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Swap car and save thousands each year: RACQ

Queensland's most expensive cars to run are costing families up to \$22,000 per year, according to findings from the State's peak motoring body.

RACQ's 2018 Vehicle Running Costs survey examined a record-breaking 139 popular vehicles - taking into account all expenses associated with normal private car ownership including, interest, fuel, new tyres, servicing, insurance, government charges, and depreciation.

At just under \$6000 per year, the micro Mitsubishi Mirage ES took the title for the cheapest car to own and operate in Queensland – while the eye-wateringly expensive Toyota Landcruiser V8 topped the list for dearest non-electric vehicle, setting owners back \$19,527 per year.

RACQ Head of Technical and Safety Policy Steve Spalding said the report highlighted savings of thousands of dollars each year if motorists either downsized or sought the cheapest in class.

“Drivers can save a lot of money by making informed choices when buying a car,” Mr Spalding said.

“If you want a particular class of vehicle, look for the cheapest to own and operate in that class and in some cases, you could pocket as much as \$125 extra a week.”

Mr Spalding said increased registration and fuel costs had driven up the price of car ownership.

“Queenslanders fork out the most in registration and licensing fees which have skyrocketed nearly 15 percent in the last four years,” he said.

“Unleaded petrol prices jumped almost 10 cents a litre on average this year, and the often-forgotten vehicle depreciation factor can really sting at resale time.”

Media inquiries: Head of Technical and Safety Policy Steve Spalding 0419 794 008; Media Advisor Clare Hunter 0427 261 932.

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of the 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.

Cheapest			Most expensive		
Also cheapest in class in 2017			Also most expensive in class 2017		
Class	Car	Annual Cost	Class	Car	Annual
Micro	Mitsubishi Mirage	\$5,831.45	Micro	Fiat 500 Pop	\$6,881.95
Light	Suzuki Swift GL	\$5,995.49	Light	Volkswagen Polo 70TSI Trendline	\$7,620.23
Light prestige	Audi A1 Sportback	\$9,151.22	Light prestige	Mini Cooper 1.5	\$10,074.44
Small	Kia Cerato S	\$6,684.76	Small	Toyota Prius Hybrid	\$10,356.47
Small prestige	BMW 118i Sportline	\$11,328.89	Small prestige	Mercedes-Benz A180	\$12,186.67
Medium	Skoda Octavia 110 TSI Sport	\$9,798.57	Medium	Volkswagen Passat 132 TSI	\$11,503.25
Medium prestige	Audi A4 1.4 TFSI S Line	\$14,576.89	Medium prestige	Mercedes-Benz C200 2.0L	\$15,450.08
Large	Holden Commodore RS	\$11,643.20	Large	Kia Stinger 330S 3.3L V6	\$14,835.82
Large prestige	Audi A6 1.8 TFSI	\$20,071.73	Large prestige	Mercedes-Benz E200	\$22,633.11
People mover	Honda Odyssey VTi	\$11,374.82	People mover	Toyota Tarago GLi	\$13,033.02
Sports	Mazda MX-5 Roadster	\$10,138.04	Sports	Ford Mustang GT 5.0 V8	\$17,099.69
Small SUV	Suzuki Vitara RT-S	\$7,783.61	Small SUV	Mitsubishi ASX LS 2.2T/DsI 4WD	\$10,446.37
Sm SUV prestige	Audi Q3 1.4 TFSI (110kW)	\$12,481.40	Small SUV	Mercedes-Benz GLA 180	\$12,667.38
Medium SUV	Haval H6 Premium	\$9,905.91	Medium SUV	Jeep Cherokee Longitude (4x4)	\$12,908.92
Med SUV prestige	Volvo XC60 D4 Momentum D	\$14,441.12	Medium SUV	Mercedes-Benz GLC 220d 2.1L	\$16,153.05
Large SUV	Subaru Outback 2.0D	\$10,870.00	Large SUV	Toyota Kluger GX (AWD) 3.5L	\$13,814.72
All terrain	Toyota Fortuner GX (4x4)	\$12,307.61	All terrain	Toyota Landcruiser GXL (4x4)	\$19,527.16
4x2 Ute	Mitsubishi Triton GLX	\$10,957.90	4x2 Ute	Toyota Hilux SR Hi-Rider	\$11,945.47
4x4 Dual Cab Ute	Mitsubishi Triton GLX	\$11,720.74	4x4 Ute	Volkswagen Amarok TDI420 Core Edition	\$13,194.51
Electric	Mitsubishi Outlander LS	\$13,476.14	Electric	Tesla Model X 75D Elec 1sp	\$21,570.14

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