FEMA’s international survey on motorcycle emissions

14 September 2021

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From 2 July until 9 August 2021 FEMA conducted an online survey on motorcycle emissions. Five of the questions are the same as the questions we asked in a survey in 2016; the additional questions (6 & 7) were added in 2021.

❖ the survey was available in 12 languages
❖ 23,768 people responded to the survey
❖ 1,188 women and 22,580 men responded

Remarks

When asked ‘What do you think about a possible ban on the sale of new petrol-powered motorcycles?’, both men and women oppose such a ban in great majority (females 93.86% and male 92.86%). The average disapproval rate of a possible ban on the sale of new petrol-powered motorcycles is 92.91%. The disapproval rate does not fall below 80% in any European country. There is no significant difference of opinion between the different age groups; over 90% of all age groups disapprove of such a ban.

In comparison to the survey from 2016, we see a larger group of motorcyclists that would be willing to buy a newer motorcycle if older bikes (pre-2006) were to be banned from entering the city (55.46% in 2021, against 44% in 2016). Of the respondents over 44% would consider another mode of transport if such a
ban occurred. Over 76% of the respondents would change their mode of transport, rather than switching to a non-emissions motorcycle (electric/fuel cell).

A large majority (88.75%) of those that would be willing to switch to a non-emissions motorcycle in the case of banning fossil fuel vehicles from entering the city, is not willing to pay more for such a motorcycle than for a motorcycle with a combustion engine that runs on fossil fuels.

When asked what they would do if the sale of new petrol-powered motorcycles was banned, a majority of 53.38% would stop riding when they are no longer able to buy a new petrol-powered motorcycle. 38.96% of the respondents would buy a zero-emission motorcycle when there are no new or used petrol-powered motorcycles available anymore. Only 7.67% would already buy a zero-emission motorcycle when there are still petrol-powered motorcycles available.

When asked if they could enjoy a non-emission bike as much as their current bike, if a total ban on all fossil fuel vehicles would be introduced, or if they would stop riding, 58.92% would stop riding. This is a major change in attitude since 2016, when 46% of the respondents said they would stop riding. Of the respondents, 41.08% could enjoy riding a non-emission motorcycle, against 54% in 2016.
**Question 1**
If you today commute on an older motorcycle, and city authorities suddenly banned bikes older than Euro3 (built in 2006 and earlier) from entering the city, would you buy a newer motorcycle or would you change transport mode to travel into the city?

- I would buy a newer motorcycle: 55.46% (2016: 44%)
- I would change transport mode: 44.54% (2016: 56%)

*Question 1 - Answers per age group*
Question 2
If you today commute on a combustion engine motorcycle, and city authorities decided to ban fossil fuel vehicles from entering the city, would you change to a non-emissions bike (electric/fuel cell) or would you change transport mode to travel into the city?

I would buy a non-emission motorcycle 23.97% (2016: 24%)
I would change transport mode 76.03% (2016: 76%)

Question 2 - Answers per age group
Question 3
Would you, as a commuter, change to a non-emission bike even if the price of that bike was higher than you would have paid for a combustion engine bike?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No</th>
<th>88.75%</th>
<th>(2016: 87%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>11.25%</td>
<td>(2016: 13%)</td>
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**Question 3 - Answers per age group**
**Question 4**
If, in the future, heavy environmental restrictions only make it possible to ride light, high-tech, but low power output motorcycles (< 60 bhp (brake horsepower)), would you still ride, or would you stop riding?

- I would still ride: 48.83%  
  (2016: 53%)
- I would stop riding: 51.17%  
  (2016: 47%)

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*Question 4 - Answers per age group*
Question 5
If, in a distant future, there was to be a total ban on all fossil fuel vehicles, and transport authorities did invest in a non-emission infrastructure also for motorcycles, could you enjoy a non-emission bike as much as you enjoy your current bike, or would you stop riding?

I could enjoy riding a non-emission motorcycle 41.08% (2016: 54%)
I would stop riding 58.92% (2016: 46%)

Question 5 - Answers per age group
Question 6
Some national governments want to ban the sale of new petrol-powered cars and motorcycles in the near future. What do you think about a possible ban on the sale of new petrol-powered motorcycles?

7.09% - I am in favour of such a ban
92.91% - I am against such a ban

Question 6 - Answers per age group
Question 6 - Answers per country (10 countries with the most responses)

A - I am in favour of such a ban
- United Kingdom: 10.08%
- Switzerland: 14.29%
- Sweden: 16.24%
- Spain: 10.52%
- Norway: 3.81%
- Germany: 5.48%
- France: 7.48%
- Denmark: 6.94%
- Belgium: 7.52%
- Austria: 5.56%

B - I am against such a ban
- United Kingdom: 89.92%
- Switzerland: 85.71%
- Sweden: 83.76%
- Spain: 89.48%
- Norway: 96.19%
- Germany: 94.52%
- France: 92.52%
- Denmark: 93.06%
- Belgium: 92.48%
- Austria: 94.44%
**Question 7**
If the sale of new petrol-powered motorcycles was banned, what would you do?

53.38% - I would stop riding when I am no longer able to buy a new petrol-powered motorcycle
38.96% - I would buy a zero-emission motorcycle when there are no new or used petrol-powered motorcycles available
7.67% - I would buy a zero-emission motorcycle when there are still petrol-powered motorcycles available

*Question 7 - Answers per age group*