

The UK's Road to Fleet Electrification

Vimcar 2021 Study

About Vimcar

Vimcar is a leading **provider of fleet software** for SMEs across Europe and the UK. Its industry-leading fleet products include:

- [Fleet Geo](#): the market's most accurate GPS
- [Fleet Admin](#): an easy-to-use fleet administration software
- [Driver Style Analysis](#): software to track and score drivers' efficiency

More than **100,000 company vehicles** already use Vimcar. To find out more about its award-winning products visit vimcar.co.uk.

About The Study

This study was conducted with data analysis, evaluating the driving habits of over **67,000 fleet vehicles**. Data was taken from vehicles across the UK and Europe, over a time period spanning from **01.03.2021 to 31.08.2021**.

The aim of the study was to evaluate whether or not it was viable for the average petrol/diesel-powered fleet vehicle to be **replaced by an electric fleet vehicle**.

→ For the study's full infographic, click [here](#)

The Data

- Up to **90% of vehicles could be replaced by electric vehicles**, given the average range of equivalent electric vehicle models
- The vast majority of vehicles that could not be replaced by electric vehicles, are extremely close to reaching replaceability:
 - **90% of vehicles** that drove more than **186 miles** in a day, did so less than **10% of all working days**
 - **96%** of vehicles that drove more than **186 miles** in a day, did so less than **10% of all weekend days**
 - **78%** of vehicles that drove more than **124 miles** in a day, did so less than **10% of all working days**
 - **89%** of vehicles that drove more than **124 miles** in a day, did so less than **10%** of all weekend days

The Background

For years now, electric fleets have been a hot topic amongst industry insiders. In the week that this report was written, for instance, 56 of all news stories written for [Fleet News](#) were about or mentioned electric vehicles (EVs).

Few question whether or not the electrification of fleets is the future. Overall, most businesses are aware that **environmentalism is a concern for consumers** – [66% of consumers](#), to be precise.

Most recently, with the **UK fuel crisis**, consumers and businesses alike have been badly affected as a consequence of their reliance on petrol. In the wake of the crisis, Google searches for “electric cars” exploded in the UK by [1,600%](#).

So why have fleet managers not made the switch?

A [previous Vimcar study](#) (2020), showed that, for **87% of fleet managers, an electric vehicle’s mileage range was the most important factor** when considering whether or not they should go electric.

Now, Vimcar’s most recent study has shown that even mileage range need not be an obstacle in fleet electrification.

The Findings

Vimcar analysed the average daily mileage over 67,000 fleet vehicles and found that **up to 90% of those vehicles could be replaced with an EV.**

In fact, only 12% of vehicles drove more than 124 miles on all working days.

The average range of EVs is just above [186 miles](#) and only 10% of the vehicles in the study travelled over that limit in one day. If those vehicles were substituted for EVs, they could easily go about their daily business as required and be charged after business hours.

What's more, those that did go over this daily limit could be replaced by EVs that were charged in the middle of the day (e.g. during a lunch break) or by EVs with a slightly higher-than-average range.

Indeed, 90% of vehicles that did drive more than 186 miles in a day, did so less than 10% of all working days; 78% of vehicles that drove more than 124 miles in a day, did so less than 10% of all working days.

Implications

The primary implication from this study is that UK fleet managers are able to turn the vast majority (if not all) of their fleet into an electric fleet. The subsequent implications could have a significant impact on UK businesses' bottom line.

By switching to an electrically-powered fleet, UK businesses would not have to rely on petrol or worry about how fluctuating petrol supply and prices might affect their business's financial stability.

Whilst it is true that many electric vehicles have a higher price tag than the petrol alternative, [numerous studies](#) have shown that EVs are cheaper for businesses in the long run.

Not only is charging EVs usually cheaper than filling up at the pump, they are also [£131 a month cheaper](#) to maintain than those with a combustion engine. Because EVs have fewer moving parts they break down less and are cheaper to maintain – and therefore come with lower insurance costs and a longer life span.

If you add to this the fact that EVs have a 0% road tax and BIK rate, EVs as company vehicles incur fewer costs for both employers and employees.

Vimcar's study, therefore, not only represents good news for the UK's road to fleet electrification, but for the economic outlook for British businesses at large.

→ For the study's full infographic, click [here](#)