



TRICYCLE FARE PRICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CONCEPCION: A COMMUTERS' PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: The objective of this study is to evaluate the tricycle fare price in the Municipality of Concepcion from the perspective of commuters. Additionally, the study aims to assess the demographic profile of respondents in terms of age, gender, and socioeconomic status, examine passengers' experiences with tricycle fares, identify problems encountered by passengers regarding tricycle fares, propose recommendations to address prevailing issues, and explore the implications of the study for public administration.

Methods: This study employs a phenomenological qualitative research approach, utilizing discussions and narrative discourses of respondents to explore their experiences with tricycle fares. The research focuses on gathering insights into commuters' perspectives on fare pricing and their encounters with fare-related issues.

Results: The study reveals that tricycle fare pricing in the Municipality of Concepcion exhibits irregularities, with fares often being more expensive than in previous years. Passengers report dissatisfaction with fare inconsistencies and express concerns about the affordability of tricycle transportation. Based on the experiences shared by respondents, it is concluded that implementing a standard fare matrix is necessary to benefit both commuters and drivers.

Conclusion: In conclusion, this study highlights the need for a standardized fare structure for tricycle transportation in the Municipality of Concepcion. By addressing fare irregularities and ensuring fare affordability, public transportation services can better serve the needs of commuters. The findings of this study have implications for public administration, emphasizing the importance of regulatory measures to improve transportation accessibility and affordability for the local community.

Keywords: Fare Matrix, Tricycle Drivers, Municipality of Concepcion.

TARIFA DE TRICICLO NO MUNICÍPIO DE CONCEPCION: A PERSPECTIVA DOS PASSAGEIROS

RESUMO

Objetivos: O objetivo deste estudo é avaliar o preço da tarifa triciclo no Município de Concepcion a partir da perspectiva dos passageiros. Além disso, o estudo tem como objetivo avaliar o perfil demográfico dos entrevistados em termos de idade, gênero e status socioeconômico, examinar as experiências dos passageiros com as tarifas triciclo, identificar problemas encontrados pelos passageiros em relação às tarifas triciclo, propor recomendações para abordar questões prevaletentes e explorar as implicações do estudo para a administração pública.

Métodos: Este estudo emprega uma abordagem de pesquisa qualitativa fenomenológica, utilizando discussões e discursos narrativos dos entrevistados para explorar suas experiências com as tarifas de triciclo. A pesquisa se concentra em reunir insights sobre as perspectivas dos passageiros sobre a tarifação e seus encontros com questões relacionadas à tarifa.

Resultados: O estudo revela que a tarifação de triciclo no Município de Concepcion apresenta irregularidades, com tarifas muitas vezes mais caras do que em anos anteriores. Os passageiros relatam insatisfação com as inconsistências tarifárias e expressam preocupações sobre a acessibilidade do transporte triciclo. Com base nas experiências compartilhadas pelos inquiridos, conclui-se que é necessária a aplicação de uma matriz tarifária normalizada para beneficiar tanto os passageiros como os condutores.

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Conclusão: Em conclusão, este estudo destaca a necessidade de uma estrutura tarifária padronizada para o transporte triciclo no Município de Concepcion. Ao combater as irregularidades tarifárias e garantir a acessibilidade das tarifas, os serviços de transporte público podem atender melhor às necessidades dos passageiros. Os resultados deste estudo têm implicações para a administração pública, enfatizando a importância de medidas regulatórias para melhorar a acessibilidade de transporte e acessibilidade para a comunidade local.

Palavras-chave: Fare Matrix, Tricycle Drivers, Municipality of Concepcion.

PRECIO DE LA TARIFA DE TRICICLO EN EL MUNICIPIO DE CONCEPCIÓN: UNA PERSPECTIVA DE LOS VIAJEROS

RESUMEN

Objetivos: El objetivo de este estudio es evaluar el precio de la tarifa del triciclo en el Municipio de Concepción desde la perspectiva de los viajeros. Además, el estudio tiene como objetivo evaluar el perfil demográfico de los encuestados en términos de edad, género y estatus socioeconómico, examinar las experiencias de los pasajeros con las tarifas de triciclo, identificar los problemas encontrados por los pasajeros con respecto a las tarifas de triciclo, proponer recomendaciones para abordar los problemas prevalecientes y explorar las implicaciones del estudio para la administración pública.

Métodos: Este estudio emplea un enfoque de investigación cualitativa fenomenológica, utilizando discusiones y discursos narrativos de los encuestados para explorar sus experiencias con las tarifas de triciclo. La investigación se centra en recopilar información sobre las perspectivas de los pasajeros sobre el precio de las tarifas y sus encuentros con cuestiones relacionadas con las tarifas.

Resultados: El estudio revela que el precio de las tarifas de triciclo en el Municipio de Concepción presenta irregularidades, siendo las tarifas a menudo más caras que en años anteriores. Los pasajeros informan de su insatisfacción con las inconsistencias de las tarifas y expresan su preocupación por la asequibilidad del transporte en triciclo. Sobre la base de las experiencias compartidas por los encuestados, se concluye que la implementación de una matriz de tarifas estándar es necesaria para beneficiar tanto a los pasajeros como a los conductores.

Conclusión: En conclusión, este estudio destaca la necesidad de una estructura tarifaria estandarizada para el transporte triciclo en el Municipio de Concepción. Al abordar las irregularidades en las tarifas y garantizar la asequibilidad de las tarifas, los servicios de transporte público pueden atender mejor las necesidades de los pasajeros. Los hallazgos de este estudio tienen implicaciones para la administración pública, enfatizando la importancia de las medidas regulatorias para mejorar la accesibilidad y asequibilidad del transporte para la comunidad local.

Palabras clave: Matriz de Tarifas, Conductores de Triciclo, Municipio de Concepción.

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1 INTRODUCTION

A motorcycle with a sidecar attached, commonly referred to as a "Tricycle," will assist you in getting to your destination quickly. Tricycles are the Philippines' second most popular mode of transportation. Except on significant or main roadways, these tricycles can be seen everywhere around the country. The tricycle is a Philippine mode of transportation that is extremely handy in a variety of situations. It is flexible, meaning it can change or be changed



to suit or operate better in a given environment or for a specific purpose in both rural and urban settings.

A fare is the fee a passenger pays to use a public transportation system. The fare structure is the system in place to decide how much different passengers utilizing a transit vehicle should pay at any particular moment. Fares are critical to the running of public transportation since they are the primary source of revenue for operators. In general, if fares are raised, the number of people who use the service will decrease. The functional relationship between fares and patronage, as depicted by the demand curve, determines whether revenue increases or falls as a result of a fare increase.

The fare is one of the reasons why tricycles are so much better; if you have a car, you will have to pay for parking and fuel. There is no need to utilize an application to discover a place to ride a tricycle because they are everywhere. When you need to fulfill your satisfaction, money isn't an issue. Drivers must have specific licenses, follow established routes, and avoid paying high fixed fares. They're always available, inexpensive, and quick. Commuters these days are certainly asking why tricycle drivers raise their fares without informing the public. Operators and drivers are attempting to shift the burden of paying the high oil price on the global market to customers, which has raised concerns among many about the impact on the economy.

This study evaluated the tricycle fare price in the Municipality of Concepcion on the basis of commuters' perspective along with the Demographic Profile of the respondents in terms of Age, Gender, and Socioeconomic status, what are the experiences of passengers in tricycle fare. The problems encountered by passengers regarding tricycle fare, through these measures were proposed to solve prevailing problems of the passengers in the Municipality of Concepcion.

Lastly, it is hoped that this study may help Local Government Units (LGUs) to determine the current standing of the passengers in the tricycle fare price in the Municipality of Concepcion.

2 RESEARCH METHOD

The researcher formulated research tools and utilized methods to investigate its objective.

The following steps were undertaken:



The descriptive evaluative research design was used in the study to evaluate the commuters' perspective tricycle fare price in the Municipality of Concepcion. The researcher formulated research tools and utilized methods to investigate its objective to wit:

2.1 AN INTERVIEW GUIDE WITH OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS WAS ORIGINALLY PREPARED

- 2.1 The study targeted a total of one hundred (100) commuters as respondents.
- 2.2 The respondents were visited in their homes or neighborhoods and had an open discussion on the questions outlined in the interview guide.
- 2.3 The talk was caught using a voice recorder while following safety precautions such as wearing a facemask and keeping the area clean.

2.2 PHENOMENOLOGICAL STEP-BY-STEP PROCEDURE IN FILTERING THE RESPONDENTS' EXPERIENCES

A. Bracketing

Identifies the underlying assumptions and beliefs that people use to comprehend the world and engage in social action. These are some of the researcher's preconceived notions about trike commuters' experiences.

- High passenger fee
- Inaccurate attitude of drivers
- Low communication between the passenger and the driver

B. Intuition

An unfounded belief or perception about someone or something, or the inability to understand anything right away. The data will be gathered through interviews with the tricycle commuters in the Municipality of Concepcion as the target respondents. The data for this study comprised the sample's responses. This allowed the respondents to learn about their experiences and impressions of the price of a trike fare.

C. Analysis

The discussion and reflections of direct sense perceptions and experiences of the examined phenomenon form the foundation of phenomenology analysis. The ability to approach a project without preconceived notions, concepts, or theoretical framework is a



beginning point for the strategy. Analysis focus on peoples' experiences and perceptions of the phenomenon. In this step, the researchers found the perspectives of commuters among the fare irregularities by the respondent perceptions and experiences.

D. Description

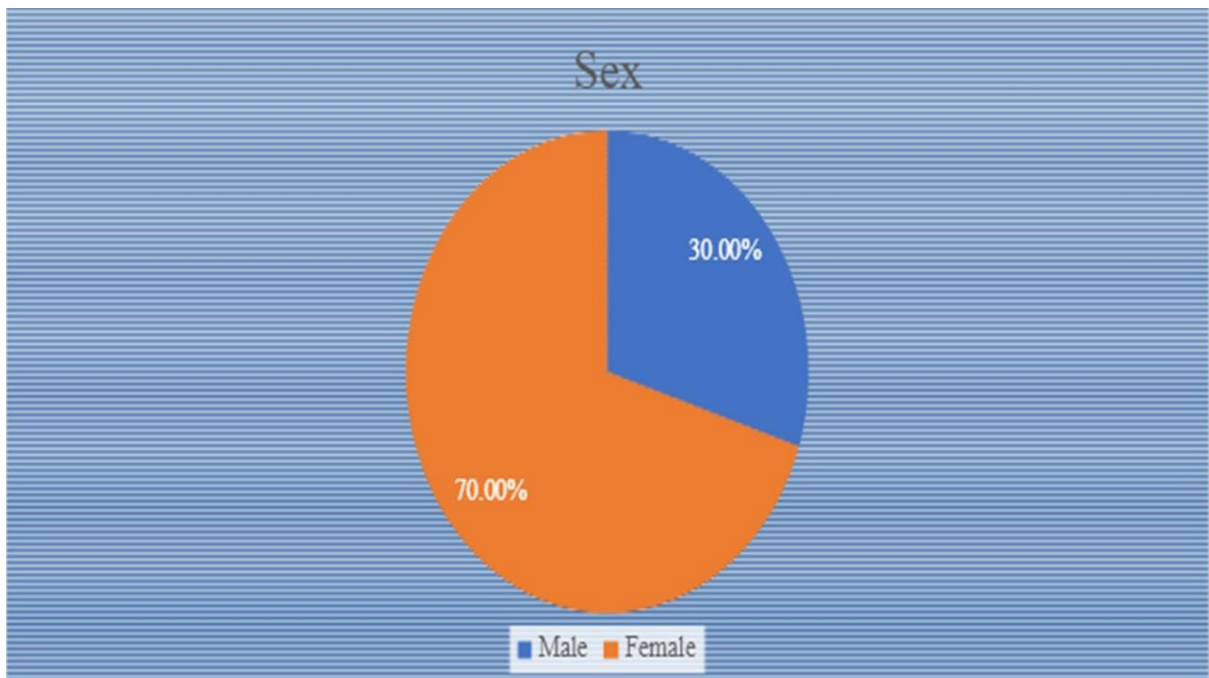
A phenomenological description attempts to depict the structure of first person lived experience, rather than theoretically explain it. In this part, we find out the answers between the researcher and commuters. The result has been identified by the perspective and experiences of the commuters

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This shows the presentation of gathered data in a phenomenological step-by-step procedure, bracketing, intuiting, analysis and description respectively. This also shows the graphical representation of socio-demographic profiles and socio-economic status.

Figure 1

Data Bracketing

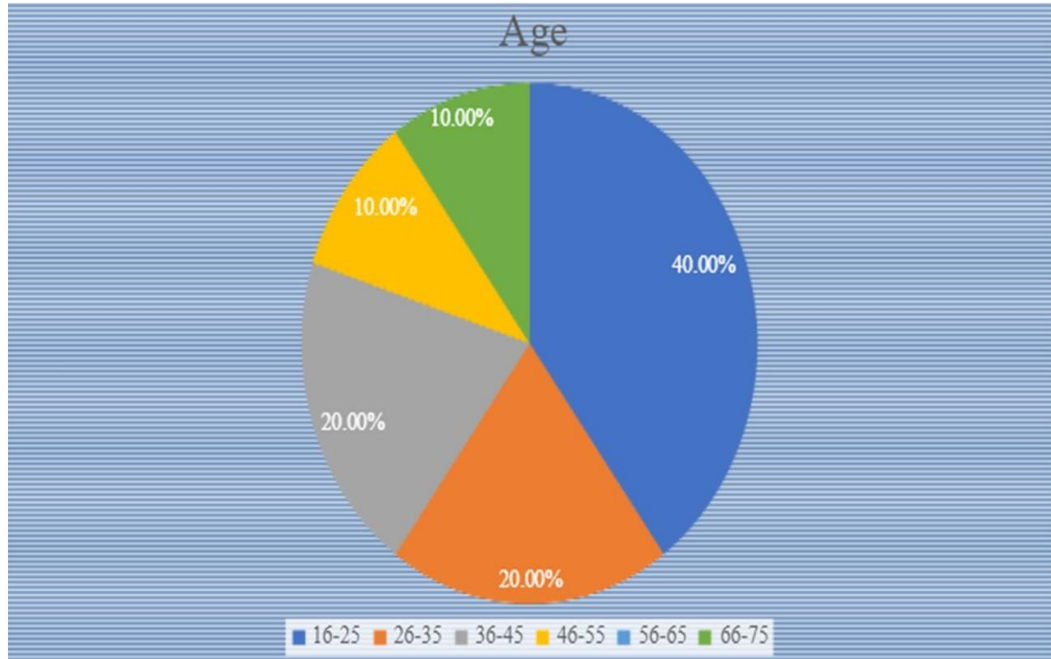


(a)



Figure 2

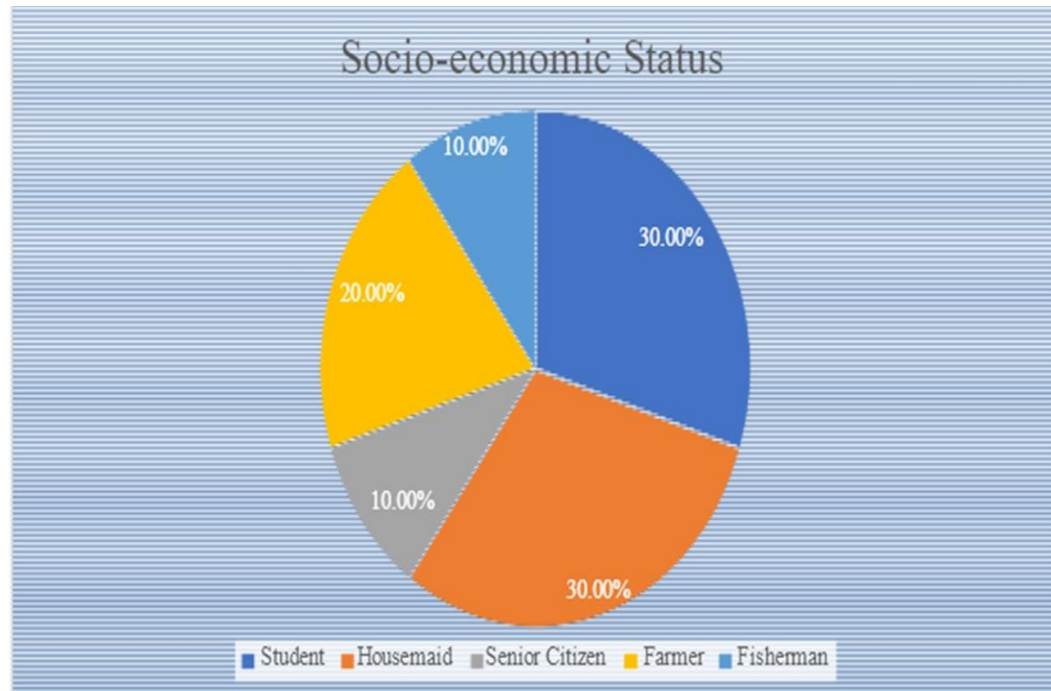
Data Bracketing



(b)

Figure 3

Data Bracketing



Data Bracketing

(c)

Source: Prepared by Authors (2024)



3.1 DATA BRACKETING

The Researchers ' bracket out' the world and any presuppositions that the researchers have an effort to confront the data in as pure a form as possible.

Below are the central themes of the Researchers presuppositions of the Tricycle Fare Price in Municipality of Concepcion:

The following two topics were unanimously affirmed by the respondents:

1. Passenger fees are extremely high.
2. Unreasonable drivers

The majority of responders agree with the following two themes:

1. Inappropriate communication
2. Inconsistencies in the fare

The theme below was not mentioned by any of the respondents.

- 1.Passengers' safety

3.2 DATA INTUITION

Intuition occurs when the researchers are receptive to the meaning a phenomenon has for individuals who have experienced it.

1. Determined the respondent's perspective in the standard tricycle fare.

Table 1

Respondent's perspective

Perspective	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
Fair	44	44%	1
Discounted	18	18%	2.5
Affordable	18	18%	2.5
Profitable	13	13%	4
Increases	7	7%	5

Source: Prepared by Authors (2024)

The number of passengers determines the fare price; the Fair viewpoint had the highest overall percentage from the respondents, with a total of 44% from the one-hundred (100) commuters. The respondents stated that they consider the present tricycle fare in the Concepcion Municipality as fair. They also stated that commuters and drivers should acclimate to the situation, especially because some drivers had only recently returned to the road after the lockdown was lifted.

Furthermore, both the Discounted and Affordable fares received a total of 18%. Despite having an online class system in place, the drivers continue to discount senior folks and students, according to the responses.



However, the profitable, came in fourth with a total of 13%. The respondents stated that they feel the drivers continue to profit because the customers are highly understanding and willing to change their fares for the advantage of the drivers.

Lastly, the Increases received a total of 7% and ranked as fifth. Some respondents reported that because the municipality lacks a Fare Matrix, some tricycle drivers overcharge.

2. Determine the perspectives and stories of the respondents on riding a trike with fare discrepancies and how they handle it.

A. Perspective

Table 2

Perspective

Perspective	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
Natural	30	30%	1
Always Happening	24	24%	2
Take Advantage	17	17%	3
Over-charging	15	15%	4
Unfair	14	14%	5

Source: Prepared by Authors (2024)

Natural disparities came in top with a total of 30%. According to some respondents, fare inconsistencies happen on a daily basis. Some of the respondents claimed that not all drivers are bad; rather, some people are simply unlucky enough to find themselves in that situation on a regular basis.

Furthermore, the always happening garnered a total of 24% and ranked as second. It was mentioned by the respondents that fare inconsistency and discrepancies are always happening everyday in the Municipality of Concepcion because the commuters and the drivers doesn't have a standard basis for the tricycle fare fee.

The Take Advantage viewpoint, on the other hand, came in third place with a total of 17%. Some drivers are taking advantage of the absence of a standard fare matrix in the Municipality of Concepcion, according to the respondents. Most of the time, some drivers added more fee for various reasons, including traffic, night differential, and additional luggage fare. It also happened to commuters, who occasionally paid less due to the absence of a fare matrix.

In addition, Over-charging came in fourth with a total of 15%. The respondents stated that the drivers in the Municipality of Concepcion frequently overcharge commuters with



tricycle fares, particularly when the commuters do not live in the region, and that they believe this is due to the lack of a consistent pricing matrix throughout the municipality.

Lastly, the Unfair viewpoint received 14% from the respondents. Some commuters paid less and some drivers sought a greater fare than the minimum tricycle rate because there was no consistent pricing structure. As a result, Concepcion's municipal government must design a fair and equitable fare matrix for the benefit of everybody.

a. Stories

The story perspective was based on the consolidated stories of the respondents during the conduct of the face-to-face interview:

Table 3

Stories

Based on the Story of the Passengers	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
Overcharging	76	76%	1
Special ride	48	48%	2
The difference in day and night fare	45	45%	3
Not enough change	34	34%	4
Luggage fare	12	12%	5

Source: Prepared by Authors (2024)

Fare inconsistencies certainly happen, according to all of the respondents. They all had different types of fare anomalies, with the passenger overcharging ranking first with a total gained a percentage of 76%. Some drivers, according to the respondents, take advantage of the municipality's absence of a price matrix to overcharge the rate, particularly when they know the commuter does not live in the area.

Furthermore, the discrepancies of the Special ride fare garnered a total of 58% and ranked as second. According to the respondents, if you are the only passenger in the tricycle whether you like it or not some drivers will treat it as a special ride and add an extra-charge on your fare which the commuters find it unfair for them.

The difference between day and night fare, on the other hand, received a total of 48% and was ranked third. Commuters claim that the night fare is substantially more than the day fare. For some odd reason, some tricycle drivers charge the passenger twice as much at night. Some passengers speculated that this was due to the fact that there were less tricycles wandering the Municipality at night, and the passengers had no choice but to follow the drivers' fare charge.



However, the Not enough change garnered a total of 34% and ranked as fourth. According to the respondents, some of the tricycle drivers always claimed that do not have change for the payment of the passenger so that the passenger had no choice but to accept the insufficient change from the driver.

And lastly, the discrepancy in Luggage fare garnered a total of 12% and ranked as fifth. It was mentioned by the respondents that some of the tricycle drivers are adding a fare charge for the luggage of the passenger as it was explained by the tricycle drivers that this was due to the extra weight added to the tricycle during the travel.

b. How they handled

The following is a list of the ways they dealt with it, based on the respondents' consolidated tales during the face-to-face interview:

Table 4

Handling situation

Handling Situation	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
Paid the asked fare	68	70%	1
Talk to the driver	22	20%	2
Pay only the right fare	10	10%	3

Source: Prepared by Authors (2024)

The respondents highlighted some of the methods they cope with the situation of tricycle fare differences in the Municipality of Concepcion, with the Paid the asked fare coming in first with 68% of the responses. The respondents mentioned that instead of wasting time disputing with tricycle drivers, the respondents simply paid the requested fare.

Talk to the driver, on the other hand, came in second with a total of 22% of the responses. The respondents stated that they were attempting to engage with the driver in order to settle their fare complaints. They also stated that some drivers were willing to drop the fare price, but that some drivers were not allowing them to pay the fare price that the commuters believe is sufficient.

However, the Pay only on the right fare came on the third spot and garnered a total of 10%. It was mentioned that some of the respondents were brave enough to pay for what they think a sufficient fare for their travel regardless of the driver's reaction to their payment. Some respondents were willing to argue with the tricycle drivers in which they believed its their right as the commuter.

B. Determine the respondents' opinions on the present tricycle fare during pandemic.



The following were the consolidated opinions of the commuters with regard to the current pandemic tricycle fare in the Municipality of Concepcion:

Table 5

Pandemic

Respondents' opinions on the present tricycle fare during the pandemic	Frequency	Percentage	Ranking
More expensive	54	54%	1
Fair	35	36%	2
Unfair	11	11%	3

Source: Prepared by Authors (2024)

The more expensive rated first with a total gathered percentage of 54% based on the consolidated opinions of commuters in the Municipality of Concepcion on the current fare. The respondents stated that the current tricycle fare was more expensive today than the prior year. They also assumed that, even when the economy began to improve, the price of a trike fare would not decrease. The respondents also stated that they understand that tricycle fares increased during the pandemic due to restrictions imposed during the lockdown, but that now that the economy is recovering, the respondents believe that tricycle fares are too expensive and that the Municipality Concepcion should establish a fare matrix standard for the benefit of commuters and drivers.

The Fair Fare, on the other hand, came in second place, with a total of 35%. The present tricycle fare was mentioned by respondents as being sufficient for both drivers and commuters. The respondents also stated that the drivers are suffering as a result of the ongoing increase in the price of petroleum, which is why, even if the fare price is more than in previous years, they still consider it fair.

However, the Unfair fare received a total of 11% and took third place. The inconsistent tricycle fair, according to respondents, its unjust to both commuters and drivers. Because there was no standard pricing matrix, some commuters paid less and some drivers demanded a higher fare than the minimum tricycle rate. As a result, the Municipal Government of Concepcion must establish a fair and equitable fare matrix for everyone's benefit.

4 OVERALL DATA ANALYSIS

The vast majority of respondents predicted that the majority of their trike experiences will revolve around high fares. The majority of respondents stated that their experiences have



been positive, but it is unavoidable that they will occasionally meet unwelcome moments based on their experiences with certain drivers, some of whom were rude while asking for the fare fee. One of the most prominent complaints among commuters was the exorbitant cost of drivers, particularly at night and when they ride alone. Commuters said that the fee price quadrupled at night, and drivers regard it as a special ride when they ride alone. The respondents agreed that fare anomalies sometimes occur, and that drivers sometimes claim that there isn't enough change for their payment, resulting in a larger fare payment.

All respondents agreed and told the researchers that a proper solution was required, which included a fair and uniform fee matrix for the benefit of both passengers and drivers. It was claimed that there are times when commuters are unaware that they are experiencing irregularities. Commuters must be mindful of their surroundings at all times. The majority of respondents think that, based on their own experiences, there has been a significant change in fare as well as in economic conditions, causing our expenses to increase. According to some respondents, the number of drivers who obey and those who do not are likely the same in terms of frequency.

According to the respondents, the current tricycle fare is more expensive than the previous years. They also believed that the price of a tricycle fare would not fall even if the economy improved. The respondents also stated that they understand that tricycle fares increased during the pandemic due to restrictions imposed during the lockdown, but that now that the economy is recovering, they believe that tricycle fares are too expensive and that the Municipality of Concepcion should establish a fare matrix standard for commuters and drivers' benefit.

4.1 PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The following are the problems encountered by the commuters in the Municipality of Concepcion:

Table 6

Problems Encountered

Problems Encountered	Frequency	Percentage	Ranking
Fare Irregularities	89	89%	1
Overcharging	76	76%	2
Not enough change	50	50%	3
Special ride	35	35%	4

Source: Prepared by Authors (2024)



Table 6 shows that fare irregularities were ranked highest, with an overall percentage of 89%. According to the respondents, because the Municipality of Concepcion lacks an uniform fee matrix, drivers and commuters have no foundation for paying a suitable tricycle fare, which is why most commuters pay more, while some commuters pay less. The lack of a Standard Fare matrix has a significant impact on both commuters and drivers.

Overcharging, on the other hand, came in second place with a total of 76 percent of respondents. Commuters have expressed concern that some drivers take advantage of the municipality's lack of a price matrix to overcharge the rate, particularly when the commuter does not live in the area.

Furthermore, the third major concern of the respondents was Not enough change, which received a total of 50% of the response. According to the respondents, some tricycle drivers always claimed that they did not have change for the passenger's payment, leaving the passenger with little alternative but to accept the driver's insufficient change.

Finally, the Special Ride is the fourth most important concern of commuters in the Municipality of Concepcion, with a total of 35%. According to the respondents, whether you like it or not, if you are the only passenger on the tricycle, some drivers would treat you as a special ride and charge you an additional cost, which the community considers unfair.

5 CONCLUSION

Tricycles are the second most prevalent means of transportation in the Philippines. These tricycles can be spotted all around the country, save on major or main highways. The tricycle is a popular means of transportation in the Philippines, and it comes in handy in a variety of scenarios. It is adaptable, meaning it can change or be adjusted to better suit or operate in a certain context or for a specific purpose in both rural and urban environments.

This study intends to analyze the tricycle fare price in the Municipality of Concepcion from the perspective of commuters, as well as the respondents' Demographic Profile in terms of Age, Gender, and Socioeconomic Status, as well as the passengers' experiences with tricycle fare. Passengers' concerns with tricycle fares were addressed through these solutions, which were recommended to address the municipality of Concepcion's current passenger problems. This study is aimed to assist Local Government Units (LGUs) in determining the present status of passengers in the Concepcion Municipality's tricycle fare price.

It can be observed in the overall analysis that 1.) The vast majority of respondents projected that the most of their tricycle experiences would be dominated by expensive fares.



The majority of respondents said their experiences had been favorable, although they acknowledged that they might occasionally encounter unwelcome situations based on their interactions with particular drivers, some of whom were disrespectful when asking for the taxi cost. 2.) One of the most common complaints among commuters was the high expense of drivers, especially at night and while riding alone. The fee almost increased at night, according to commuters, and drivers see it as a special ride when they travel alone. 3.) The fee almost increased at night, according to commuters, and drivers consider it a special ride when they travel alone. Fare anomalies do happen, and drivers say that there isn't enough change for their payment, resulting in a higher fare payment, according to the respondents. 4.) All of the respondents agreed and told the researchers that a good solution was needed, which included a fair and standard charge matrix for both passengers' and drivers' benefit. Commuters are sometimes unaware that they are suffering anomalies, according to reports. Commuters must always be aware of their surroundings. 5.) The current tricycle fare, according to the respondents, is more expensive than in prior years. 6.) The respondents also stated that they understand that tricycle fares increased during the pandemic as a result of restrictions imposed during the lockdown, but that now that the economy is recovering, they believe that tricycle fares are too high and that the Municipality of Concepcion should establish a fare matrix standard for the benefit of commuters and drivers.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the researchers' conclusions and identified potential improvements, the following recommendations were made:

1. The Local Government Unit of Concepcion should educate its citizen and the entire community to become more aware of their rights as passengers.
2. The Local Government Unit of Concepcion should hold a session for tricycle drivers on how to engage with commuters correctly.
3. Tricycle drivers must provide exact change to commuters and should not use any reason to fail to provide enough change.
4. A fair standard fare matrix must be implemented in the Municipality of Concepcion for the benefit of both the commuters and drivers.
5. The standard fare matrix must be strictly enforced, and those who do not obey the standard fare must face consequences.



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To ALMIGHTY GOD, you are forever the Lord Almighty and with all the things that we do will be done upon your name my Lord. This study will serve as a start for us to help people as you have set an example to all. The researchers would also like to dedicate this study to the almighty God, and to those individuals who have shown their support and their contribution, time, and talent to carry out this task and make this project possible.

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