PRESS RELEASE

Taxis and Ride-Hailing by the numbers: New UITP Statistics Brief takes a closer look at the latest trends

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Digitalisation, decarbonisation, climate change and the coronavirus pandemic…what has been the impact for taxis and apps?

If public transport is the backbone of urban mobility, then taxis and ride-hailing services are its safety net, providing fast, reliable, 24-hour service. But what is the current state of those players in 2023?

The latest UITP Statistics Brief: “Global Taxi and Ride-Hailing Benchmarking Study 2019-2021” provides a detailed picture of those services in different cities across the globe.

This expert data shows a general pattern of what happened during COVID-19, and during a time when energy prices sky-rocketed as the climate emergency became much more apparent.

“Local public authorities are called to step up their competence over taxi and ride-hailing services and overcome the observable lack of available data in order to shape a more integrated, inclusive and sustainable mobility system.”

Lidia Signor
UITP Combined Mobility Manager

So, what was the impact on taxis and apps? Here is a small snapshot…
COVID-19

COVID-19 had a huge impact on the Taxi and Ride-Hailing market, with the numbers of riders dropping by 74% in 2020 in Chicago, 56% in Casablanca, 59% in San Francisco and 39% in Dubai. As of the end of 2021, all four cities had not recovered to previous levels of ridership, registering an average of 84% of pre-COVID trips.

DECARBONISATION

Clean vehicles increased. Out of the cities which provided data, cleaner taxi vehicles increased by 15%, while petrol and diesel decreased by 24%. Battery electric vehicles (BEVs) have increased by 66% over the last three years, but still only represents less than 1% of the total fleet.

SUPPORTING LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Local public authorities, even when they cannot regulate taxi and ride-hailing services, can contract their vehicles for specific services to support the local public transport system. These include transport for people with reduced mobility (frequently known as ‘paratransit services’) or to complement a Demand-Responsive Transport (DRT) scheme.

PUBLIC DATA

One key takeaway from the data collection was the clear lack of available data on these services despite the progressive digitalisation of the sector. Out of all the cities which participated in the research, none of them have an overview of the total number of requests for taxi and ride-hailing services.

Read the UITP Taxi and Ride-Hailing Statistics Brief

Hear more from the biggest players in the new mobility sector when they take to the stage of the UITP Global Public Transport Summit in Barcelona (4-7 June 2023), during our Congress and Exhibition.

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FOR EDITORS

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