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## These EV Misconceptions are Mindboggling



# EV cost more to own and run



**In a world of misinformation nothing is immune.**

**YouGov UK conducted a survey of 1,000 drivers of gas-powered vehicles asking them whether 10 statements were true or false.**

**The results indicate that like in U.S. notable misconceptions exist.**



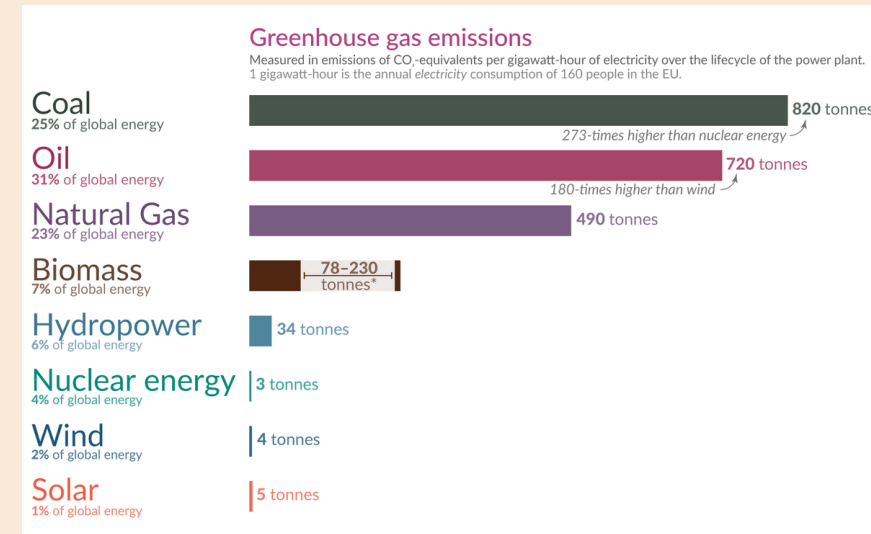
- 62% of drivers of conventional gas-powered vehicles believed that operating costs are higher for EVs.
- Only 14% believed that EVs are cheaper to operate.
- This result is even more surprising given the cost of petrol in the UK versus gas in the U.S.
- There is however, a grain of truth in this misconception. Insurance and tires for EVs tend to cost more, but overall, EVs save money.



**One might think that those opposed to EVs have effectively convinced many that battery production and the use of fossil fuel generated electricity somehow offset the zero-emission operational benefits.**

**But like all “good” misinformation, there is a grain of truth to the notion.**

# EVs cause more carbon emissions



- Over a third of those surveyed (35%) believed that the lifetime CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of EVs are no less than that of gas-powered vehicles.
- However, this one was close – 32% “correctly” answered the question.
- On the surface this seems equally mindboggling, until you dig a little deeper.
- Data in the UK indicates that EVs emit 3x less CO<sub>2</sub> over their lifetime, but the accuracy of that statement is predicated on how the electricity is produced.
  - If you assume totally clean energy EVs win the emissions battle hands down.
  - In the unlikely scenario where the electricity is generated with coal and oil, the emissions comparison would be quite different.



# EVs are fire hazards



**This is a function of media distortion.**

**EV fires make news.**

**It's always important to look at percentages and the probability of occurrences and not be swayed by the coverage of individual events.**

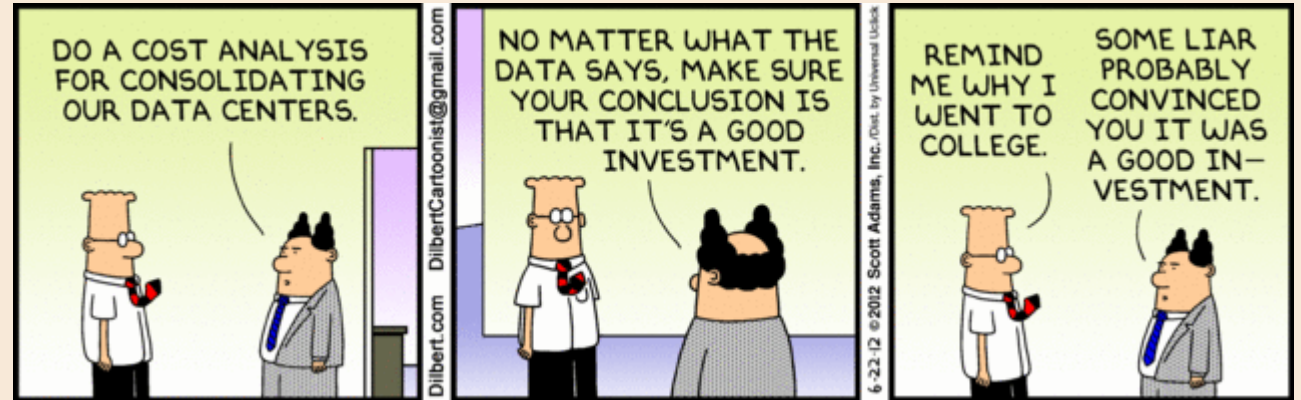
- 41% of those surveyed believed that EVs are more prone to fires than internal-combustion engine vehicles.
- Only 24% thought the contrary.
- According to EV Fire Safe, EVs are 80 times less likely to catch fire than gas or diesel cars.
- I get this one:
  - Media around the world cover virtually every EV that catches fire. A gas-power vehicle catching fire isn't news.
  - It's the same dynamic that occurs with plane crashes. You hear about every one, but no media outlet tells you about the thousands of flights that end safely each day.

# Misconceptions occur in both directions



**There are always two sides to an argument and often both sides are guilty of disseminating “biased” information affectionately referred to as “spin.”**

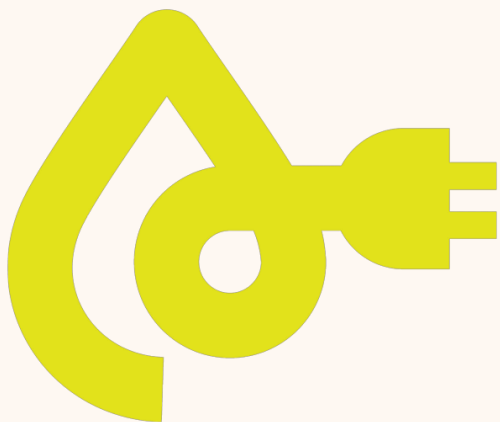
**The inability to objectively look at data seems to be a common failing of the human race.**



- I found some “correct” answers to the questions asked in the YouGov survey also a bit misleading.
- Similar biases existed in the information on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s website.

**Check out tomorrow’s post for what they are.**





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## Unbiased and Unfiltered

- An honest assessment of the climate change effort.
- I cover what's working – but more important - the issues/roadblocks that the industry would prefer to ignore.
- A must-read for anyone with a desire to understand what's really going on with renewable energy and climate change.



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