

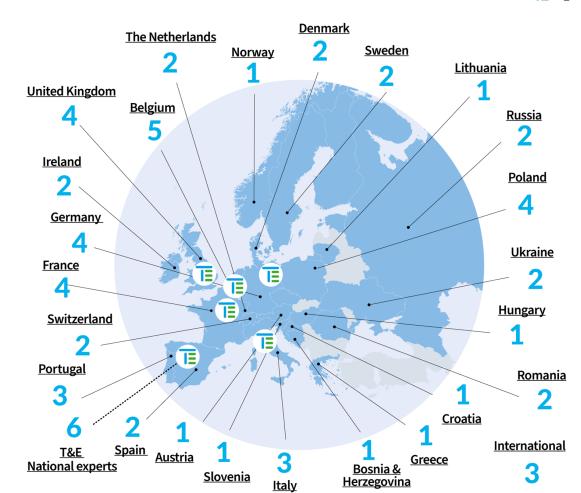
Taxing new passenger vehicles by weight: some reform proposals

Joint Oireachtas Committee on Climate and the Environment 26 Sept 2023

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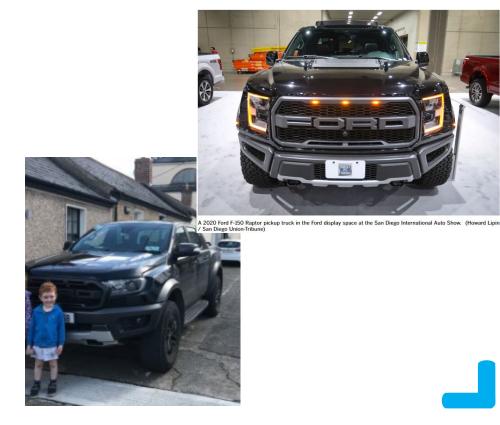
- 26 Countries
- 63 Members
 - 6 National experts



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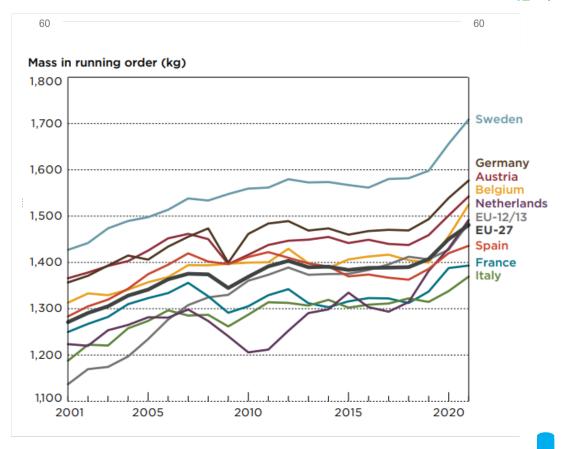
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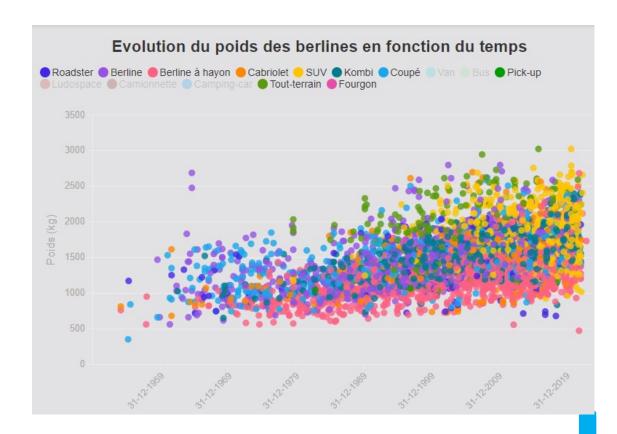
Much heavier from 2017/8

Sharp rise in weight from 2017/8

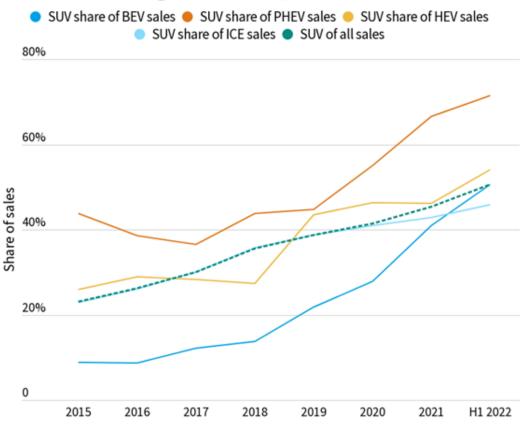


Average weight of sales rose gradually from from \sim 1960, then sharply from 2017

From 2017/8, SUVsales move towards 50%, before passing that level in 2022



SUV market growth by powertrain



SUVsales share in the EU has gone from ~22% to ~52% in the 7 years from 2015 to 2022

Source: EEA registration data (2010-2021) and Dataforce (H1 2022)



Weight of new passenger vehicles in Ireland

In Ireland, the weight of a new ICE/ hybrid car has on average risen by 18kg per year since 2017

→SUVisation

Electric weight rising sharply with SUVisation & higher ranges

	2017	2022
ICE/ hybrid (i.e. with an internal combustion engine)	1377 kg	1483 kg
BEV(full Battery Electric Vehicle)	1577 kg	1935 kg



Safety



SUVisation leads to higher rates of death & serious injury

Why?

Higher weight is linked to SUV vehicle types, which have taller front ends (hoods / grills), which mean:

Lower visibility especially of children (see right),

and a

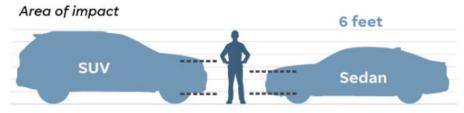
Higher point of collision impact, which applies to all other road users





Size does matter

SUV front ends are taller, so they strike pedestrians higher on their bodies. That means they are more likely to kill a pedestrian than a car that would strike a person's leg.



SOURCE Free Press research: USA TODAY



Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

Based in the US, the IIHS is "an independent, nonprofit scientific and educational organization dedicated to reducing deaths, injuries and property damage from motor vehicle crashes through research and evaluation and through education of consumers, policymakers and safety professionals".

New study suggests today's SUVs are more lethal to pedestrians than cars

June 16, 2020

IIHS (2020) found higher injury severity for pedestrians hit by SUVs:

"The taller front end of SUVs strike pedestrians above their centers of gravity rather than below them (as in the case of car impacts), which results in pedestrians being thrown forward and down".



Higher point of impact makes SUV crashes more dangerous for cyclists

April 13, 2023

US study compares SUVs and regular cars in realworld cyclist crashes (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety 2023):

"SUVs were disproportionately likely to throw bicyclists forward onto the ground and ... inflict injury by running them over".



- Size and shape of SUV front grill most responsible for differences in injury severity
- Severe head injuries typical in SUV crashes. With cars, more distributed &less severe injuries





Tax





2022: France applies weight tax

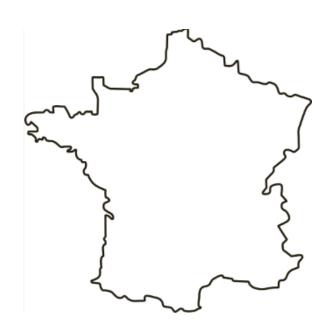
- Weight tax on new passenger vehicles introduced 1 Jan 2022
- 1800 kg threshold, with €10 payable per kg above threshold
- Worked example: 1850 kg vehicle incurs €500 weight tax
- Tax paid upon first registration

Tax **not levied** (since 2022) on:

- Hybrids; full electric

Long term **exemption**

- Wheelchair accessible vehicles



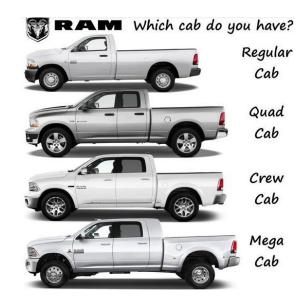


France set to lower weight tax threshold for 2024

Threshold to be reduced to 1600 kg from 1 Jan 2024

Exemptions for hybrids & electric set to stay for 2024 - but remain under review

FR gov announcement due 27 Sept



Note: France's weight tax applies to pick-ups with seats for 4 or more, but not to other commercially-registered vehicles



Ireland: suggested phase I (Budget 2024)

Apply a weight tax to new registrations (via VRT) at:

- **1800 kg** (2022 French level)
- include **hybrids** as well as ICE
- Exclude BEV(for 2024)

2021 registration data suggests a threshold of 1800 kg would affect **the heaviest** ~**10% of new ICE/hybrid** sales

Timing: if the measure would not be ready for 1 Jan 2024, use Budget 2024 to apply from 1 July 2024





Ireland: signal follow-on phases in future budgets

Lower the ICE / hybrid threshold

Extend to full electric but at a higher threshold (e.g. 300 kg more) than ICE/ hybrid to allow for the heavier EVpowertrain

Send a signal: flag to buyers that Gov will move further against the heaviest &largest new passenger vehicles in the coming years

Kia's all-electric colossus SUV is on its way to Ireland

The big box SUV will comfortably seat seven adults and claims a range of up to 541kms



Kie reckons this big ell-electric SUV is going to "reshape the way we move"

Michael McAleer
Tue Mar 28 2023 - 22:25





Eurovision: Irish entry W 'semt final of death'

Israeli air strikes: three Is among 12 killed

Shift to buying electric an

Russian evacuation order in occupied Ukraine

Our air defence treaty-not





Thank you

(Annex slides below)



For larger families, 3 and 4-child seats are available



- 3-seater option (right) fits compact cars including Fiat 500, Ford Ka and Renault Clio
- 4-seater option (above) fits Audi A6, BMW5 Series, Citroen C4 Picasso, Volvo V70, etc
- Rear-facing baby seat available. Seats also rated for adult use



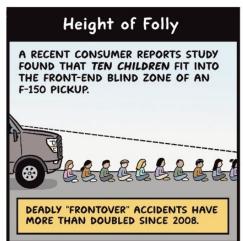


5 children?

• Efficient station wagon with a third row of seating avoids the weight thresholds













Other regulatory 'options'