So many different factors can make a difference to the fuel efficiency of a vehicle – from the road surface on which it is driven, to the pressure of its tyres...

Did you know?
It has been estimated that fixing a car that is noticeably out of tune or has failed an emission test can improve its mileage by an average of 4%, (results vary based on the kind of repair and how well it is done)

Did you know?
Estimates suggest that a 10% change in rolling resistance will result in a 1-2% change in fuel economy.

Did you know?
Tyre pressure really matters, with experts suggesting that a 1 psi drop in tyre pressure could reduce fuel economy by about 0.3%.

Did you know?
Engine oil influences vehicle mileage. For example, if 5W-30 is recommended, using 10W-30 oil can lower mileage by 1-2%.

Did you know?
Fuel economy differs by road type. A recent Canadian study found that the average fuel economy on highways with a speed limit of 80 km/h (50 mph) or more is about 9% better than on other roads.
Did you know?
An extra 100 pounds in a vehicle (e.g., extra cargo) can reduce fuel economy by up to 2%, with smaller vehicles being affected more. The average adult in the U.S. was about 24 pounds heavier in 2002 than in 1960. A weight gain of this order results in a reduction in fuel economy of up to 0.5%.

Did you know?
Just sitting in your car with the engine running is like throwing money away. Idling uses a quarter to a half gallon of fuel per hour. In one specific test, it was estimated that turning the engine off during each of 10 idle periods lasting two minutes each on a 10-mile course improved mileage by 19%.

Did you know?
That using the air conditioner can reduce mileage by 5-25%? However, opening the windows instead can create its own problems, as the increased drag can reduce the savings you hoped to make.

Did you know?
That calmer drivers are more efficient drivers? An expert test suggested that, moderate driving yielded, on average, 31% better mileage than aggressive driving.

So there are lots of way in which you can improve your fuel economy, over and above just selecting the most efficient available model.

For more information and all sources see ‘Eco-driving: Strategic, Tactical, and operational decisions of the driver that improve vehicle fuel economy’
UMTRI-2011-34, August 2011 - http://www.umich.edu/~umtriswt