



Saturday 20 June 2009

## **New Taxi Fares**

New taxi fares will apply from the 5 July 2009, following the annual review by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

A spokesperson for the Ministry of Transport today said the Ministry had accepted IPART's recommendation to allow for maximum increases of 4.2% in urban areas and 4.1% in rural areas.

"The average additional cost as a result of IPART's recommendation would be 87 cents for city fares and 68 cents in the country," the spokesperson said.

"The cost of operating a taxi has increased 4.2% since 2008, so this is reflected in the change to fares.

"Insurance costs alone have increased an average of 10.7% since 2008, indicating that costs to taxi operators are on the way up.

"It's appropriate that fares be adjusted to reflect those increased costs in order to keep the taxi industry viable.

"Unlike trains, buses and ferries, taxis are not taxpayer-subsidised, so it's important to ensure the fares are sustainable in order to keep taxis on the road servicing passengers."

Key changes for urban taxi fares (in Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong, Central Coast, Blue Mountains and surrounding areas), are:

Flagfall will increase by 10 cents to \$3.20.

- The distance rate will increase by 8 cents to \$1.93 per kilometre
- The waiting time rate will increase by 3 cents, to 83 cents per minute
- The radio booking fee will increase by 10 cents to \$2.10

Key changes for country taxi fares are:

Flagfall will increase by 10 cents to \$3.70.

- The distance rate will increase by 10 cents to \$1.98 per kilometre
- The waiting time rate will increase by 3 cents, to 85 cents per minute
- The radio booking fee will not increase and will remain at \$1.10

A copy of the full IPART report will be available at [www.ipart.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au) from Monday.

**For a copy of the report or media enquiries call Chrissy Flanagan on 0402 296 180**