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Cairns drivers paying more to pump

Motorists in Cairns were being charged on average nearly 10 cents more per litre (cpl) for unleaded petrol (ULP) in October than the previous month, according to the State's peak motoring body.

RACQ's *October 2019 Fuel Price Report* revealed the average ULP price in the far north city was 148.8 cents per litre, up by 9.8cpl on the previous month.

Club spokesperson Renee Smith said the majority of regional centres saw increases in average ULP prices due to restrictions in supply in the Asia-Pacific region in mid-October.

"The Singapore petrol and diesel benchmark prices increased during October which had an overall effect on the prices Townsville drivers were paying at the bowser," Ms Smith said.

"Thankfully, the supply issues appear to be rectified so we should see prices fall this month."

Ms Smith said while nearby Townsville residents also paid the same average price for ULP during October, they had seen less of an increase in prices compared with Cairns.

"Cities in regional Queensland with stronger competition between retailers saw less of an overall increase in average prices, and sadly Cairns and Townsville retailers aren't willing to play the price war game," she said.

Ms Smith encouraged drivers to take advantage of the transparent fuel price reporting trial which forced retailers to publish their prices to the public.

"There are many apps and websites on the market, like RACQ's Fair Fuel Finder, which can pinpoint exactly where the cheapest sites are," she said.

"We've never had so much access to data, so we really have no excuse for being overcharged for fuel. It takes 30 seconds to save on your fuel bill."

Media inquiries: RACQ spokesperson Renee Smith 0409 573 193; Media Advisor Emma O'Mara 0427 949 358.

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.