

The true cost of ATM fees

	Fee	# Monthly Transactions	Costs (\$)		Invested Opportunity Costs ²		
			Monthly	Annualized	Annual investment return: 4.00%	10 years	20 years
ATM Fee Costs ¹	\$ 4.86	2	\$ 9.72	\$ 116.64	\$ 1,467	\$ 3,654	\$ 6,915
@ transactions per month >>>		1	\$ 4.86	\$ 58.32	\$ 727	\$ 1,811	\$ 3,428
		4	\$ 19.44	\$ 233.28	\$ 2,921	\$ 7,277	\$ 13,770
		8	\$ 38.88	\$ 466.56	\$ 5,855	\$ 14,585	\$ 27,599

How many ATM withdrawals do you make each month, and what fees do you pay?

If you withdraw cash once a week (~4x/month) from an ATM, then your invested opportunity cost would be nearly **\$3k** over 10 years.

The average ATM fee has nearly doubled since 2000 to **\$4.86** per transaction.

Average total annual ATM fees³

2025	\$ 4.86
2020	\$ 4.64
2015	\$ 4.86
2010	\$ 3.74
2005	\$ 2.91
2000	\$ 2.55

Average AM fee for 25 major metro areas³

	Highest		Lowest
Atlanta	\$ 5.37	Boston	\$ 4.37
Phoenix	\$ 5.35	Seattle	\$ 4.42
San Diego	\$ 5.31	Philadelphia	\$ 4.43
Detroit	\$ 5.25	Minneapolis	\$ 4.45

Your ATM fee may be higher or lower (compared to the average) depending on where you reside. What do you pay?

- 1 Fee input is from survey average. If you pay ATM fees, update transaction and fee amounts .
- 2 Annual contribution rounded to nearest dollar. Compounded monthly.
[Compounding calculator](#)
- 3 [Bankrate.com survey](#) as-of Sept 2025

[Worksheet download](#)

How to avoid ATM fees

Five ways to avoid ATM fees:

1	Use your bank's ATMs	Stick to in-network machines whenever possible.
2	Pick the right bank	Many online banks and credit unions reimburse all or most out-of-network fees nationwide.
3	Use cash-back at checkout	Grocery and retail stores often allow free withdrawals with debit card purchases.
4	Plan ahead	Withdraw larger amounts less often to reduce fee frequency.
5	Go digital	With mobile payments and peer-to-peer apps (Venmo, Zelle, Cash App), you may need less cash than you think.

Sources- multiple

Eight financial institutions that reimburse ATM fees:



1	Alliant Credit Union
2	Ally Bank
3	Axos Bank
4	Charles Schwab Bank
5	LendingClub
6	Navy Federal Credit Union
7	TD Bank
8	EverBank

Source: Bankrate.com (Jul 2025)