

The Future of the Car

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Personal daily travel in Britain

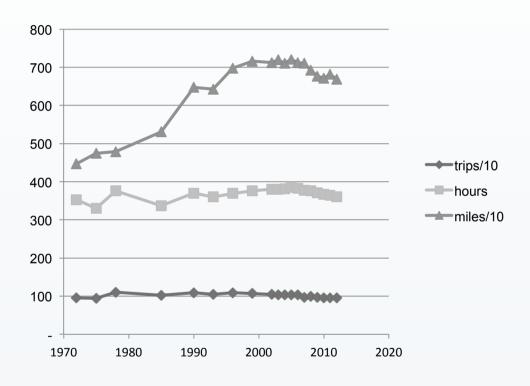
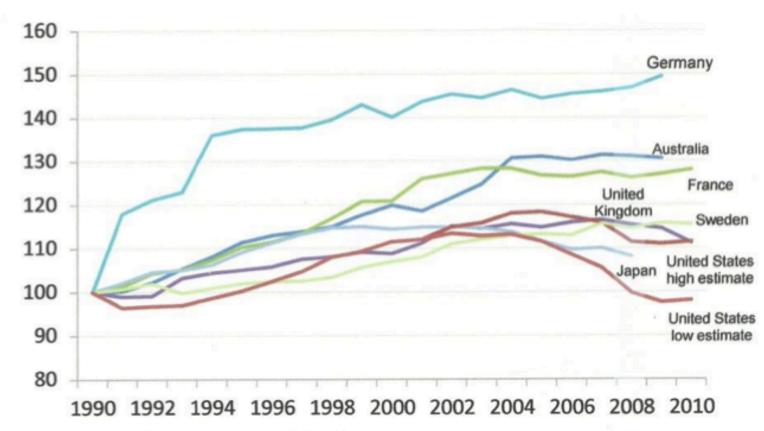




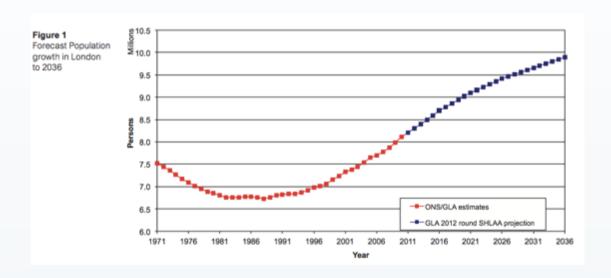
Figure 1. Passenger kilometres by private car and light trucks 1990-2009 (Index 1990=100)



Source: International Transport Forum statistics.

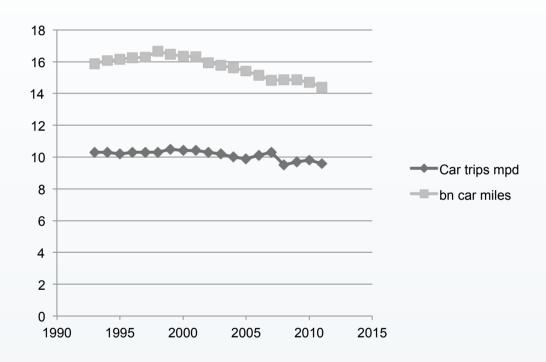


London population



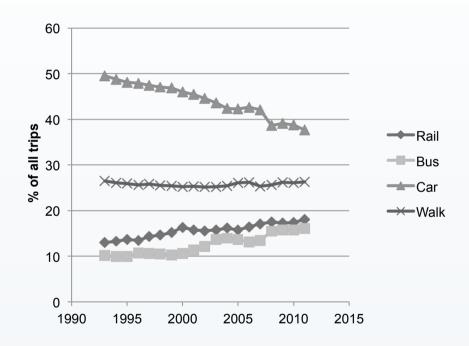


Car traffic and use in London



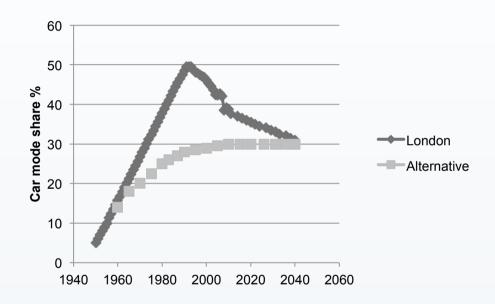


London mode share





Peak Car in London



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Future of the Car in Developed Economies

- Declining use in centres of growing cities
- Continued importance in suburbs and beyond, but probably past its peak
- Lifestyle changes among younger people involve less car use
- Accommodating a growing population: city centre or suburb?
- Use of rail—based alternative modes growing

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Future of the Car in Developing Economies

- Populations growing and urbanizing
- Option to avoid Peak Car in growing cities
- Key policies
 - Rail and/or BRT for work journeys
 - Control parking to limit traffic congestion
- Additional policies
 - Urban traffic management
 - Car sharing
 - Bicycle rental

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Future of the Car: Technology

- 100 years of the mass-produced car
- Incremental improvement of a mature technology
- No faster
- 'Disruptive innovations' unlikely
 - Electric cars
 - Digital enhancements
 - Driverless cars
- Most useful innovation: 'Predictive Navigation'



Future of the Car: Summary

- Less useful in city centres
- Continuing to be useful elsewhere
- Continuing incremental improvements
- Not exciting



Further information

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New ebook: 'Peak Car – the future of travel'