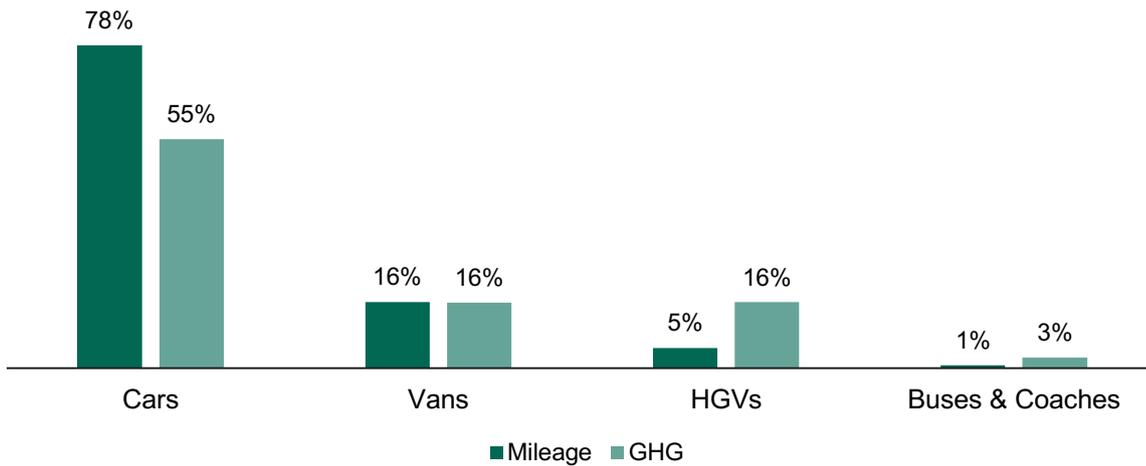


Mileage and fuel use

In 2019, cars made up 79% of the road vehicle miles travelled within the UK, but produced 55% of transport emissions, while HGVs made up a much smaller proportion of the vehicle miles (5%) and their emissions were disproportionately greater (16%). This is mainly because smaller vehicles are more fuel efficient.

Figure 5: Emissions and Mileage for Cars, Vans, HGVs and Buses
(tables [ENV0201](#) and [TRA0101](#))



Between 1990 and 2019, new vehicles have generally become more fuel efficient. As a result, emissions for road vehicles have tended to increase at a slower rate than total vehicle miles, or even decrease despite increased mileage. This effect is stronger for some road vehicles than for others.

Increased fuel efficiency in HGVs have been offset by an increased proportion of larger/heavier HGVs amongst new registrations (DfT, [VEH0506](#)). In addition, new car fuel efficiency has decreased since 2016 after a period of growth. This is largely due to increase in the proportion of SUVs and other large vehicles amongst new car registrations (DfT, [VEH0220](#)).

Figure 6: Change in mileage and emissions, 1990 to 2019 (tables [ENV0201](#) and [TRA0101](#))

