

May 2022 Taxi Driver Survey Results

In May 2022, Administration surveyed taxi drivers to gain a better understanding of the impact of rising fuel prices and other operational costs on their industry. The survey was made available online, through phone and in paper format.

The City received 150 responses to the survey. 78 per cent of respondents indicated that they have been driving a taxi in Edmonton for more than five years, with 97 per cent operating their vehicles for more than 30 hours a week on average.

Below is a summary of additional driver feedback:

- Fuel expenses account for approximately 29.5 per cent of the total costs of operating a taxi
- Respondents noted that costs for fuel, standard rent/dispatch fees, vehicle maintenance and repairs, vehicle leases and other miscellaneous expenses have all increased in the past year
- 99 per cent of the respondents indicated that the City should raise the regulated meter rate. The remaining 1 per cent indicated that the City should maintain the current meter rate
- Reasons provided by respondents in support of an increase in the meter rate include:
 - Rising operational costs
 - That the meter rate has not been increased by The City since 2007
 - Some drivers report making less than minimum wage
 - That meter rates, transit fares, and rideshare fares in other municipalities have been increased to account for inflation or fuel surcharges
- 52 per cent of respondents indicated that they are unlikely to continue to drive a taxi over the next year if economic conditions do not change