

Road User Charging

National public poll | 2026

Transport Australia commissioned Talbot Mills Research to run a nationwide online survey on Australians views of a future road user charge. The survey was conducted between 19th to 25th February 2026. The total number of respondents was 1225 covering a national representative sample of 1000 Australian adults, with a booster sample of 359 EV/Hybrid drivers.

Interlocked age, gender and regional quotas were used during sampling. Weighting was further used to enhance how closely the results represent the adult population of Australia. The total effective margin of error for the full sample at the 95% confidence level is $\pm 3.1\%$. The total effective margin of error for EV/Hybrid drivers is $\pm 5.6\%$.

The below results reflect a selection of key headline findings from our national public poll on road user charging.

For full survey results, please get in touch with Transport Australia's policy team at policy@transportaustralia.org.au

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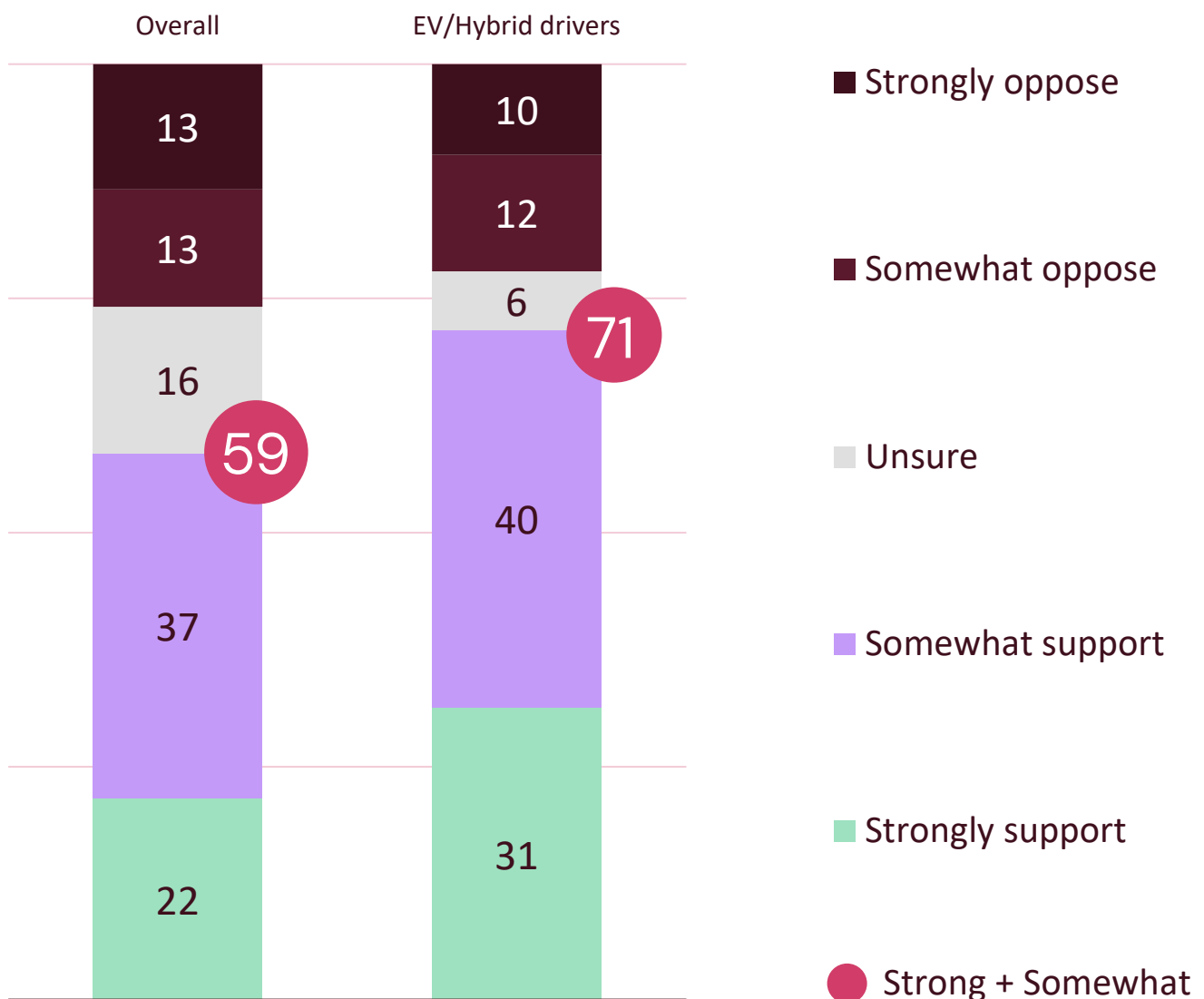
 TALBOT
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RESEARCH

STRONG SUPPORT FOR ROAD USER CHARGING

HOW STRONGLY DO YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE REMOVING THE FUEL TAX AND REPLACING IT WITH A PER-KILOMETRE ROAD USER CHARGE FOR ALL DRIVERS.

Most (59%) Australians support replacing the fuel tax with a per-kilometre road user charge, rising to 71% among EV/Hybrid drivers

- Support is stronger in Queensland (67%), and in cities (66%).



Full Question Text:

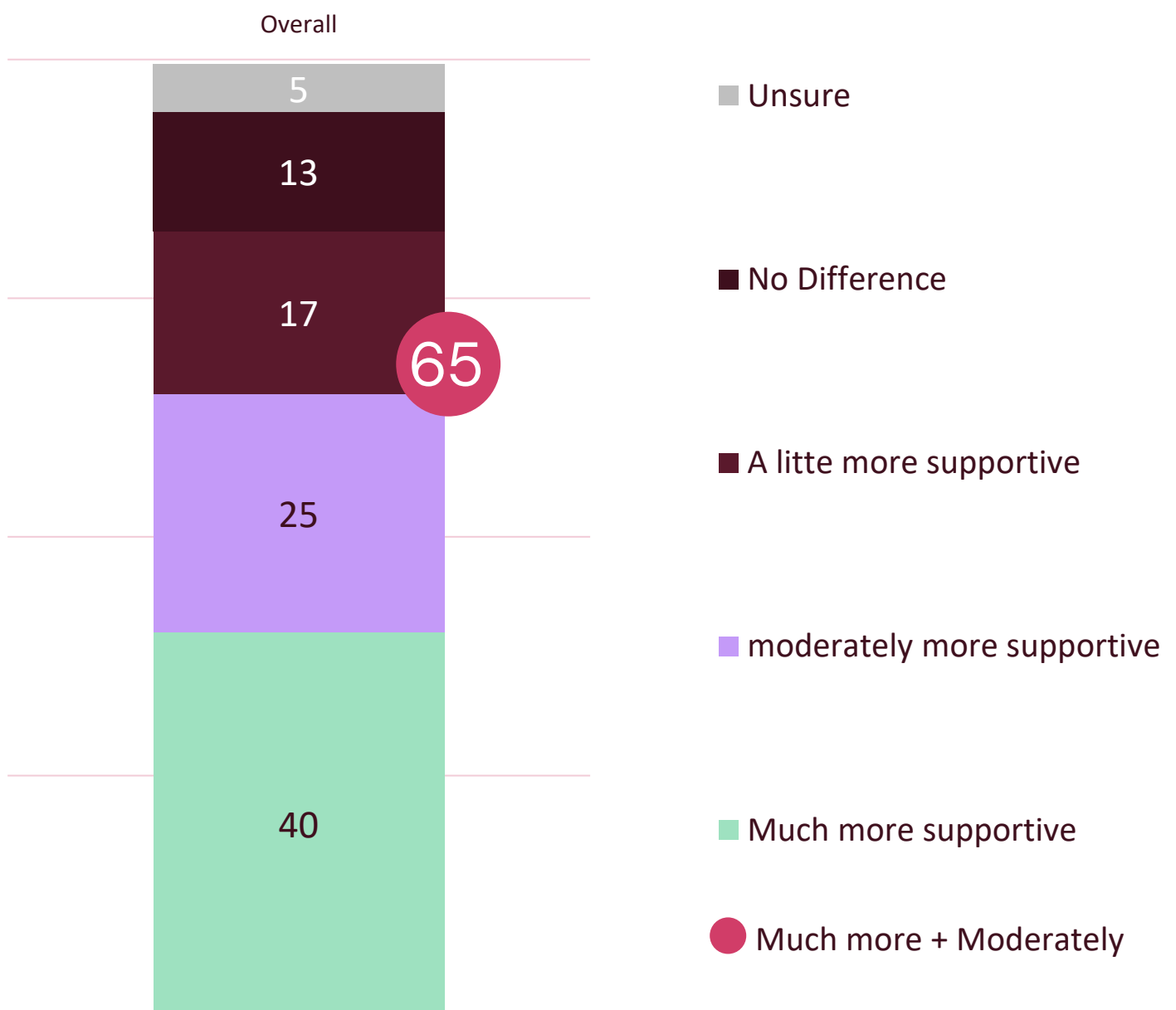
Currently, the fuel tax paid by drivers of petrol and diesel cars means that they contribute to road maintenance and upgrades, but electric and hybrid vehicle drivers don't. An alternative is to replace the fuel tax with a road user charge - a fee paid by all drivers depending on how much they use the roads, often on a per-kilometre basis. A similar scheme is planned in NSW with a charge of around 2.9 cents per km travelled. How strongly do you support or oppose removing the fuel tax and replacing it with a per-kilometre road user charge for all drivers, including heavy vehicles? (%)

SUPPORT FOR HYPOTHECATION OF REVENUE

HOW MUCH MORE SUPPORTIVE OF ROAD USER CHARGING WOULD THE FOLLOWING MAKE YOU?

Support for road user charging increases (65%) when it is tied to delivering better road maintenance and upgrades.

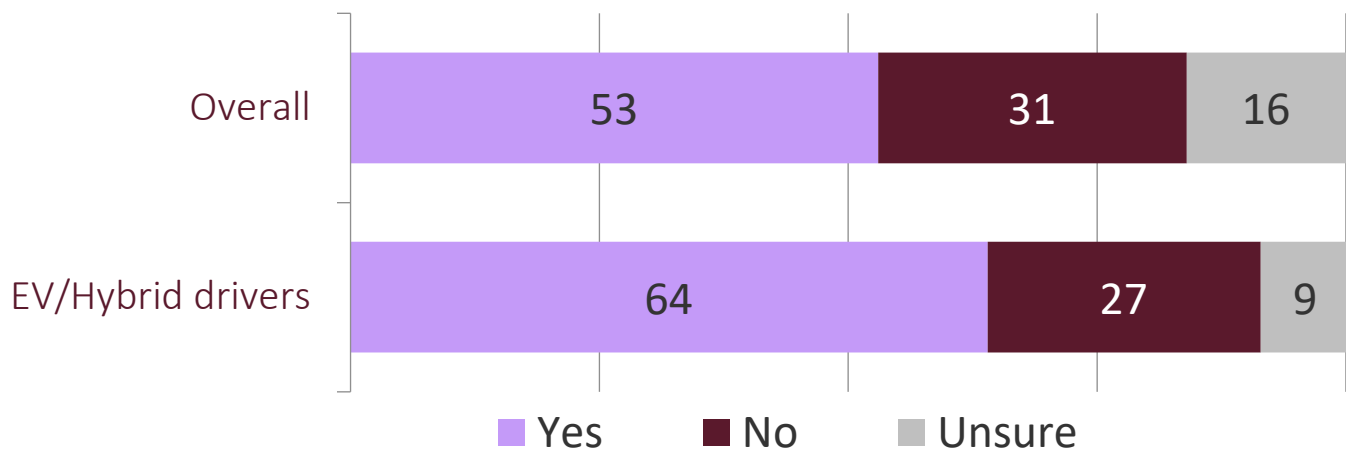
- Support amongst EV drivers is stronger again at 76%.



VIEWS ON FAIRNESS FOR ROAD FUNDING

DO YOU THINK ALL DRIVERS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO ROAD FUNDING (%)

Majority (54%) believe all drivers should contribute equally to road maintenance regardless of vehicle type, and this is stronger (64%) among EV/ Hybrid drivers.

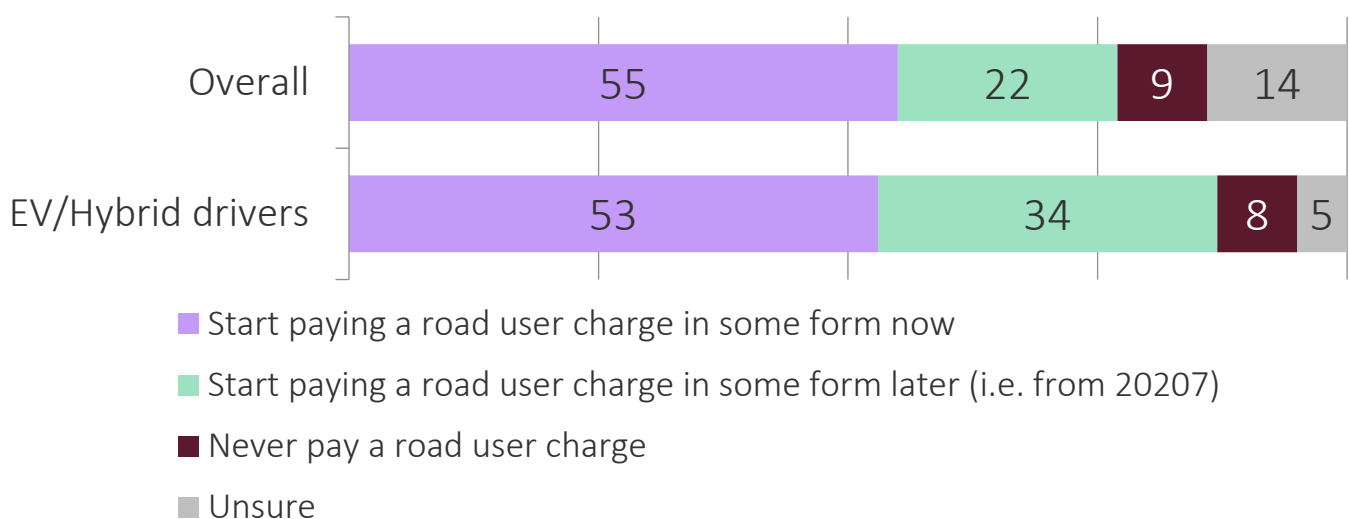


Full Question:

Do you think all drivers should contribute equally to road maintenance and upgrades regardless of the type of vehicle they drive (including private, commercial, and freight vehicles)? (%)

DO YOU THINK HEAVY ELECTRIC VEHICLE DRIVERS SHOULD... (%)

55% believe EV/Hybrid drivers should begin paying a road user charge now, there is also support for a phased start, especially among EV/Hybrid drivers.



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