

YouGov / Daily Telegraph Survey Results

Sample Size: 2292

Fieldwork: 19th - 21st February 2007

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%

Do you personally drive a car?

Yes, most days	59
Yes, at least once a week	12
Yes, occasionally	8
No, I do not personally drive a car	21

How serious is traffic congestion on the roads near where you live?

Very serious	7
Fairly serious	36
Not very serious	42
Not at all serious	13
Don't know	2

Leaving aside how serious it is at the moment, is it becoming more serious as time goes on?

Yes, it is	69
No, it isn't	22
Don't know	9

Which of the following do you think would be the single most effective means of reducing traffic congestion?

Providing more buses and trains so that people would not have to rely so much on their cars	55
Building more roads	16
Charging people extra for driving on the busiest roads, especially at peak periods	9
Increasing sharply either fuel duty or vehicle license duty	2
None of these	12
Don't know	5

(To all except "none" and "don't know") And what would be the next most effective means of reducing congestion?

Charging people extra for driving on the busiest roads, especially at peak periods	21
Building more roads	20
Providing more buses and trains so that people would not have to rely so much on their cars	19
Increasing sharply either fuel duty or vehicle license duty	8
None of these	27
Don't know	5

Here are a number of things people say would happen if motorists were charged extra for driving on busy roads at peak periods. Please indicate for each whether you think it would, or would not, be likely to happen.

Congestion on the roads would be significantly reduced

Yes, it would probably happen	36
No, it probably wouldn't happen	56
Don't know	8

Details of who had been charged extra, and for what, would be leaked to people who should not have access to that information

Yes, it would probably happen	55
No, it probably wouldn't happen	23
Don't know	22

Many more people would use buses and trains instead of driving their car

Yes, it would probably happen	33
No, it probably wouldn't happen	55
Don't know	12

The government would greatly reduce fuel duty and/or vehicle license duty

Yes, it would probably happen	7
No, it probably wouldn't happen	84
Don't know	9

The amount of pollution caused by cars and other motor vehicles would be cut significantly

Yes, it would probably happen	27
No, it probably wouldn't happen	60
Don't know	13

A lot of motorists would be charged wrongly for distances they had not actually driven

Yes, it would probably happen	67
No, it probably wouldn't happen	16
Don't know	17

Fewer new roads would be built

Yes, it would probably happen	60
No, it probably wouldn't happen	21
Don't know	19

Any reduction in congestion on busy roads would lead only to increased congestion on roads that are now not so busy

Yes, it would probably happen	82
No, it probably wouldn't happen	9
Don't know	9

The cost of introducing and administering any road-pricing scheme would cost far more than anyone is now saying

Yes, it would probably happen	79
No, it probably wouldn't happen	8
Don't know	13

The government would spend significantly more money on improving public transport, with more buses, trains and so forth

Yes, it would probably happen	15
No, it probably wouldn't happen	72
Don't know	13

More generally, which of the following statements comes closest to your own view about 'pay-as-you-drive' motoring?

From what I know, I think it is a good idea	9
From what I know, I think it is a bad idea	48
I will not make up my mind until I know precisely what kind of scheme is being proposed	40
Don't know	4

If the present Government or some future Government does introduce a pay-as-you-drive scheme, which of the following would you prefer – assuming that the total amount of money raised by the two schemes is the same?

Cameras or other tracking devices located only on the busiest roads and only charging drivers for using those roads, perhaps only at peak times	55
A system for tracking all motor vehicles at all times, with charges related to the roads along which they are driven and the times at which they are driven	18
Don't know	27

There is a suggestion that heavy lorries should be charged more than cars. Do you think that, if a scheme of road pricing is introduced, heavy lorries should, or should not, be charged more than cars?

Yes, heavy lorries should be charged more	62
No, they should not	29
Don't know	9

There is also a suggestion that cars that are 'gas guzzlers' should be charged more than cars that consume less fuel. Do you think that, if a scheme of road pricing is introduced, gas guzzlers should, or should not, be charged more than cars that use less

Yes, gas guzzlers should be charged more	68
No, they should not	26
Don't know	6

The present Government gives the impression of wanting to introduce some form of road pricing. Why do you think it wants to do that?

It wants to reduce congestion and pollution	12
It wants to raise additional revenue	48
It wants both	36
Don't know	4

Suppose some way could be found to guarantee that ALL the money raised was used to improve public transport and to reduce the cost of the road fund licence ('tax disc'), would you support or oppose the introduction of 'pay-as-you-drive-motoring'?

Support	54
Oppose	24
Don't know	22

Whichever party is in power, do you think the introduction of some form of road pricing is inevitable? In other words, is it going to happen sooner or later whether we like it or not?

Yes, road pricing will come in sooner or later	65
No, it won't	16
Don't know	20