



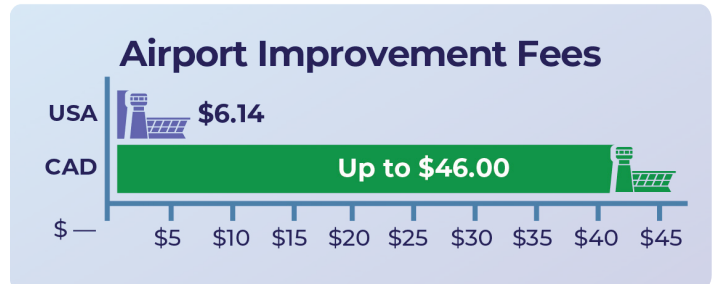
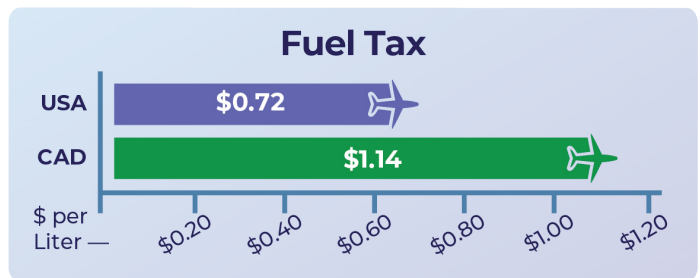
Election 2025 Priority: Make Air Travel Affordable for Canadians

Canada's aviation system is one of the most costly and least competitive in the world.

Excessive federal taxes, fees, and charges make the cost of air travel excessively high, exacerbating the affordability crisis facing many Canadians. It is not unusual for a full one-third of the cost of a plane ticket to be made up of these taxes.

In spring 2024, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities conducted hearings into the competitiveness of Canada's air travel system.

A point on which there was near-unanimous agreement is that the Canadian 'user pay' system is one of the most uncompetitive, costly systems in the world, and inhibits our economic growth.



All dollars quoted in Canadian currency

The wide range of fees, charges, and taxes which passengers in Canada must pay are all appreciably higher than in many other jurisdictions, including the United States. For example, the excise tax on aviation fuel is 158% higher in Canada than the US. With the 2024 increase in the Air Travellers Security Charge (ATSC), the

Canadian security fee is significantly higher than the equivalent fee in the US. Airport Improvement Fees (AIF) are also generally much lower at US airports. At 19 Canadian airports, these fees range between 2.5 and 7.5 times the US national average, which translates to approximately C\$15.00-\$45.00 per passenger, compared to C\$6.14 per passenger in the US.

It doesn't have to be this way. Our federal government can and should freeze, review, and ultimately lower fees.

