



Following are average per-mile costs as determined by AAA and the composite average cost for three size categories of sedans:

### AAA Average Costs Per Mile

miles per year	10,000	15,000	20,000
small sedan	59.5 cents	46.4 cents	39.8 cents
medium sedan	78.0 cents	61.0 cents	52.3 cents
large sedan	97.5 cents	75.0 cents	63.5 cents
composite average*	78.3 cents	60.8 cents	51.9 cents

\* Detailed driving costs for small, medium and large sedans are provided on pages 6 and 7. Driving costs for four-wheel-drive sport utility vehicles and minivans are listed on page 8. Though not part of the composite AAA average, SUV and minivan information is included to help buyers estimate operating costs for those types of vehicles.

Driving costs in each category are based on average costs for the top-selling 2012 models selected by AAA. By size category, they are:

- > **Small sedan**—Chevrolet Cruze, Ford Focus, Honda

AAA's analysis covers vehicles equipped with standard features and optional equipment including automatic transmission, air conditioning, power steering, antilock brakes and cruise control, to name a few.

**Fuel** Fuel costs were based on \$3.486 per gallon, the late-2012 U.S. price from AAA's Fuel Gauge Report, [www.FuelGaugeReport.com](http://www.FuelGaugeReport.com). Fuel mileage is based on Environmental Protection Agency fuel-economy ratings weighted 60 percent city and 40 percent highway driving.

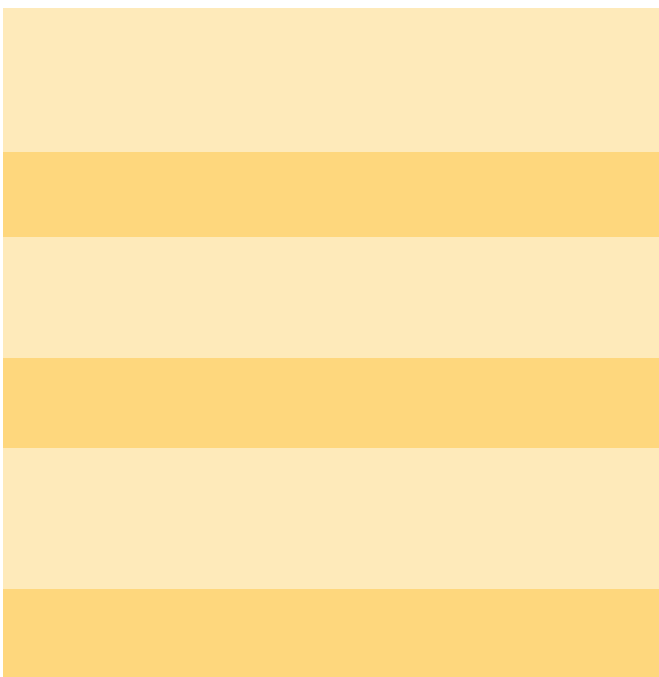
**Maintenance** Costs include retail parts and labor for normal, routine maintenance as specified by the vehicle manufacturer. They also include the price of a comprehensive extended warranty with one warranty claim deductible of \$100 and other wear-and-tear items that can be expected to require service during five years of operating the vehicle. Sales tax is included on a national average basis.



To determine your driving costs accurately, keep personal records on all the costs listed below. Use the worksheet to figure your total cost to drive.

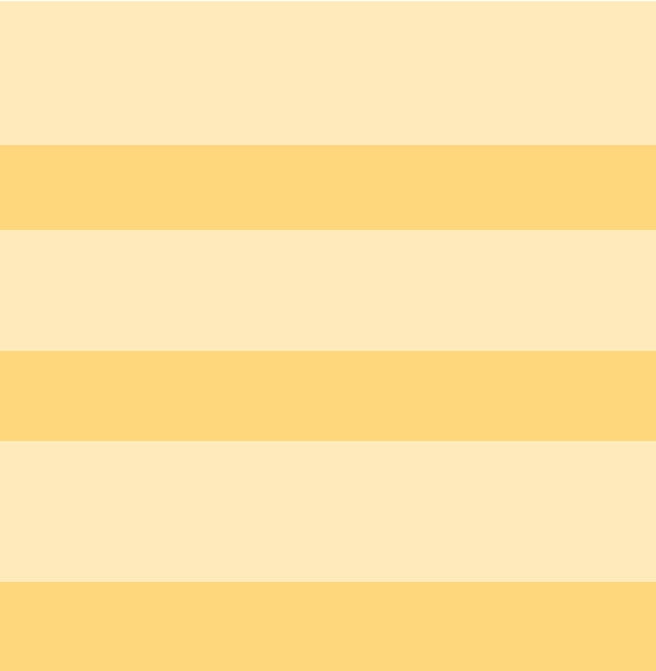
### Annual Cost Per Mile

costs





15.08 cents	16.80 cents	14.45 cents
4.92 cents	5.40 cents	4.97 cents
1.09 cents	1.28 cents	1.00 cents
21.09 cents	23.48 cents	20.42 cents



# Driving Costs

	4WD Sport Utility Vehicle†	Minivan†
<b>Operating Costs</b>	<b>per mile</b>	<b>per mile</b>
gas	19.40 cents	16.70 cents
maintenance	5.55 cents	4.86 cents
tires	1.20 cents	0.83 cents
<b>cost per mile</b>	<b>26.15 cents</b>	<b>22.39 cents</b>

<b>Ownership Costs</b>	<b>per year</b>	<b>per year</b>
full-coverage insurance	\$967	\$931
license, registration, taxes	\$790	\$646
depreciation (15,000 miles annually)	\$4,798	\$3,957
nance charge	\$1,121	\$902
<b>cost per year</b>	<b>\$7,676</b>	<b>\$6,436</b>
<b>cost per day</b>	<b>\$21.03</b>	<b>\$17.63</b>

## Total Cost Per Mile

<b>10,000 miles a year</b>	<b>per year</b>	<b>per year</b>
cost per mile x 10,000 miles	\$2,615	\$2,239
cost per day x 365 days	\$7,676	\$6,436
decreased depreciation**	-\$275	-\$275
<b>total cost per year</b>	<b>\$10,016</b>	<b>\$8,400</b>
<b>total cost per mile*</b>	<b>\$1</b>	<b>84.0 cents</b>

<b>15,000 miles a year</b>	<b>per year</b>	<b>per year</b>
cost per mile x 15,000 miles	\$3,923	\$3,359
cost per day x 365 days	\$7,676	\$6,436
<b>total cost per year</b>	<b>\$11,599</b>	<b>\$9,795</b>
<b>total cost per mile*</b>	<b>77.3 cents</b>	<b>65.3 cents</b>

<b>20,000 miles a year</b>	<b>per year</b>	<b>per year</b>
cost per mile x 20,000 miles	\$5,230	\$4,478
cost per day x 365 days	\$7,676	\$6,436
increased depreciation***	\$235	\$235
<b>total cost per year</b>	<b>\$13,141</b>	<b>\$11,149</b>
<b>total cost per mile*</b>	<b>65.7 cents</b>	<b>55.7 cents</b>

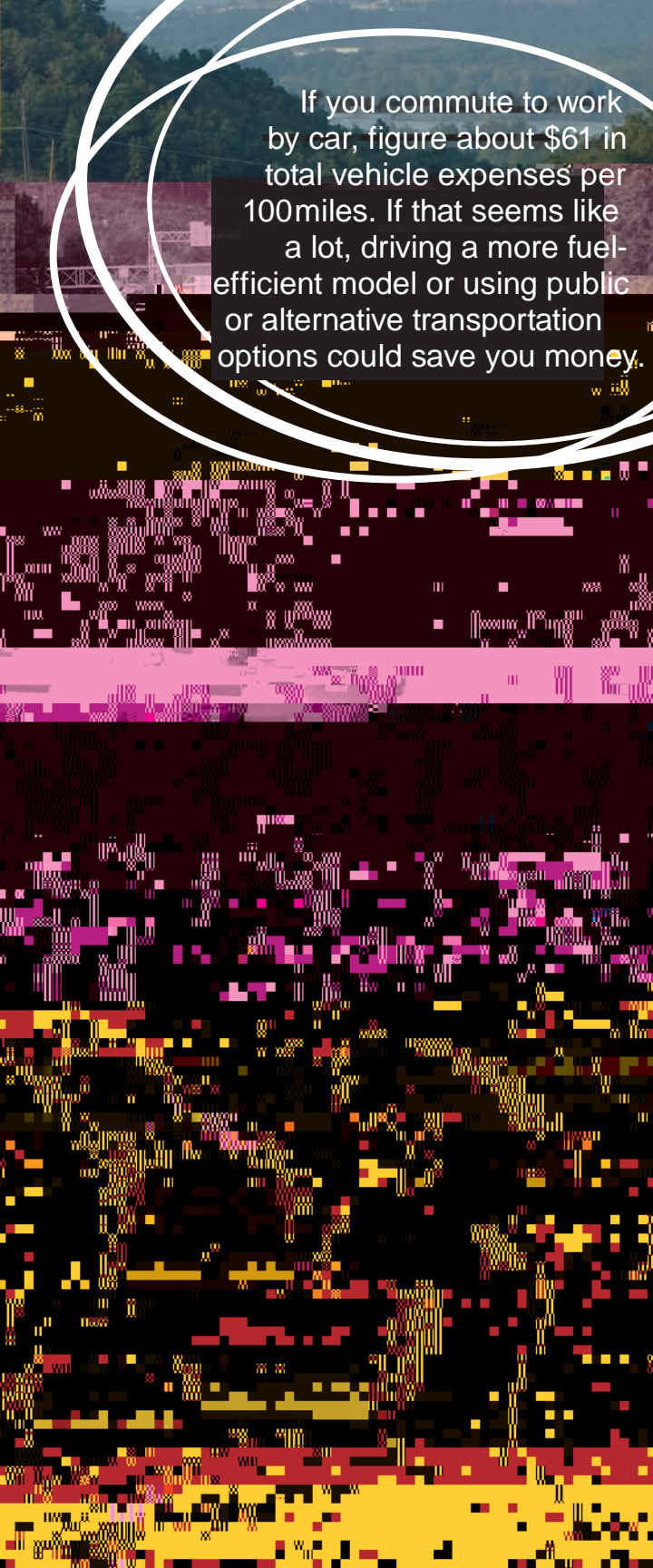
\* total cost per year ÷ total miles per year

\*\* decreased depreciation for mile age under 15,000 miles annually averaged over 7 years

\*\*\* increased depreciation for mile age over 15,000 miles annually averaged over 7 years

† see page 2 for a listing of vehicle makes and models used for driving cost calculations





If you commute to work by car, figure about \$61 in total vehicle expenses per 100 miles. If that seems like a lot, driving a more fuel-efficient model or using public or alternative transportation options could save you money.



**Battery** The battery supplies power to the starter motor and acts as a voltage stabilizer and makes up for any shortfall when the alternator can't meet the vehicle's electrical needs. Inspect battery cable connections at every oil change and clean as needed. When inspecting a battery, always wear eye protection and gloves.

**Tires** As the only part of your vehicle in contact with the road, tires are integral to safety and ride comfort. For optimum performance, tires must have adequate tread depth and proper inflation. Inspect tires and check inflation pressures at least once a month.

AAA offers several resources to complement information found in your owner's manual. They include:



AAA is a federation of motor clubs serving more than 53 million members in the United States and Canada through more than 1,100 offices.

Founded in 1902, AAA is a not-for-profit, fully taxpaying corporation. Its purpose is twofold: give members a full range of automotive and travel-related services and promote the interests of motorists and travelers through legislative and educational activities.

AAA has published *Your Driving Costs* since 1950. That year, driving a car 10,000 miles cost 9 cents a mile, and gasoline sold for 27 cents per gallon.

**Methodology** Cost calculations in this edition of *Your Driving Costs* are comparable to the 2012 version. The process used to estimate annual driving costs is proprietary to AAA. It incorporates standardized criteria designed to model the average AAA member's use of a vehicle for personal transportation over five years and 75,000 miles of ownership.

The use of standardized criteria ensures AAA's estimates are consistent when comparing driving costs of different vehicle makes and models. Actual driving costs will vary based on individual driving habits, location, operating conditions and other factors.

Estimates are provided to help consumers make informed vehicle purchase decisions and budget for annual automotive expenses.

