

MCI offers ten easy ways to save on fuel economy

We already know motor coaches provide the most fuel-efficient transportation mode in the United States, with the average 45-foot motor coach replacing 54 cars on the road. MCI offers the following reminders for some of the easiest ways to save even more on fuel economy.

1. The #1 thing operators can do to decrease fuel consumption is to reduce speed. MCI testing shows that reducing speed from 70 to 55 miles per hour can increase fuel economy by 26% due to aerodynamics.
2. Don't punch the throttle. On urban routes, emphasize smooth and steady start and stop functions. Driver behavior and style can impact fuel economy up to 30%.
3. Utilize cruise control when possible. The MPG economy can be over 30% better than the average trip using cruise control. The fuel economy typically erodes rapidly over 50 mph. As a rule of thumb, fuel efficiency decreases by 0.1 mpg for every one mph over 50.
4. Minimize idle time. For every 1-hour idle time, operators can expect a 1% decrease in fuel efficiency.
5. Clean air and fuel filters and properly maintained wheel bearings can improve fuel economy. Explore fuel-savings products at [NFI.parts](#).
6. Proper tire inflation, condition, and rotation significantly increase fuel economy. Ten percent tire underinflation equals approximately a 1% penalty in fuel efficiency.
7. In hot weather, seek shade! Idling the coach to run the A/C not only wastes fuel but, in most locations, is restricted by law.
8. Using the correct tire size and profile for road conditions will make your coach more efficient. Tires worn to 7/16 are approximately 5% MPG better than due to less rolling resistance. Deep lug or aggressive tread patterns are good in adverse winter climates, but changing to highway tread designs will increase mileage and decrease road noise.
9. In a 30mph wind, a coach can experience a 43% spread at 72mph and a 48% spread at 65 mph in fuel economy between headwind and tailwind.
10. Finally, cold temperatures can be a significant factor in fuel performance. For every 10 degrees drop in temperature, air resistance (or aerodynamic drag) increases by two percent and decreases fuel efficiency by one percent.*



MCI recommends taking full advantage of analytics and training to empower operators with the knowledge and skills to maintain, diagnose, and repair systems to maximize profitability. Customers can take advantage of [NFI Connect™](#), an exclusive advanced telematics solution, fuel consumption reports and automatic notifications when the vehicle is performing inefficiently based on driving maneuvers or operating conditions as well as [MCI Academy's](#) award-winning LMS training for courses in driver training, fuel efficiency, and maintenance. To continue the conversation, talk to your [MCI representative](#).

*Sources:

- [Cummins secrets of better fuel economy](#)
- [Does Weather Affect Your Fuel Economy? | FuelZ \(fuelzcard.com\)](#)



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