

**Sent:** Saturday, 1 November 2008 12:04 AM

**Subject:** Fare Increases

Dear Sir/Madam,

After reading in MXNews about the suggested fare rises in 2009, I would like to ask the NSW Government what the increases of fares are based on? Every Sydney commuter who has been using the state rail network over the years must be wondering. Nothing has been done to improve railway services in any way, shape or form. Trains are often late, overcrowded to the extend where there simply never are seats available during peak-hours for any full-fare paying commuter let alone that there hardly are any standing places available, and more often than not when there is a stuff-up somewhere on the railway network it leads to absolutely crazy delays in a totally different location! Sooooooo, are commuters supposed to put up with this and PAY MORE for these inconveniences???? Come on, that is outright ridiculous! I am struggling on a yearly income of less than \$24,000, working full-time, not married and no children (fortunately) and I desperately would like to keep using the railway network to commute to and from the various locations where I have to work, but if a fare increase of 17% becomes a reality it may be better for me to drive a car! And wasn't the government so concerned about Greenhouse Gas Emission-levels? Ooooooor was that simply another joke to get more votes? Please consider the already struggling many people in this state. Everything seems to keep going up in price, except their income. Don't let train fares keep rising to fill the pockets of non-performing "managers" who never ever are being held responsible for the severe lack of feasible results! Show some improvement before even thinking about fare increases. Otherwise please ask for some advice from other countries that really are overpopulated but have an effective & efficient railway network.

a very concerned commuter.