

RAC Foundation Road Use Survey Topline Summary

- This topline summary is based on an Ipsos MORI survey of 1,005 British adults aged 16+ interviewed by telephone between 25-27 June 2010.
- Results are based on all respondents unless otherwise stated. Base sizes are in brackets.
- An asterisk (*) represents a value of less than one half of one percent, but not zero.
- Data are weighted to match the profile of the population by age, gender, work status, social grade, region and car in household.
- Where results do not sum to 100, this may be due to multiple responses, computer rounding or the exclusion of don't knows/not stated.
- The combinations shown here – e.g. 'support' (strongly support + tend to support) – are calculated from scratch, rather than the addition of (rounded) composites.
- Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances – for example, ± 3 percentage points for a 50% finding based on a 1,000 sample size (at the 95% confidence level).

QR1. **To what extent would you support or oppose the introduction of a “pay as you go” system in which car and van drivers pay to use Britain’s motorways and major roads based on the distance they travel, that is a charge per mile? Would you...this?**

	%
Strongly support	7
Tend to support	12
Neither support nor oppose	13
Tend to oppose	15
Strongly oppose	50
Don't know	4
Support	18
Oppose	65

QR2. **There have been a number of different proposals for a “pay as you go” system on Britain’s roads. I am going to read out the details of one of these.**

Car and van drivers would be charged to use Britain’s motorways and major roads, that is there would be a charge per mile. At the same time, road tax, the ‘tax disc’, would be abolished, fuel duty, that is tax on petrol and diesel, would be reduced, some of the money raised by this scheme would be used to improve roads, and compensation would be paid to drivers who are delayed.

Overall, to what extent would you support or oppose this proposal? Would you...this?

	%
Strongly support	18
Tend to support	29
Neither support nor oppose	17
Tend to oppose	15
Strongly oppose	20
Don't know	2
Support	46
Oppose	34

QR3. **Why do you say that you would oppose, or neither support nor oppose, such a “pay as you go” proposal? And for what other reasons?** UNRPOMPTED

Base: All who either oppose, or neither support nor oppose, a pay as you go proposal (506) %

It would cost more	17
Don't know enough about the system to support it/need more detail	13
We pay too much tax already	12
The system is fine as it is/I'm happy with how we pay for our roads now	11
This doesn't sound fair/poor people would be affected worse than rich people	9
We pay enough already to use the roads/drive	9
It would be inconvenient	8
Don't think it would work/ this wouldn't work in Britain	8
It would reduce people's right to movement/right to travel	6
Don't trust government to spend the money raised on the roads/transport	4
The government cannot be trusted to deliver a workable system	4
The system might not be accurate	3
This is just a way for the government to raise more money	3
People will use other non-charged routes causing congestion on those instead	2
It wouldn't deliver what is expected	2
The new system should be extended to include lorry drivers and motorbikes	2
I think fuel duty should be abolished, not just reduced	2
There are no adequate alternatives for people to use instead of the car/ we do not have good enough public transport to support this system	1
It would be difficult to enforce	1
It would invade the privacy of the motorist	*
It's unpopular/has been defeated in referendums	*
A private body cannot be trusted to deliver such a system	*
Other	17
Don't know	8

QR4. **To what extent would you support or oppose the introduction of such a “pay as you go” proposal...? RANDOMISED READ OUT OF A-E**

		Strongly support	Tend to support	Neither support nor oppose	Tend to oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	Support	Oppose
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
A	...if some of the money raised was used to help the Government reduce the UK's budget deficit	16	21	14	15	31	3	37	46
B	...if a regulated private sector company ran the system	6	14	17	17	41	5	19	58
C	...if an upper limit was put on how much drivers would be charged	13	28	17	13	24	6	41	36
D	...if it were extended to all types of roads across Britain, not just motorways and major roads	7	11	9	20	51	2	18	70
E	...if the charge varied according to the day of the week or time of day depending on congestion	13	26	14	16	29	3	38	45

QR5. **Can I just check, how often, if at all, do you....**

a) **drive a car or van?**

b) **drive a car or van on a motorway or major road?**

Base:	a) All %	b) All drivers (749) %
Every day	50	24
More than twice a week, but not every day	12	16
Once or twice a week	7	22
Less than once a week but more than twice a month	1	6
Once or twice a month	2	14
Less than once a month but more than twice a year	1	7
Once or twice a year	1	4
Less than once a year	1	2
Never	26	4
Don't know	-	*

QR6. Thinking about the last six months or so, what would you say is the most common reason that you have driven a car on motorways and major roads? Is it....

Base:	All recent motorway drivers (697) %
...travelling to or from work	27
...travelling for business/in course of work	12
...leisure (for socialising/holiday/day trips)	35
...personal trips (to go shopping, visit doctor, take children to school)	23
Other	3
Don't know	*

I'd now like you to imagine if this "pay-as-you-go" proposal was extended to cover all roads across Britain...

QR7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement...

The introduction of a "pay as you go" system on Britain's roads would make you think more about how much you drive?

Base:	All drivers (749) %
Strongly agree	36
Tend to agree	22
Neither agree nor disagree	8
Tend to disagree	11
Strongly disagree	23
Don't know	1
Agree	58
Disagree	34

QR8. And to what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement...

It is inevitable that charging car and van drivers through a "pay as you go" system will be introduced on Britain's roads in the future

	%
Strongly agree	11
Tend to agree	23
Neither agree nor disagree	18
Tend to disagree	18
Strongly disagree	27
Don't know	3
Agree	34
Disagree	45

QD1. How would you describe the area in which you currently live? Would you say it is...?

	%
In the middle of a city or a large town	18
On the outskirts of a city or a large town	37
In a small town or village	38
In the middle of the countryside	7
Don't know	1

QQ2. GENDER

	Weighted %	Unweighted %
Male	49	44
Female	51	56

QQ3. Please could you tell me your age at your last birthday?

	Weighted %	Unweighted %
16-17	5	4
18-24	10	8
25-34	16	12
35-44	14	13
45-54	21	20
55-64	14	18
65-74	11	14
75+	8	11
Refused	1	1

QQ4. Which of the following best describes your current work status? Are you...

	Weighted %	Unweighted %
Full-time (30+ hours a week)	43	38
Part-time (8-29 hours a week)	11	11
Part-time (under 8 hours a week)	1	1
Unemployed	5	5
Retired	26	32
Not employed	4	4
Student	9	8
Other	1	1
Refused	*	*

QQ5. How many cars does your household have access to?

	Weighted %	Unweighted %
1	42	42
2+	38	39
None	20	19

QQ6. **SOCIAL GRADE**

	Weighted %	Unweighted %
A	8	10
B	18	24
C1	28	24
C2	20	12
D	8	8
E	15	18
Refused	3	4

QQ7. **REGION**

	Weighted %	Unweighted %
North East	4	4
Yorkshire and The Humber	9	9
East Midlands	7	7
East England	10	11
London	13	12
South East	14	15
South West	9	8
West Midlands	9	9
North West	11	11
Wales	5	6
Scotland	9	9