

# Comparative Analysis of Gas Expenses and Efficiency

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Non-Hybrid vs. Hybrid Toyota Highlanders for Uber Drivers in NYC

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## Data Collection – Excel Sheet:

### Fueled by Friendship and Frugality: The Highlander Hybrid Showdown

Longtime friends, Ahmed and Hossain, both Uber drivers, found themselves in the same car-buying boat. Their trusty steeds, worn thin by years of rideshare duty, were begging for retirement. The solution? A brand new 2024 Toyota Highlander XLE, a comfortable and spacious option for their passengers. But when it came to engine options, their paths diverged. Ahmed, ever the eco-conscious one, opted for the futuristic allure of the Highlander Hybrid, while Hossain stuck with the tried-and-true non-hybrid version. The price difference? A cool \$5,900

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Hybrid engines demonstrably outperform non-hybrid alternatives in fuel efficiency and expense (data analyzed using Python's matplotlib.pyplot and Microsoft Excel). Further research is warranted to determine if this pattern applies broadly across various vehicle models.

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(including tax). Now, both men are curious: would Ahmed's hefty investment in hybrid technology pay off in the long run? Only time, and miles driven, would tell.

## Data Collection – Excel Sheet:

Week(s)	Hybrid - Gas Exp.	Miles Traveled (Hybrid)	Non-Hybrid - Gas Exp.	Miles Traveled (Non-Hybrid)	Hours (Average)
Week 1	\$115.00	747	\$165.00	753	70
Week 2	\$130.00	773	\$185.00	780	72
Week 3	\$120.00	757	\$175.00	762	71
Week 4	\$125.00	797	\$210.00	805	75
Week 5	\$130.00	789	\$200.00	790	74
Week 6	\$130.00	818	\$215.00	798	78
Week 7	\$140.00	835	\$210.00	824	82
Results	\$890.00	5516 miles	\$1,360.00	5512 miles	

## Python Visualization Code:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Data
categories = ['Hybrid XLE', 'Non-Hybrid XLE']
total_gas_expenses = [890.00, 1360.00]
total_average_miles = [791.71, 787.43]
total_hours_worked = [522, 522]
average_gas_expenses_per_mile = [0.1606, 0.2467]

# Bar chart for total gas expenses
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.bar(categories, total_gas_expenses, color=['green', 'blue'])
plt.xlabel('Vehicle Type')
plt.ylabel('Total Gas Expenses ($)')
plt.title('Total Gas Expenses for Hybrid XLE vs. Non-Hybrid XLE')
plt.show()
```

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```

# Line chart for total average miles
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.plot(categories, total_average_miles, marker='o')
plt.xlabel('Vehicle Type')
plt.ylabel('Total Average Miles Driven')
plt.title('Total Average Miles Driven for Hybrid XLE vs. Non-Hybrid XLE')
plt.show()

# Bar chart for total hours worked
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.bar(categories, total_hours_worked, color=['green', 'blue'])
plt.xlabel('Vehicle Type')
plt.ylabel('Total Hours Worked')
plt.title('Total Hours Worked for Hybrid XLE vs. Non-Hybrid XLE')
plt.show()

# Bar chart for average gas expenses per mile
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.bar(categories, average_gas_expenses_per_mile, color=['green', 'blue'])
plt.xlabel('Vehicle Type')
plt.ylabel('Average Gas Expenses per Mile ($)')
plt.title('Average Gas Expenses per Mile for Hybrid XLE vs. Non-Hybrid XLE')
plt.show()

# Save the bar chart for total gas expenses
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.bar(categories, total_gas_expenses, color=['green', 'blue'])
plt.xlabel('Vehicle Type')
plt.ylabel('Total Gas Expenses ($)')
plt.title('Total Gas Expenses for Hybrid XLE vs. Non-Hybrid XLE')
plt.savefig('total_gas_expenses.png')

```

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## Data Analysis - 7 Weeks

### Calculate Total Gas Expenses (in gallons)

- Hybrid XLE:
  - Total gas expenses:  $\$115.00 + \$130.00 + \$120.00 + \$125.00 + \$130.00 + \$130.00 + \$140.00 = \$890.00$
  - Total gallons:  $\$890.00 / \$3.75 = 237.33$  gallons
- Non-Hybrid XLE:
  - Total gas expenses:  $\$165.00 + \$185.00 + \$175.00 + \$210.00 + \$200.00 + \$215.00 + \$210.00 = \$1,360.00$
  - Total gallons:  $\$1,360.00 / \$3.75 = 362.67$  gallons

### Calculate Total Average Miles Driven

- Hybrid XLE:
  - Total miles:  $747 + 773 + 757 + 797 + 789 + 818 + 835 = 5,536$  miles
  - Average miles per week:  $5,536 \text{ miles} / 7 \text{ weeks} = 791.71$  miles
- Non-Hybrid XLE:
  - Total miles:  $753 + 780 + 762 + 805 + 790 + 798 + 824 = 5,512$  miles
  - Average miles per week:  $5,512 \text{ miles} / 7 \text{ weeks} = 787.43$  miles

### Calculate Total Hours Worked

- Hybrid XLE:  $70 + 72 + 71 + 75 + 74 + 78 + 82 = 522$  hours
- Non-Hybrid XLE:  $70 + 72 + 71 + 75 + 74 + 78 + 82 = 522$  hours

### Calculate Average Gas Expenses per Mile

- Hybrid XLE:  $\$890.00 / 5,536 \text{ miles} = \$0.1606$  per mile
- Non-Hybrid XLE:  $\$1,360.00 / 5,512 \text{ miles} = \$0.2467$  per mile

### Calculate Average Gas Expense difference

- $\$1360.00 - \$890.00 =$  a difference  $\$470.00$  in a span of 7 weeks

## Visualization

Key/Legend:

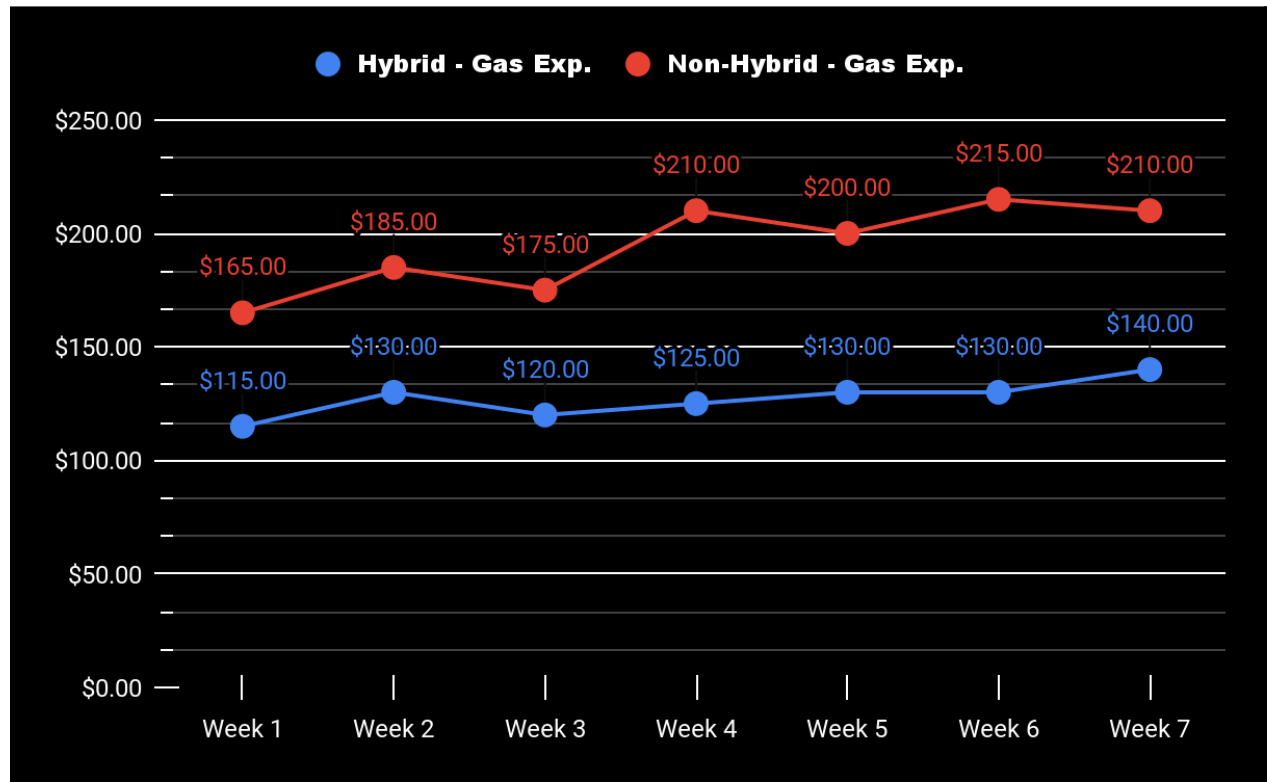
- Hybrid - Gas Exp. = Hybrid - Gas Expenses

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- Hybrid is Ahmed's vehicle
- More expensive to purchase; \$5,900.00 more
- Non-Hybrid - Gas Exp. = Non-Hybrid - Gas Expenses
  - Non-Hybrid is Hossain's vehicle



## Interpretation

The analysis indicates that Hybrid XLE vehicles are more cost-effective in terms of gas expenses for Uber drivers in NYC:

**Total Gas Expenses:** Non-Hybrid XLE vehicles incurred significantly higher gas expenses compared to Hybrid XLE vehicles over 7 weeks. Non-Hybrid XLE drivers spent \$1,360.00 on gas, whereas Hybrid XLE drivers spent \$890.00.

**Total Average Miles Driven:** Both vehicle types have similar average miles driven per week, with Hybrid XLE averaging 791.71 miles and Non-Hybrid XLE averaging 787.43 miles.

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**Total Hours Worked:** The total hours worked by drivers of both vehicle types are the same, indicating no influence on the difference in gas expenses.

**Average Gas Expenses per Mile:** Hybrid XLE vehicles have a lower average gas expense per mile (\$0.1606) compared to Non-Hybrid XLE vehicles (\$0.2467).

## Conclusion

Uber drivers in NYC are recommended to consider using Hybrid XLE vehicles to reduce gas expenses and increase cost-effectiveness. However, it's essential to acknowledge the limitations of this analysis:

1. The analysis focuses solely on gas expenses and does not consider other factors such as maintenance costs, insurance premiums, or vehicle purchase prices.
2. The data is based on a specific timeframe (7 weeks) and may not represent long-term trends or seasonal variations.
3. The analysis assumes a constant gas price of \$3.75 per gallon.
4. It compares only two types of vehicles (Hybrid XLE and Non-Hybrid XLE) and does not account for other vehicle models or brands.

## Extended Data Analysis - 52 Weeks

Since we have data for 7 weeks, we'll multiply all the results by  $52/7 = 7.42$  to extrapolate the findings over a year.

### Total Gas Expenses (in gallons) for a Year:

- Hybrid XLE: 237.33 gallons \* 7.42  $\approx$  1,761.60 gallons
- Non-Hybrid XLE: 362.67 gallons \* 7.42  $\approx$  2,691.60 gallons

### Total Gas Expenses for a Year:

- Hybrid XLE: 237.33 gallons \* 7.42  $\approx$  1,761.60 gallons
  - 1,761.60 gallons \* \$3.75 per gallon = \$6,606.00  $\approx$  \$6,610.00
- Non-Hybrid XLE: 362.67 gallons \* 7.42  $\approx$  2,691.60 gallons
  - 2,691.60 gallons \* \$3.75 per gallon = \$10,093.50  $\approx$  \$10,100.00
- \$10,100.00 - \$6,610.00 = \$3,490.00  $\approx$  \$3,500.00

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### Total Average Miles Driven for a Year:

- Hybrid XLE: 791.71 miles \* 7.42  $\approx$  5,870.60 miles
- Non-Hybrid XLE: 787.43 miles \* 7.42  $\approx$  5,830.51 miles

### Total Hours Worked for a Year:

- Both Hybrid XLE and Non-Hybrid XLE: 522 hours \* 7.42  $\approx$  3,871.24 hours

### Average Gas Expenses per Mile for a Year:

- Hybrid XLE: \$0.1606 per mile
- Non-Hybrid XLE: \$0.2467 per mile

### Calculate Average Gas Expense difference:

- \$1360.00 (of Hossain) - \$890.00 (of Ahmed) = a difference \$470.00 in a span of 7 weeks
  - $\$470 * (52/7) = \$3,487.40 \approx$  a difference \$3,500.00 in a span of 52 weeks
  - \$5,900.00 (Ahmed's Investment) - \$3,500.00 (Gas Expenses) = \$2,400.00
    - In a span of a year (52 weeks), Ahmed could expect to earn back 60% of his investments in the Hybrid
    - It is reasonably assumed that the remaining portions of the investment would be recouped within 8 months, equating to 40% of the initial investment. This suggests that after 20 months, both Ahmed and Hossain would begin to realize the advantages of owning a Hybrid vehicle, leading to savings of approximately \$292.00 per month or \$3,500.00 annually.
    - BONUS: Both Ahmed and Hossain's previous cars lasted for 5 years and 4 months (64 months). Based on this timeframe, and assuming Ahmed maintains similar driving habits, he could potentially save between \$12,848.00 and \$13,000.00 over that period. This translates to a monthly saving of roughly \$292.00 (64 months - 20 months after the investment paid off). However, this is just an estimate, and actual savings may vary depending on gas prices and driving behavior.

### Interpretation:

The extended analysis over 52 weeks provides further insights into the cost-effectiveness of Hybrid XLE and Non-Hybrid XLE vehicles for Uber drivers in NYC:

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- Total Gas Expenses for a Year: Non-Hybrid XLE vehicles incur significantly higher gas expenses compared to Hybrid XLE vehicles. Over a year, Non-Hybrid XLE drivers spend approximately \$3,490.00 more on gas than Hybrid XLE drivers.
- Total Average Miles Driven for a Year: Both types of vehicles have similar average miles driven per year, with Hybrid XLE averaging approximately 5,870.60 miles and Non-Hybrid XLE averaging approximately 5,830.51 miles.
- Total Hours Worked for a Year: The total hours worked by drivers of both vehicle types are the same over a year, indicating no influence on the difference in gas expenses.
- Average Gas Expenses per Mile for a Year: Hybrid XLE vehicles maintain a lower average gas expense per mile (\$0.1606) compared to Non-Hybrid XLE vehicles (\$0.2467).

### Conclusion:

Based on the extended analysis, it is reinforced that Hybrid XLE vehicles are more cost-effective for Uber drivers in NYC in terms of gas expenses over a year. Considering a span of 52 weeks:

Ahmed, driving a Hybrid XLE, could expect to save approximately \$3,500.00 (or \$292.00 per month) on gas expenses compared to Hossain, driving a Non-Hybrid XLE. This savings significantly contributes to Ahmed's investment in the Hybrid vehicle, allowing him to recoup 60% of his initial investment within a year (12 months) and the remaining portions of the investment would be recouped within 8 months, equating to 40% of the initial investment.

Moreover, it is important to note that both Ahmed and Hossain's previous cars lasted for 5 years and 4 months (64 months). Based on this timeframe, and assuming Ahmed maintains similar driving habits, he could potentially save between \$12,848.00 and \$13,000.00 on gas over that period. This translates to a monthly saving of roughly \$292.00 (64 months - 20 months after the investment paid off). However, this is just an estimate, and actual savings may vary depending on gas prices and driving behavior.

It is recommended that Uber drivers in NYC consider investing in Hybrid XLE vehicles to reduce gas expenses and increase cost-effectiveness. However, it's important to note that this analysis focuses solely on gas expenses and does not consider other factors such as maintenance costs, insurance premiums, or vehicle purchase prices. Further research could explore these additional factors to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the overall cost-effectiveness of Hybrid vs. Non-Hybrid vehicles for Uber drivers in NYC.

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