Your Amsoil Information News Source

Fuel Data...what can it tell you?

In February 2021 - Issue 114 I looked at Fuel Analytics for our 2019 Jeep Compass and in March 2021 - Issue 115 I looked at the Fuel Analytics for our 2008 Hyundai Elantra. This month we will finish up the Fuel Analytics by talking about my 2001 Ford F150.

My truck has held up pretty well over the last 20 years. I purchased it in 2011 with about 100,000 miles on it. Over the first five years I switched all of the fluids over to Amsoil. I regularly do the preventative maintenance tasks,

many of which I have spoke about in previous newsletters and even turned into YouTube videos. I have also completed any required repairs in a timely manner as they arose.

From what I can find online, the 2001 Ford F150, Crew Cab Lariat with 4WD is rated for 11 mpg in the city and 15 mpg on the highway. These are supposedly the numbers for a factory new truck. For the purpose of this analysis, these will be the numbers that I will be using as a baseline.

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2001 Ford F150, 5.4L - Engine Code [L]



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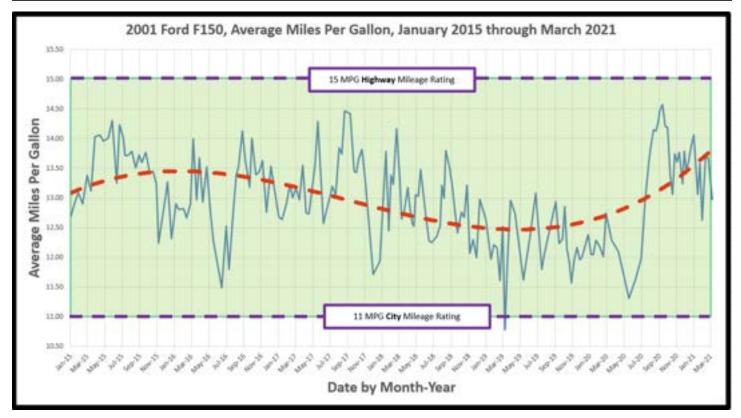
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continued...Fuel Data...what can it tell you?



The chart above shows the fuel economy over the last five years. The purple dashed line towards the top identifies the manufacturer's rating for Highway Mileage and the purple dashed line towards the bottom identifies the manufacturer's rating for City Mileage. The highlighted green area indicates the typical range for fuel economy when doing both city and highway driving, according to the manufacturer. The jagged line indicates the average miles per gallon when calculated each time I filled up. Lastly, the red curvy line in the center indicates the polynomial trend over the last five years.

The sharp dips in winter time typically correspond to wintery weather where four-wheel drive was utilized for an extended period of time between fill ups. Much in the same, the sharp dips in the

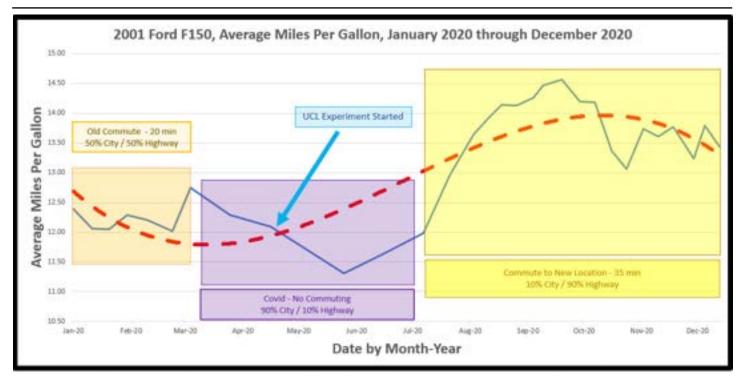
summer time correspond to the completion of construction jobs where I was hauling heavy equipment for an extended period of time between fill ups.

This chart shows the vehicle between the ages of 15 and 20 years old. The trend line indicates that this vehicle has maintained very consistent fuel economy over the many years. There are no major, glaring issues that are noted from the data and the vehicle is operating as it is expected to.

From a fuel standpoint alone, nothing seems to be wrong with this vehicle. The graph is actually a little plain without much excitement. I don't actually have anything else to say about it so I am just going to put a large picture on the right to fill the rest of the space for this page.



continued...Fuel Data...what can it tell you?



Based on the chart on the last page it would seem that pretty much everything is going as it should with my 2001 Ford F150.

If we narrow down the data to only include the date range of January 2020 through December 2020 we can analyze the change in fuel economy over the last year.

In January through March (shown in orange) I was commuting to a building that involved a 20 minute commute consisting of about 50% city and 50% highway travel.

At the onset of the Covid situation, commuting almost ceased to exist. I went from filling up once every ten days to about once a month and the drive consisted of about 90% city mileage (shown in purple). Thus there is a consistent dip in fuel economy. In August, I began commuting to a new location 35 minutes away consisting of 90% highway and 10%

city driving. As with any vehicle, highway mileage will always yield an increase in fuel economy compared to city driving. Thus the data reflects an increase over pre-covid fuel economy although still well within the manufacturer's range of 11 to 15 mpg.

From a fuel standpoint, I don't have any concerns and the engine has seemed to operate well over the past 12 months. My plan with this vehicle is to complete a few additional minor repairs and create some YouTube tutorial videos in the process before selling it and upgrading to another F150 somewhere in the date range of 2010-2013. This will provide me a new vehicle to begin this process again, as well as a new vehicle to switch to Amsoil and create more content tutorials.

Next Month we will dive into <u>Upper Cylinder Lubricant</u>.



The First in Synthetics

Shop Talk...

with Dr. Jonathan D. Olson, EdD (Independent Amsoil Dealer #10458)

When was the last time that you replaced your cabin air filter?

Many people don't even know that they have a cabin air filter.

If you use your heater or air conditioner and the air doesn't smell quite right or there is a low air flow, it is possible your cabin air filter needs replaced.

Typically this is located behind the glove box and typically it is a bit of a challenge to get to. Most cabin air filters cost less than \$20 and can be replaced in under 20 minutes.

The store sells cabin air filters for my 2001 F150, but there is no place to install it as cabin air filters were an optional add-on at the time my vehicle was manufactured. Your owner's manual should specify if your vehicle has a cabin air filter, as well as the location and part number for replacement.



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