





A Light-Hearted View Of Current Attitudes Towards Diesel In Germany

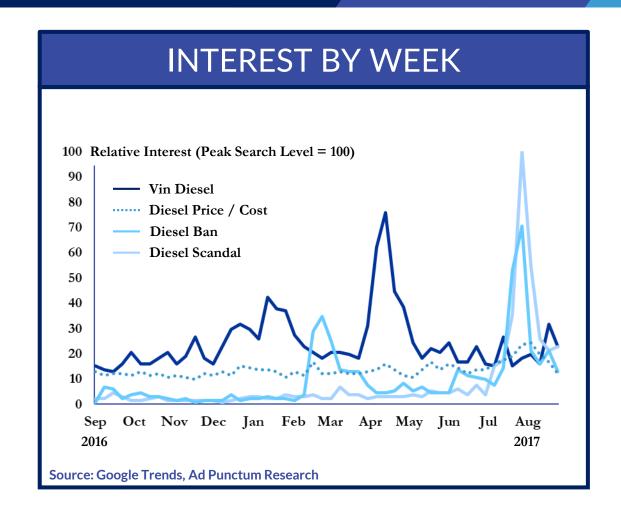
#### **BACKGROUND**

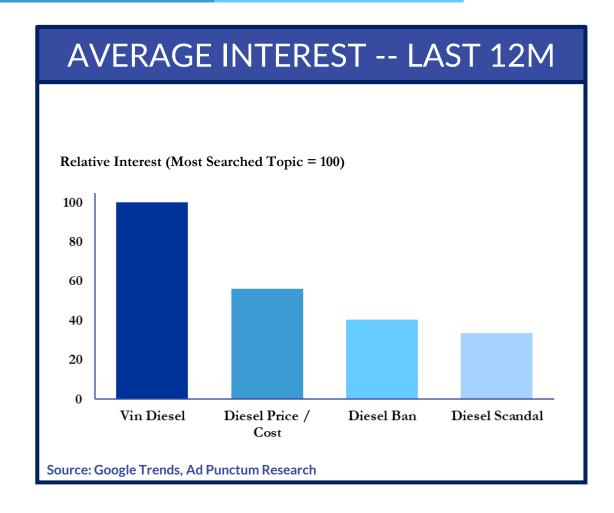


- Since the VW diesel scandal first emerged there has been a constant drumbeat of bad news about diesel vehicles
- OEMs have been forced to issues recalls of vehicles and city bans are being openly contemplated by politicians and pressure groups
- Politicians are concerned about the ability to meet emissions standards without diesel and the ability of the OEMs to offer alternative solutions
- But in the end, this all comes down to whether or not people buy the cars...
- ... Do we really know how much do they actually care?

# HOW MUCH DO GERMANS CARE ABOUT DIESEL?

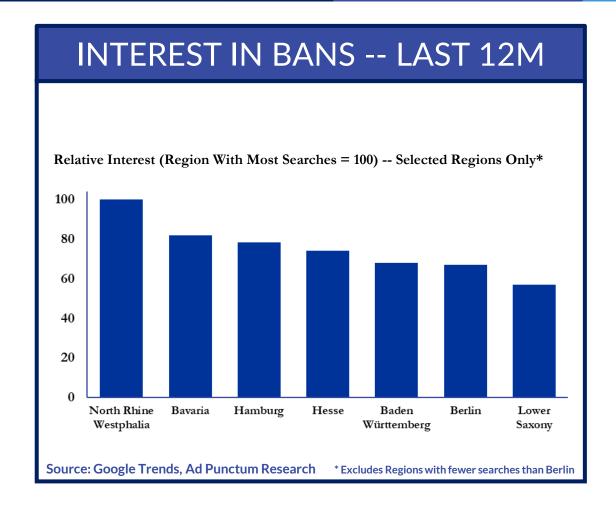






### WHO IS MOST CONCERNED ABOUT BANS?

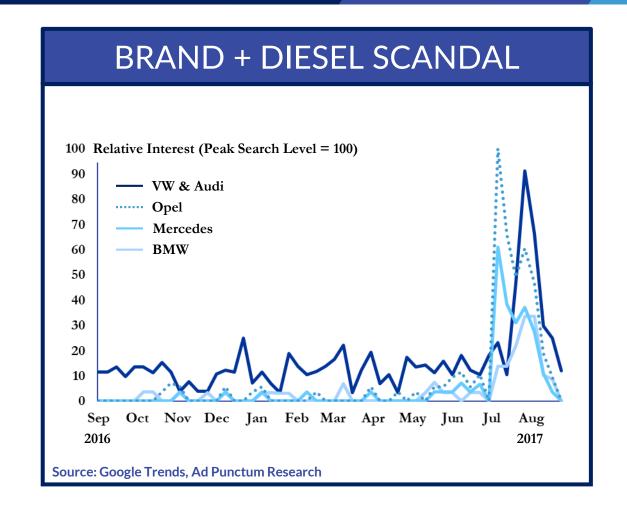


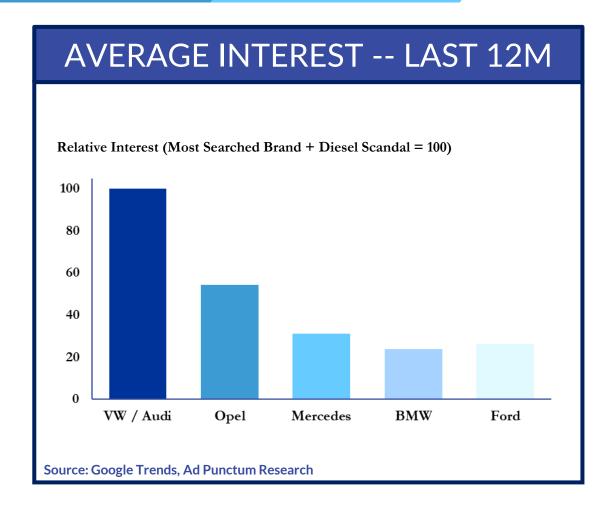


- Search activity around diesel bans has recently increased, in line with media reporting
- Although a ban in Stuttgart (Baden-Württemberg) attracts lots of press coverage, locals appear less concerned than other regions
- Greater search volume near bases of Ford (NRW), BMW (Bavaria) and Opel (Hesse) and Daimler (B-W) than VW (Lower Saxony)

# HOW ARE GERMANS VIEWING DIFFERENT BRANDS?

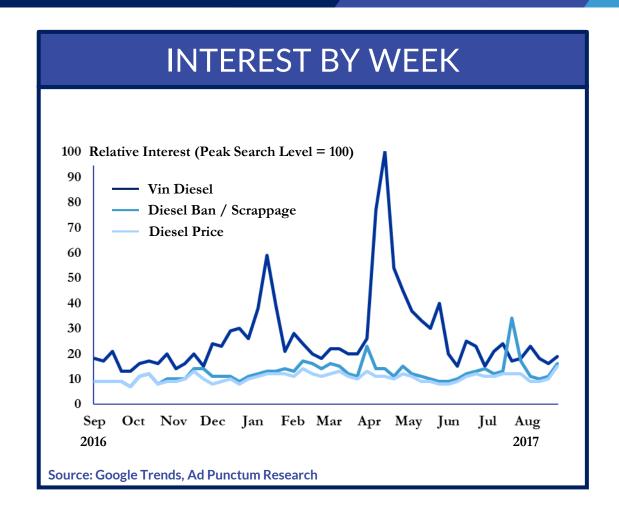


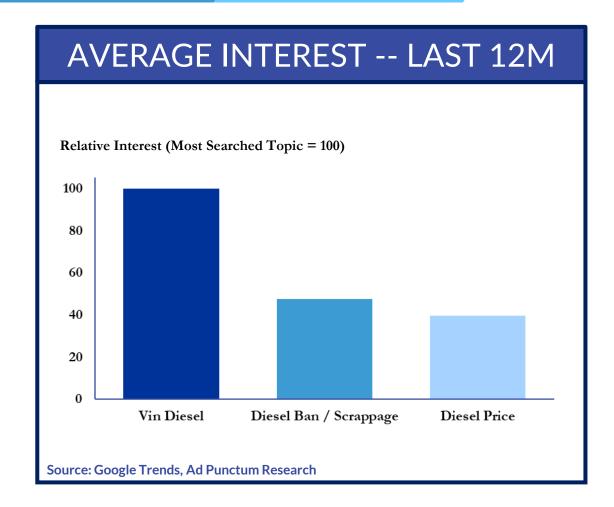




# **COMPARISON -- WHAT DO THE BRITISH THINK?**







#### **CONCLUSIONS\***



- German search records indicate that consumer interest in the diesel scandal and the potential for outright bans is increasing, albeit from a low base
- Clear peaks driven by news stories rather than consistently search volume, indicating diesel ban isn't <u>yet</u> a common purchasing consideration
- Searches about diesel bans are highest in regions with car makers, rather than those seemingly most likely to implement them
- VAG appears to be the only group consistently associated with scandal
- In the UK, web searches show only small growth in interest around diesel bans

# A NOTE ON OUR METHODOLOGY



- Data was compiled using Google Trends, a tool that creates relative measures of interest based on input parameters such as search term and region
- Data has not been filtered for particular users (e.g. to remove searches by teenage girls and give greater weight to traditional car buying demographics)
- Given the diverse user base, the most interesting data points are often how the trend changes to itself over time
- This is all intended to bring a different view and hopefully be a little bit of fun!
  - Those wishing to make life-or-death decisions based on consumer attitude are advised to run their own proprietary surveys
    - » We can help but you probably know how to do it yourself
  - Yes, we did search German language terms and translate for presentation

### **ABOUT AD PUNCTUM**



- Consultancy and research firm founded by an ex-automotive OEM insider
- Ad Punctum researches emerging trends and key issues ranging from the disruptive impact of on-demand mobility to Brexit
- Periodically publishes relevant research to make it freely available and drive understanding and debate on interesting topics
- Please contact <u>sales@adpunctum.co.uk</u> or visit <u>www.adpunctum.co.uk</u> to learn more about us and discuss any specific queries you might have



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