

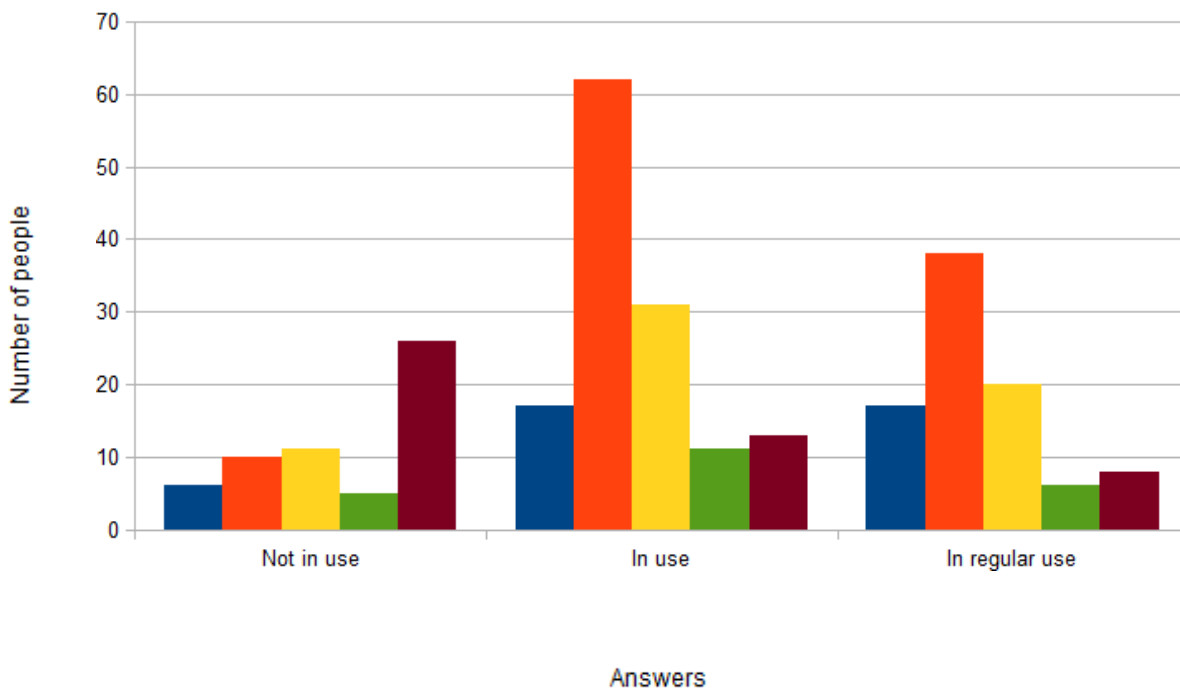
Rely less on cars

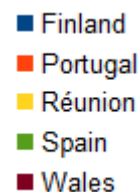
For the Erasmus project, 19 questions have been asked to students from 5 different countries : Finland, Spain, Réunion, Wales and Portugal. These questions are about the Sustainable Development Goals. The different answers could be: 1) Not in use, 2) In use, 3) In regular use.

These questions are linked with the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). To our mind, it's important to ask these questions to young people, because it's our generation which is and will face global warming. So we have to do something to stop this. It's the purpose of the SDGs. It's a little awareness, it allows us to see if we are helping to tackle climate change, and how it is important to help.

For example, we treated the question: " Did you investigate transit options in your town or city, such as a bus system? When you have the possibility, do you walk or cycle ?

This question is important because nowadays there are many pollution problems due to the use of private cars. according to the european parliament, transport is responsible for 30% of the european union's total co2 emissions, 60.7% of this emission is caused by car use. Many cars still use oil, which increases the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere that are responsible for the current global warming. The countries in the questionnaire are among the developed countries, so they have the means to turn to more ecological modes of transport. To then gradually reduce our co2 emissions





the different result in percentages

	Finland	Portugal	Reunion	Spain	Wales
Not in use	14,6%	9%	17,4%	20,8%	54,2%
In use	41,5%	56%	49,2%	45,8%	27,1%
In regular use	41,5%	34%	31,7%	25%	16,6%

This graph shows the number of persons who try to reduce their emission of greenhouse gases per country. So we have different answers: 1) Not in use, it's people who don't search if there was a public transport, or who don't walk instead of driving. 2) In use, it's people who take public transport, or who walk when they can. 3) In regular use, it's people who never drive, only if they are obliged.

So as the graph shows it, we see that the country which uses the least cars is Portugal. The one which uses the most cars instead of walking is Wales.

In fact, 54,2% of people answered that they are "not in use" in Wales whereas 9% answered this way in Portugal.

Indeed, the car is still the most used means of transport in Wales as some of the more remote areas are very poorly served by public transport because of its mountainous terrain. About the train, the price is still quite high so it is not accessible to everyone.

Whereas, it's quite the opposite for the Portugal:

Many people don't drive a car, due to the high price of petrol.

Moreover, public transport in Portugal is widespread. Even smaller towns and villages usually have public transport links.

The low price of public transport is also a help.

Portugal has also developed unusual transport options, like funiculars.

About 49,2% of people from Reunion Island answered that they use other means of transport than the car, against only 17,4% who always use the car.

I think people are becoming aware that they need to reduce car use by seeing the traffic jams it causes. We are seeing more and more people using electric bikes to go to work. The older ones among us generally prefer to take public transport. But I think some of us still prefer the car, as other means of transport are not very developed. Even if we are working on it, as for example with the cable car project in Saint Denis

In Finland, 41.5% said they used other means of transport and as many said they occasionally used the car. While only 14.6% say they only use the car. The bus network is very developed there, it is even the most developed in Europe, it currently covers 90% of the country's road network. The train is another safe and efficient way to travel in Finland, connecting all major cities and providing a good service. There are also many cycle routes in the area, and the terrain is relatively flat in some areas, making it easy to cycle.

About Spain 45.8% of the respondents said they use other means of transport than the car. Spain has an extensive metro and tram network. The train remains an affordable means of transport but only for short distances. This explains the result obtained

According to the SDGs, sustainable transport is one of the targets approached in the 11th goal: sustainable cities and communities.

On their report, sustainable transport achieves better integration of the economy while respecting the environment. improving social equity, health, resilience of cities, urban-rural linkages and productivity of rural areas.

They aim the development of sustainable transport systems, public mass transportation systems, clean fuels and vehicles, as well as improved transportation systems in rural areas. They commit to enhancing the role of sustainable transport and mobility in job creation, the mobility facilitation in connecting people and communities to jobs, schools and health care, thus providing all with equal opportunities and leaving no one behind.

So we can see that these goals have been reaching through those years.

For example, there are a lot of public transport in Portugal. All these countries are trying to reduce the use of the car as much as possible, so we can observe students who are aware of the importance of sustainable development and the positive impact that goal 11 has (mentioned above) . Although countries such as Wales find it more difficult to achieve this due to its geographical constraints.

Cadet Julie

Chitranonh Phetmany