

BUS FARES FROM 4 JANUARY 2009

Sydney metropolitan and outer-metropolitan bus services

On 16 December 2008, IPART released its determinations on Sydney metropolitan and outer-metropolitan bus fares from 4 January 2009. This fact sheet provides an overview of IPART's decisions. The full reports and determinations are available on IPART's website.

IPART's determination covers both State Transit and private bus fares in Sydney, Wollongong, Newcastle, the Central Coast, Blue Mountains and the Hunter. Since IPART's 2007 determination, single bus fares across all metropolitan and outer metropolitan regions except Newcastle have been harmonised. This means passengers purchasing a single bus ticket on any regular passenger bus service in the Sydney metropolitan or outer metropolitan areas (except Newcastle) pay the same fare for the same distance of travel.

IPART has determined fares for the Sydney metropolitan and outer metropolitan contract regions so that the increase in the cost of providing the bus services for the 12 months to June 2008 is recovered. Fares are rounded to the nearest dollar for TravelPasses and the nearest 10 cents for other types of tickets. After rounding, the average increase in fares determined by IPART is 5.5 per cent.¹

This weighted average increase reflects the fact that over the past 12 months:

- ▼ the Ministry's actual contract payment costs increased by 5.2 per cent
- ▼ contract payment costs less farebox revenue increased by 4.8 per cent
- ▼ contract payment costs less farebox and other revenue in the Sydney metropolitan area increased by 5 per cent
- ▼ the Bus Industry Cost Index (BICI) increased by 5.6 per cent, excluding the additional costs of the new rural and regional bus contracting regime. Although the BICI has been developed to measure the change in the cost of providing rural and regional bus services, it provides an indication of the increase in the cost of providing bus services generally.

An increase in fares of 5.5 per cent is expected in broad terms to maintain the existing shares of the cost of providing bus services that are paid for by passengers and taxpayers. IPART does not expect the fare increase to have a significant effect on the use of bus services or the environmental benefits that bus services provide.

¹ Based on a revenue weighted average.

IPART determined that the maximum price for individual tickets will change as follows:

- ▼ **Single trip tickets** will increase by 5.5 per cent before rounding. After rounding, this will mean the price of a single ticket will increase by between 10 cents and 30 cents, depending on the length of the trip.
- ▼ **TravelTen tickets** will continue to be priced based on the cost of 10 single tickets less a 20 per cent discount. This will mean for the price of Blue TravelTens will increase by 80 cents; Brown, Red and Green TravelTens will increase by \$1.60; and Orange TravelTens will increase by \$2.40.
- ▼ **T-Way 10s** (10 bus trips on the Liverpool to Parramatta Transitway) will transition towards a price based on 10 single T-Way tickets minus a 20 per cent discount over time. For most T-Way 10s this will mean no fare change this year (as the current level of discount for these tickets is less than 20 per cent). However, the price for a 3-5 section ticket will increase by 10 cents.
- ▼ **Weekly TravelPasses** will increase by up to \$3.00. Blue and 2-Zone TravelPasses will increase by \$2.00, and Orange and Pittwater TravelPasses will increase by \$3.00.
- ▼ **Time-based bus fares in Newcastle** will increase by 5.5 per cent before rounding. After rounding this will mean price increases of between 20 cents and 30 cents for a single ticket (depending on the length of time the ticket applies) and \$1.40 for a TimeTen.
- ▼ **The Orange weekly bus/ferry TravelPass in Newcastle** will reduce in price by \$5.00.

IPART's decision on the weighted average fare increase and most of the maximum fares it determined are consistent with the Ministry of Transport's fare proposal.

The maximum fares for specific tickets that will apply from 4 January 2009 are shown in the attached tables.

A Bus fares from 4 January 2009

Table 1 Single fares for bus services in metropolitan (including T-Way services) and outer-metropolitan regions (excluding Newcastle)

Sections	Adult fare	Concession fare
1 to 2	\$1.90	\$0.90
3 to 5	\$3.20	\$1.60
6 to 9	\$4.20	\$2.10
10 to 15	\$5.00	\$2.50
16+	\$6.10	\$3.00

Table 2 TravelTen fares

Sections	Adult fare	Concession fare
1 to 2	\$15.20	\$7.60
3 to 5	\$25.60	\$12.80
6 to 9	\$33.60	\$16.80
10 to 15	\$40.00	\$20.00
16+	\$48.80	\$24.40

Table 3 T-WayTen fares

Sections	Adult fare	Concession fare
1 to 2	\$15.30	\$7.60
3 to 5	\$25.60	\$12.80
6 to 9	\$34.00	\$17.00
10 to 15	\$40.80	\$20.40
16+	\$49.30	\$24.60

Table 4 T-Way Bus Plus weekly fares

Sections	Adult fare	Concession fare
1 to 2	\$14.40	\$7.20
3 to 5	\$26.70	\$13.30
6 to 9	\$38.00	\$19.00
10 to 15	\$54.60	\$27.30
16+	\$69.30	\$34.60

Table 5 T-Way weekly fares

Zones	Adult fare	Concession fare
North	\$38.00	\$19.00
South	\$38.00	\$19.00
North + South	\$69.30	\$34.60

Table 6 Private bus weekly fares

Sections	Adult fare	Concession fare
1 to 2	\$15.20	\$7.60
3 to 5	\$25.60	\$12.80
6 to 9	\$33.60	\$16.80
10 to 15	\$40.00	\$20.00
16+	\$48.80	\$24.40

Table 7 Fares for one- and two-mode weekly TravelPasses

TravelPass	Adult fare	Concession fare
Blue	\$34.00	\$17.00
Orange	\$43.00	\$21.50
Pittwater	\$58.00	\$29.00
2-Zone	\$34.00	\$17.00

Table 8 Newcastle time-based fares

Ticket	Adult fare	Concession fare
1 Hour	\$3.20	\$1.60
4 Hours	\$6.20	\$3.10
TimeTen 1 Hour	\$26.10	\$13.00
All Day	\$9.50	\$4.70

Table 8 Two-mode weekly Newcastle TravelPass fares

TravelPass	Adult fare	Concession fare
Newcastle Orange	\$34.00	\$17.00

Table 9 Other tickets (Sydney Buses services only)

Ticket	Adult fare	Concession fare
BusTripper	\$12.70	\$6.30
Sports Special	\$5.60	\$2.80
School Term Pass	N/A	\$45.10