

Transportation

Transportation

- A leading cause of global warming
- History
- High costs of automobiles
- More and more people excluded from driving

Transportation a leading cause of global warming

- Video is fairly old but still pertinent
- <https://carnegieendowment.org/2010/04/15/transportation-leading-cause-of-global-warming-pub-40613>

World War II

- Gas was needed for the war effort and was rationed in the U.S.
- <https://www.hemmings.com/stories/2019/12/30/how-gas-rationing-worked-during-world-war-ii>
- Most Americans were allowed to purchase four gallons a week
- If you were employed in a factory that supported the war effort you got a 'B' card which allowed you to purchase eight gallons a week

1973 Germany

- In the wake of the Yom Kipper war in 1973, OPEC started limiting production of oil
- In Germany, Sunday driving was banned for most drivers

United States

- Here in the U.S. gasoline purchases have been unlimited (even if not always cheap) with one exception
- After the Yom Kipper war, when I was in Germany, I saw reports of gas lines in the U.S.
- How many remember those and what was it like?

Streetcars

- The automobile as the exclusive means of transportation is relatively recent
- Cincinnati, like other cities, used to have an extensive streetcar systems and trams to ascend the hills
- What happened to the streetcars?
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Motors_streetcar_conspiracy#:~:text=In%20reality%2C%20the%20line%20was,Red%20cars%20in%20Los%20Angeles%22.
- General Motors and National City Lines took over the streetcar systems in 25 cities and converted them to bus systems.

People who don't drive

- Several million Americans don't have driver's licenses. This excludes them from many activities
- <https://hedgescompany.com/blog/2018/10/number-of-licensed-drivers-usa/#:~:text=60.1%25-,Percentage%20of%20adults%20without%20a%20driver's%20license,have%20a%20valid%20driver's%20license.>
- 39.9% of Americans 85 years old and older don't have driver's licenses
- 15.1% of Americans 70 years old to 84 years old
- 65.2% of Americans aged 16 to 19 years old don't have driver's licenses

Give up driving?

- An aging population means that more and more people can no longer safely drive.
- <https://www.iihs.org/topics/older-drivers>
- Older driver safety
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mPEQY7SspsA>
- AARP Driver safety
- <https://www.aarp.org/auto/driver-safety/?cmp=RDRCT-8125bdcd-20200402>

Social isolation for non-drivers

- <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-seniors-driving/when-seniors-stop-driving-social-isolation-looms-idUSKCN0YM2E3>
- Options to eliminate social isolation for non-drivers
- <https://www.aarp.org/caregiving/home-care/info-2020/transportation-services.html>
- The lack of public transportation also hurts parents.
- Children in Europe can get around to sports and activities using public transit more than American kids.

Younger people and cars

- Some younger people can't afford a car
- <https://thehill.com/policy/transportation/4119244-american-teens-are-driving-less/>
- The share of teenagers in the 16-19 age group with driver's licenses declined from 64 per cent in 1995 to just under 40 percent in 2021
- States now require teenagers to spend more time learning to drive before they get full driving privileges
- The economics of finding a car, insuring it, and learning to drive can be daunting.

Cost of driving

- Monthly car payments
- Gasoline
- Routine maintenance
- Unplanned repairs
- Liability and collision insurance
- Parking fees
- What is the average cost of owning a car?
- <https://newsroom.aaa.com/2022/08/annual-cost-of-new-car-ownership-crosses-10k-mark/>
- In 2022 it was \$10,728 per year up from \$9,666 per year in 2021
- If you work 40 hours per week 50 days per year, over \$5 of your wages goes to the costs of owning a car
- The current federal minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour
- “Nickel and Dime” by Barbara Ehrenreich is about trying to live on the minimum wage

Used car prices rising

- Recent report on WCPO
- <https://www.wcpo.com/money/consumer/dont-waste-your-money/looking-for-a-good-used-car-under-20-000-good-luck>

Alternatives to car ownership

- Rideshare
- Uber
- Lyft
- <https://www.rocketmoney.com/learn/personal-finance/how-expensive-is-uber>
- If you drive well less than 10,000 miles a year, it might be

What is this?



A ghost bike to memorialize a man who was killed by a motorist while riding his bike. He paid with his life because he couldn't afford a car.

Crumbling infrastructure

- Report on crumbling infrastructure
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xoYYxs9OSUg>
- Biden infrastructure bill passed in 2021
- <https://www.cnn.com/2021/07/28/politics/infrastructure-bill-explained/index.html>
- Brent Spence bridge will finally be built

Drunk Drivers

- Drivers with repeated violations still behind the wheel
- <https://www.responsibility.org/end-drunk-driving/>
- An egregious case in Nebraska
- <https://nebraskapublicmedia.org/en/news/news-articles/drunken-driving-case-raises-questions-about-lenient-sentencing/>
- One problem: due to lack of transportation alternatives, taking away a driver's license may make it impossible to earn a living

Europe more public transit

- <https://digg.com/video/heres-why-europe-has-much-better-public-transportation-and-urban-planning-than-the-united-states>
- More Europeans walk or ride in bike than in the U.S. This may be one reason for higher life expectancy
- Europe has high-speed trains
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bX2sYWvX2Rg>
- High speed train in Thailand
- <https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/travel-news-spain-high-speed-rail-greece-airport/index.html>

Electric cars: the future?

- 7 myths about electric cars
- [https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/electric-vehicle-myths#:~:text=comparable%20gasoline%20vehicles.-,Myth%20%231%3A%20Electric%20vehicles%20are%20worse%20for%20the%20climate%20than,EVs\)%20have%20no%20tailpipe%20emissions.](https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/electric-vehicle-myths#:~:text=comparable%20gasoline%20vehicles.-,Myth%20%231%3A%20Electric%20vehicles%20are%20worse%20for%20the%20climate%20than,EVs)%20have%20no%20tailpipe%20emissions.)
- President Biden would like to have 50% of all new vehicle sales be electric by 2030

Myths about electric cars

- **Myth #1: Electric vehicles are worse for the climate than gasoline cars because of power plant emissions.**
- **Myth #2: Electric vehicles are worse for the climate than gasoline cars because of battery manufacturing.**
- **Myth #3: The increase in electric vehicles entering the market will collapse the U.S. power grid.**
- **Myth #4: There is nowhere to charge.**
- **Myth #5: Electric vehicles don't have enough range to handle daily travel demands.**
- **Myth #6: Electric vehicles only come as sedans.**

Myths about electric cars

- **Myth #7: Electric vehicles are not as safe as comparable gasoline vehicles.**

Next week

- Economic problems and privacy