

Press Release

DEKRA survey by forsa on data security in motor vehicles

My Car, My Data!

- The vast majority (88%) want control of their own vehicle data
- Nearly half of the car drivers surveyed are worried about data misuse
- 80% believe that self-driving cars will become established

The vast majority (88%) of car drivers in Germany want the right to decide what happens to the data from their own vehicle. This is the finding of a representative Germany-wide survey by forsa on behalf of the expert organization DEKRA.

So far, there are no statutory regulations to govern what is done with the data that can be gathered in vehicles regarding vehicle condition or driving style, for instance. In conjunction with the forsa institute, DEKRA asked 1,007 car drivers throughout Germany how this data on the vehicle and the driver should be handled.

The respondents emphatically rejected driver transparency. According to 88% of them, the vehicle owner should be able to decide what happens to the vehicle data, i.e. which organization or authority can access and use what type of data. In addition, 38% think that this right should also be granted to the respective driver if they are not the vehicle owner, e.g. in the case of hire cars.

The vast majority (72%) do not want others – a workshop, an insurance firm, or the authorities – to find out about their driving style, for instance. By contrast, most of the car drivers (63%) would be happy for the workshop or manufacturer to draw their attention to essential repairs through access to vehicle data.

Just under half (46%) are worried that others will spy on them through access to data: in other words, that their driving behavior will be analyzed or their vehicle could be hacked, compromising their safety when driving.

Furthermore, the vast majority of respondents (80%) assume that fully automated cars that drive entirely independently will become established sooner or later. 42% expect this to be the case in the next 10 to 20 years. 26% think that it will come about later, while 12% believe that fully automated driving will become reality in the near future (in less than ten years).

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About DEKRA

DEKRA has been active in the field of safety for more than 90 years. Founded in 1925 in Berlin as Deutscher Kraftfahrzeug-Überwachungs-Verein e.V., it is today one of the world's leading expert organizations. DEKRA SE is a subsidiary of DEKRA e.V. and manages the Group's operating business. In 2020, DEKRA generated preliminary sales totaling 3.2 billion euros. The company currently employs more than 43,000 people in approximately 60 countries on all six continents. With qualified and independent expert services, they work for safety on the road, at work and at home. These services range from vehicle inspection and expert appraisals to claims services, industrial and building inspections, safety consultancy, testing and certification of products and systems, as well as training courses and temporary work. The vision for the company's 100th birthday in 2025 is that DEKRA will be the global partner for a safe world.