently raised. As such, the Controller’s Office is releasing six years of data related to Philadelphia’s roadways, specifically paving and pothole repairs, in hopes of advancing the discussion around improving the quality of Philadelphia’s streets.

According to the Philadelphia Streets Department, the City of Philadelphia (City) needs to repave at least 131 miles of roadways annually to maintain the integrity of the streets network. The City has struggled to meet this goal historically. It worsened in the late 2000s, in part due to budget cuts brought on by the Great Recession and to an unfunded federal mandate, which took effect in 2010, requiring the installation of new ADA ramps wherever repaving occurs. More than half of the total spending for paving in 2014 was on ADA ramp upgrades. However in 2015, the Streets Department reached an agreement to spend 20 percent of its Capital Budget funds on ramp upgrades. Since then, the City has increased the total miles paved each year.

With recent increases in funding committed to the department and plans to add a third paving crew, the Streets Department projects that it will meet its 131-mile goal by Fiscal Year 2023.

[Miles Paved Chart]

The Streets Department provided two datasets to the Controller's Office: data for every street paved since 2013 and data for nearly 300,000 street defect repairs performed since 2013. The Controller's Office analyzed these datasets and is presenting them in an interactive and accessible format, allowing Philadelphia's residents to explore the data and examine major trends over time and across different neighborhoods of the city. The Controller's Office thanks the Streets Department for their cooperation in providing these datasets.

View the data for paving or street defects.

**Paving**

## Paving Responsibilities

Roadways maintained by the Streets Department are divided into two networks: the local network, about 1,900 miles of roadways for which maintenance costs are funded by the City, and the FAM network, which is short for Federal Aid for Municipalities Highway Program. The FAM network is comprised of about 300 miles of roadways, the maintenance for which is contracted out to private businesses by the City and federally and locally funded. Approximately 500 miles of roadways are maintained by the Commonwealth, called the PennDOT network.

The three main street networks, Local, FAM, and PennDOT, are shown in an interactive format below.

[Interactive Map]

## Six Years of City Paving

The interactive map below shows which segments of the Local and FAM networks have been paved between calendar years 2013 and 2018. Paving data for state-maintained roadways is not currently available and is not shown on the map. For more information on the paving process, see the Street Department's [2019 paving program and list](https://philadelphiastreets.com/images/uploads/documents/2019_Paving_Program_Booklet_Final_-_OIT2.pdf).

[Interactive Map]

**Potholes**

## Potholes and other Street Defects

The Streets Department provided the Controller's Office with data for more than 100,000 street defect requests and nearly 300,000 repairs that occurred between January 1, 2013 and January 1, 2019. There are several different types of street defects, however the majority, about 80 percent, are potholes. The remaining defects are classified as cave-ins and utility ditches, which are generally more complicated to fix and can require additional work from a utility company. Not all repairs are the responsibility of the Streets Department. For example, defects near trolley lines must be repaired by SEPTA and defects on state-maintained roadways are fixed by PennDOT. Residents can report street defects to the Streets Department by calling 311 or 215-686-5560, [filling out an online form](https://www.philadelphiastreets.com/forms/philly_311?form_id=4133), or by using the 311 mobile app.

## Fixing Street Defects

The interactive map below uses data for street defect repairs to shed light on a key issue: which streets have had the most street defect repairs since 2013? To answer this question, the Controller's Office developed the "Street Defect Repair Rating", which rates streets from 0 to 100 based on the number of defect repairs since 2013 and accounts for the different lengths of streets across the city. Streets with a high rating, colored red in the map, have had more defect repairs than average since 2013, while streets with a lower rating, colored green, have had fewer repairs than the citywide average over that time period.

[Interactive Map]

## The Pothole Explorer

The data for street defect repairs and requests is visualized below as part of an interactive dashboard highlighting trends over time and across different neighborhoods of the city. The charts and maps are fully reactive, allowing users to select specific neighborhoods or time periods and have each component of the dashboard update accordingly.

[Interactive Dashboard]