

AAA: Cost of owning a car falls to 6-year low

By Jim Shay Published 10:38 am, Thursday, April 7, 2016



IMAGE 1 OF 8

Maintenance: Up 3.33 percent to 5.28 cents per mile/\$792 per year (+\$25 per year) While there is significant variation among individual vehicles, modest increases in vehicle maintenance are attributable to
... [more](#)

How much does it cost to own and operate a car?

That means everything from gas, insurance, taxes, auto loans, maintenance, taxes.

A new study by AAA says there is some good news: the total has fallen to a six-year low of \$8,558.

AAA's 2016 Your Driving Costs study says a driver can expect to spend 57 cents for each mile driven, approximately \$713 per month, to cover the fixed and variable costs associated with owning and operating a car.

"Thanks to lower gas prices, American drivers can expect to save hundreds of dollars in fuel costs in 2016," said **John Paul**, AAA Northeast senior manager of traffic safety. "Fortunately, this annual savings more than offsets the moderate increases in maintenance, insurance, finance charges and other costs associated with owning and operating a vehicle."

Of course, the type of vehicle you drive affects the cost.

For example, a small sedan costs \$6,579 and a four-wheel drive SUV costs \$10,255.

© 2016 Hearst Communications, Inc.

H E A R S T