

In 2020, climate change gas emissions from transportation accounted for about 27% of the US total. Almost 60% was from light duty vehicles (cars and smaller trucks). In the EU 60.6% was from cars, 11% from light duty trucks. The external costs from CCG are just a small part of the true cost of driving. Other social and environmental impacts are important and costly.

Most people consider driving cost as the cost of gas because that is the common and clear payment we may make every week. For a smaller sedan the gas cost may be \$0.25 or less per mile—but represents less than 15% of the true cost. The total direct cost is more than \$1 dollar a mile for a small sedan. The Internal Revenue Service considers the allowable cost just \$0.56 per mile, while the true cost is closer to \$2 a mile.

### *Further information*

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# True cost of driving

Cost per mile  
**Bold=direct cost**  
 Total direct cost \$1.03  
 IRS allows \$0.56  
 Total cost \$1.84

