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Tasmanian vehicle operating costs revealed

RACT has revealed new data to help Tasmanians make more informed decisions when purchasing a car.

According to Tasmania's latest vehicle operating costs data, which assesses the total cost of vehicles across several categories over five years, SUVs are approximately 10 per cent more expensive to run than comparable non-SUV passenger vehicles.

RACT General Manager Mobility Services Darren Moody said it was important Tasmanians considered ongoing costs when budgeting to purchase a new car.

"Purchase price is just the beginning when it comes to buying a new car. There are many other hidden ongoing costs people need to take in account, including interest, fuel, electricity, servicing, new tyres, insurance and depreciation," Mr Moody said.

"These ongoing costs can be easy to overlook, especially when you're intoxicated by the new-car smell of a brand new vehicle, but can end up making a big difference to the long term affordability of your car.

"This year's figures show that SUVs, which continue to rise in popularity on our roads, are actually costing Tasmanians more to run than a comparably sized standard passenger vehicle.

"By sharing this data we hope to arm Tasmanians with the background knowledge they need before stepping into a car showroom so they can make an informed purchase and drive away with a car which suits their long-term situation."

The Kia Cerato, costing \$47,339 over five years or \$182.07 per week, is the cheapest vehicle in the small car category, while the Hyundai Venue SUV costs \$48,904 (\$188.09 per week). The Hyundai Kona, which is a more traditionally sized small SUV, costs \$51,530 (\$198.19 per week).

In the medium category, the Toyota Camry Hybrid and Petrol led the charge at \$57,716 (\$221.98 per week) and \$58,432 (\$224.74), respectively. This was far less than the Mitsubishi Outlander in the medium SUV class at \$66,751 (\$256.73 per week).

The data also showed that while electric vehicles are becoming cheaper, they still don't stack up to conventional engine vehicles with the fully electric Hyundai Ioniq costing \$81,959 (\$315.22 per week) over five years, over \$30,000 more than the similarly sized Hyundai i30.

Cheapest cars over 5 years by category (Tasmania)

Category	Model	Cost (5 years)	Cost (weekly)
Light	Suzuki Baleno	\$39,301	\$151.16
Small	Kia Cerato	\$47,339	\$182.07
Medium	Toyota Camry Hybrid	\$57,716	\$221.98
	Toyota Camry Petrol	\$58,432	\$224.74
People mover	Honda Odyssey	\$73,966	\$284.48
Electric	Hyundai Ioniq PHEV	\$70,367	\$270.64
Small SUV	Honda Venue GO	\$48,904	\$188.09
Medium SUV	Mitsubishi Outlander	\$66,751	\$256.73
Large SUV	Subaru Outback	\$73,869	\$284.11
All terrain	Toyota Fortuner	\$86,819	\$333.92
Light commercial 4x2	Mitsubishi Triton	\$70,909	\$272.73
Light commercial 4x4	Mitsubishi Triton	\$76,907	\$295.80