



Public transport fares: who’s paying more, who’s paying less?

The Transport Affordability Index assumes one member of the family catches public transport from an outer suburb to the CBD five days a week.

Sydney experienced the largest increase in fares – about 15 per cent, or \$400 per year – largely because in September 2016 the state government ended the free travel incentive, which had been triggered after a commuter completed eight trips.

Melbourne and Perth also had fare increases of about 10 per cent to cover for indexation and operational requirements.

Adelaide, Canberra and Hobart had smaller increases in the range of roughly 4-6 per cent, broadly in line with CPI.

Brisbane went against this trend: a restructuring of zones in mid-2016 significantly reduced fares for the index household by about 17 per cent or \$571 per year.

	Q1, 2016	Q1, 2018	Change per year	% change
Sydney	\$2,687.36	\$3,093.48	\$406.12	15.11%
Melbourne	\$2,028.00	\$2,236.00	\$208.00	10.26%
Brisbane	\$3,402.36	\$2,831.40	-\$570.96	-16.78%
Perth	\$2,828.80	\$3,088.80	\$260.00	9.19%
Adelaide	\$1,809.60	\$1,882.40	\$72.80	4.02%
Hobart	\$1,331.20	\$1,414.40	\$83.20	6.25%
Darwin	\$1,040.00	\$1,040.00	-	0.00%
Canberra	\$1,549.60	\$1,632.80	\$83.20	5.37%
Capital City Average	\$2,084.62	\$2,152.41	\$67.79	3.25%
Consumer Price Index			\$84.77	4.10%

Table 2: Household annual cost of public transport

Weekly cost of public transport – Capital Cities

