



# Car insurance price index

The most comprehensive analysis of car insurance pricing in the UK

Q2 2026

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# Executive summary

The average cost of car insurance in the UK has slightly increased compared to 3 months ago, according to the latest car insurance price index by Confused.com, powered by WTW.

Although UK drivers are now paying £719 for car insurance, on average, prices have dropped by £38 (-5%) in the past 12 months.

The latest figure is £8 (1%) more expensive than just 3 months ago and represents the first time prices have increased since the end of 2023.

The Confused.com car insurance price index, which began in 2006, remains the most comprehensive analysis of car insurance pricing in the UK. It utilises data from over 6 million car insurance quotes.

The latest price index by Confused.com has revealed that car insurance prices are beginning to rise once again following a lengthy trend of falling premiums. A survey of 2,000 UK drivers' found that almost half (49%) of those who received their renewal in the past 3 months saw a more expensive price compared to the previous year.

When presented with an increased quote of around £70, almost half (46%) went on to shop around and switch insurers, saving £82, on average.

In contrast, more than 1 in 5 (22%) received a cheaper renewal, on average. But of those who received a cheaper renewal quote, almost 1 in 5 (17%) still decided to shop and switch, saving £79, on average.

It supports the view that in spite of marginal car insurance price increases, shopping around can help drivers reduce what they pay. While rising premiums are only a reflection of trends in recent months, it could indicate a shifting landscape in car insurance costs.

# The bigger picture

How prices have changed

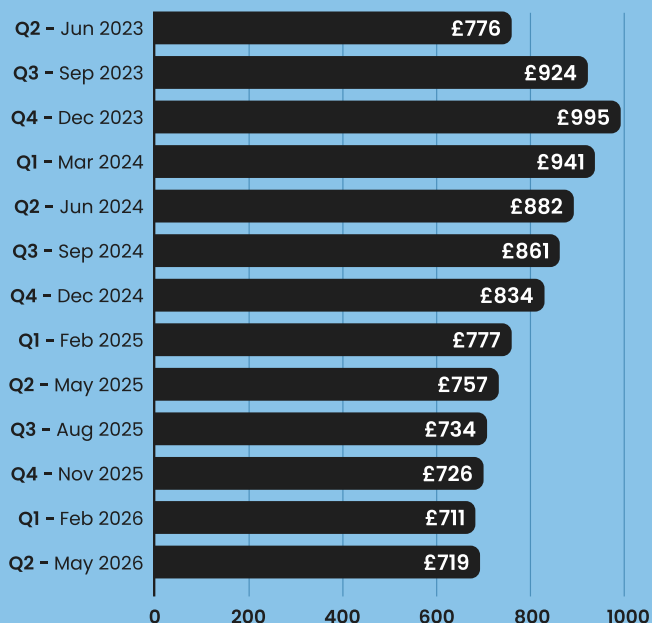
Car insurance prices have risen by £8 (1%) compared to 3 months ago, bucking the trend of gradually falling premiums.

Confused.com customer data shows that the average cost of claims' has increased by 42% since 2020, a key reason that might explain the shift.

The number of claims being made over the same period has dropped by 59%. So, while the number of claims has declined, the cost has significantly increased, on average.

## Price Trends

Annual decrease: £38 down  
-5% (compared to 12 months ago)



Since reaching a record of £995, on average, in Q4 of 2023, car insurance costs have declined on a quarter-by-quarter basis, until now. Most drivers are still likely to see a lower price when shopping around for their car insurance.

But crucially, these savings are significantly smaller than reported decreases in the past couple of years. For context, 12 months ago, prices were 14% lower than the previous year.

# The bigger picture

## How prices have changed

So, why is the trend of decreasing car insurance prices beginning to stall? And could it mean that premiums begin to rise for drivers at renewal?

New data from Confused.com reveals that the cost of claims made by customers has been increasing in recent years. The average price per paid-out claim has risen by 42% between 2020 and 2025 – from £3,842 to £5,464<sup>2</sup>. Cars today are considerably more expensive to repair or replace, potentially causing providers to adjust their prices to reflect the risk of having to pay out more.

In addition, labour costs have increased in tandem with manufacturing costs, especially where newer cars are involved. A lot of newer cars are equipped with technology that may need recalibrating after a repair, which increases the overall cost. In the case of a car being written off or stolen, the cost to replace that car could also be considerably more.

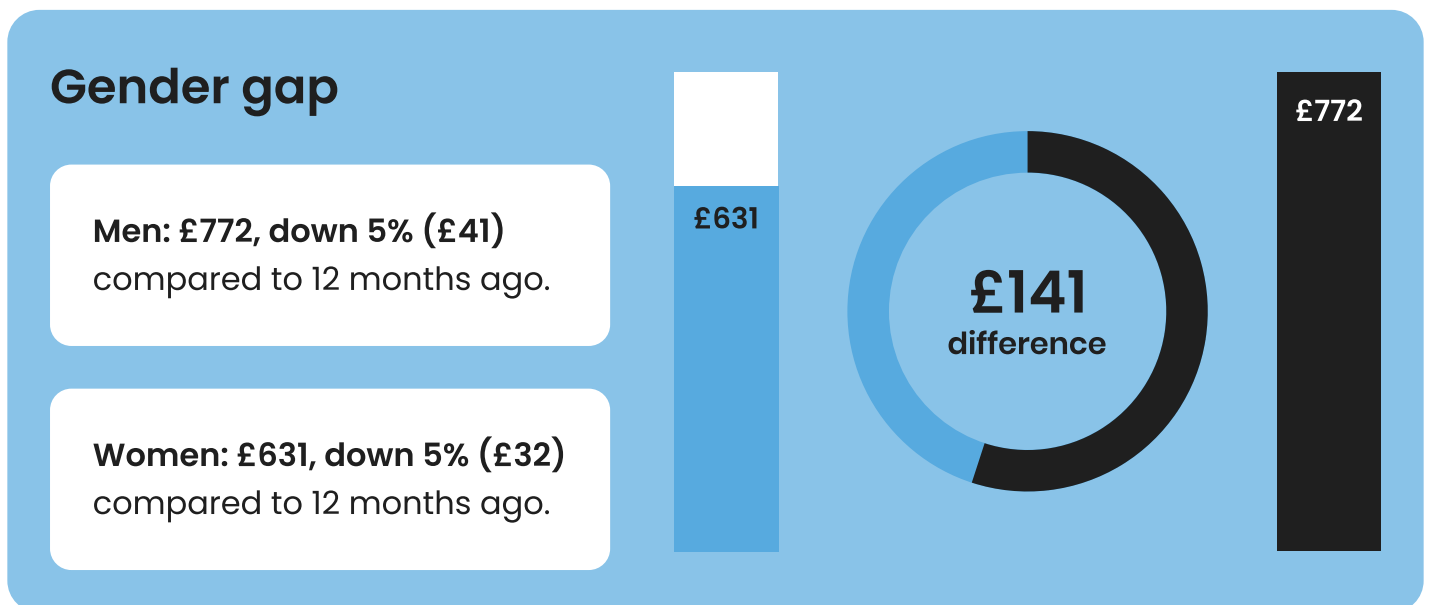
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Claim type	2020 cost	2025 cost	% change
Accident	£3,748	£5,247	40%
Fire	£6,440	£12,799	99%
Damage	£2,439	£4,990	105%
Storm & flood	£6,705	£8,003	19%
Theft	£11,067	£18,123	64%
Windscreen	£243	£350	44%

# Prices by gender

Do men or women pay more?

The gender gap between men and women has narrowed every so slightly over recent years. The latest figure of £141 shows the gap has closed by £4, on average, compared to 3 months ago. However, the gap has remained fairly stagnant over the past year, with men continuing to pay considerably more on average than women:



Due to the EU gender directive (introduced in 2012), insurance providers can't discriminate based on gender.

There are a few reasons that help explain why men generally pay more than women for car insurance. The greater risk profile of men compared to women is a key consideration.

This can factor in driving history, claim history, mileage, occupation and the type of car being insured. In general, men are more likely to drive expensive cars with larger engines.

Because of this, potential claims can be costlier and pose a greater risk in the eyes of insurers.

# Prices by age

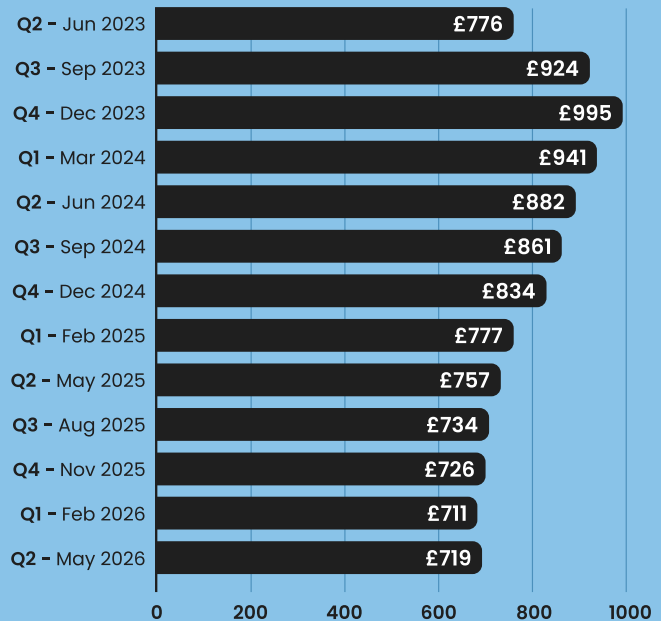
What do younger and older drivers pay?

Younger drivers have, for some time, paid considerably more for car insurance compared to any other age group. Having said that, younger drivers are saving upwards of £200 pounds on their car insurance, on average.

## Age of drivers

**17-year-olds: £1,695**  
(-17%, £356)

**18-year-olds: £2,042**  
(-12%, £287)



Younger drivers typically see the biggest reduction in car insurance premiums despite paying the most, on average. Despite other age groups facing increasing premiums, young drivers are still seeing decreases in recent months, as much as £73, or 5%.

Looking at recent trends, prices have increased for most age groups in the past 3 months. The most significant change is for 51-year-old drivers, as prices have increased by £36, or 6%, in the past 3 months.

Over the same period, 50-year-olds are also seeing a significant shift with an increase of £29, or 5%. The only age group likely to see an increase compared to last year's price is 71+, as premiums have risen by £2, or 1%.

# Prices by region

Which areas have seen the biggest rises?

Location is a major consideration for insurers when calculating car insurance premiums. This can give an insurance provider an indication of the crime rates, accident frequency and traffic volume of any particular region. This can significantly affect the price of premiums for drivers in different parts of the UK.

For the most part, drivers in different regions of the UK continue to benefit from declining car insurance costs year-on-year, with the exception of Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Northern Ireland is hit the hardest, with car insurance premiums rising significantly by £168 (20%) in the past 12 months to £1,020, on average. In Scotland, prices are now around 1-2% more expensive year-on-year.

Drivers in Manchester and Merseyside are benefiting from the biggest reduction of car insurance costs, saving an average of £89 (-10%) year-on-year. The average premium in this region is £807. Elsewhere, in Inner London, drivers are now paying £97 (8%) less than 12 months ago, at £1,088.

However, the picture changes considerably when comparing car insurance premiums to 3 months ago. All UK regions have seen an increase in prices over this period, except for inner London, where prices actually dropped very slightly, by £5, on average.

Northern Ireland is once again the region with the biggest increase in premiums over the past 3 months at 8%, or £73. This is followed by South Wales, where prices have increased by £23, or 4%, over the same period.

## Regions with the biggest price changes

**Northern Ireland:**  
**£1,020, up 20%**  
**(£168)**  
compared to  
12 months ago



**Manchester and Merseyside: £807,**  
**down 10% (£89)**  
compared to  
12 months ago



## Expert view

### Matt Crole-Rees, motoring expert at Confused.com car insurance, comments:

“Drivers have benefitted from car insurance price drops for some time now. But now we’re seeing that prices are starting to increase slightly in recent months, which means motorists could soon see their price increase when it comes to their renewal.

“Car insurance prices are generally calculated based on risk and claims. And while there have been fewer reported claims in recent years, the increases we’re starting to see are likely down to the fact that when a claim is made, it’s more expensive for insurers to rectify. This isn’t something drivers can control, but it doesn’t mean to say they can’t still save money on their insurance.

“Shopping around when it comes to renewal is key to knowing you’re getting the best price. But not leaving it to the last minute could mean you save even more. That’s as our data shows that getting a quote 28 days before your renewal is due could save you as much as 53% on your price. So being organised and getting it sorted early can pay off.”



**Matt Crole-Rees**  
motoring expert  
**Confused.com**

# Note to editors

More than 6 million quotes are used in the construction of each quarter's insurance price index. This makes it the most comprehensive insurance index in the UK. Unless otherwise stated, all prices referred to are for comprehensive cover.

The following web pages will be updated to reflect the new figures. Please use this as credit for the data: <http://www.confused.com/car-insurance/price-index>

1. Data based on claims declared on car insurance quotes through [Confused.com](http://www.confused.com) between 2020 and 2025, based on the date of the claim.
2. Research carried out by One Poll on behalf of Confused.com of 2,000 UK drivers who have car insurance policies. This was conducted between 10 and 15 June 2026.
3. [Confused.com](http://www.confused.com) car insurance data, March - May '26. According to the data, those who quoted 28 days before the day of renewal paid 53% less compared to the prices quoted for the day of renewal, on average.

# Media information

## **About Confused.com**

Launched in 2002, Confused.com was the UK's first digital marketplace for car insurance and is one of the leading brands in the sector, generating over one million quotes per month. It has expanded its range of comparison products over the years to include home insurance, van insurance, motorcycle insurance, and car finance comparison, as well as a number of tools designed to save consumers money.

Confused.com is not an insurance company or lender. It provides an objective and unbiased service. By using cutting-edge technology, it has developed a series of intelligent web-based solutions that evaluate a number of risk factors to help customers with their decision-making, subsequently finding them great deals on a wide-range of insurance products, financial services, utilities and more. Confused.com's service is based on the most up-to-date information provided by UK suppliers and industry regulators. Confused.com is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

# Media information

## About the index

The index is compiled using anonymous data from all enquiries submitted on Confused.com. In line with the draft Office of Fair Trading (OFT) commitments on the use of competitor price data, the prices used for calculating the index are based on an average of the best five quotes received on Confused.com. The OFT closed on 1 April 2014 and the commitments are now governed by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA).

## About Willis Towers Watson

WTW (NASDAQ: WLTW) is a leading global advisory, broking and solutions company that helps clients around the world turn risk into a path for growth. With roots dating to 1828, WTW has 45,000 employees in more than 140 countries and markets. We design and deliver solutions that manage risk, optimise benefits, cultivate talent, and expand the power of capital to protect and strengthen institutions and individuals. Our unique perspective allows us to see the critical intersections between talent, assets and ideas — the dynamic formula that drives business performance. Together, we unlock potential. Learn more at [willistowerswatson.com](http://willistowerswatson.com)