



How Communities Benefit from Electric Vehicles

Electric vehicles (EVs) offer benefits to both consumers and the economy. They are fun to drive, keep and invest money in the economy, create jobs, reduce pollutants that are harmful to health, and cost less to own and maintain.

1. EVs are less expensive to fuel and maintain.

Powering your ride with electricity costs about 60% less than buying gasoline. A recent study by Consumer Reports on repair and maintenance data from thousands of drivers shows that EV drivers pay about half of what drivers of fossil-fuel-powered vehicles pay for maintenance and repairs. Having an EV means no oil changes, no transmission fluids, and no radiators. Not only does this save you money, but it also saves you time spent waiting for your car to be serviced. Consumers continue praising their cost savings over the years, as nearly 95% of EV drivers from Plug In America's 2026 annual EV driver survey said their EV is cheaper to fuel and easier to maintain than a gas car.

2. The EV market is creating good-paying American jobs.

The U.S. is manufacturing EVs and other advanced technology vehicles and components in at least 20 states, creating thousands of new, high-paying, stable jobs.

3. EVs are better for the local economy.

Since it costs much less to own and operate an EV than a gas vehicle, this means more money stays in the pockets of local drivers. Money not spent on gas or maintenance can be reinvested in the local economy.

4. EVs protect consumers from volatile gas prices.

These clean vehicles reduce our dependence on imported fossil fuels because they are powered by electricity, which can be produced domestically and locally from multiple sources, including renewable resources. Since EVs are powered by electricity, consumers don't have to worry about constantly changing gas prices that can strain household budgets.

5. EVs improve air quality, which boosts public health while reducing healthcare and pollution mitigation costs.

40% of Americans live in places with unhealthy levels of air pollution, and even more experience daily spikes in deadly particle pollution. Contaminated runoff from highways can significantly impact local surface and groundwater quality, as well as aquatic habitats. With little to zero tailpipe emissions and no oil leakage on roadways, EVs greatly reduce air and runoff pollution, creating healthier communities. With more EVs on the road, Americans can spend less time and money on healthcare related to pollution and pollution remediation.

6. EVs create resiliency in our electric system.

Some EVs can power a home or business during extreme weather events. As the industry continues to work on this evolving technology, known as bidirectional charging, EVs will strengthen the resiliency of our electric grids, providing power during times of high demand and charging when electricity is plentiful.

7. EVs are more fun to drive.

92% of EV drivers consider their vehicle more fun to drive than gas cars, Plug In America's 2026 EV Driver Survey found. One of the most notable features of EVs is their instant torque, delivering immediate acceleration the moment the driver steps on the pedal. The ride is also smooth and quiet, making for a more pleasant drive with less fatigue on vehicle occupants.

8. EVs are as safe or safer than conventional cars.

More than 97% of EV drivers consider their vehicles safe, says a 2026 Plug In America survey. Thanks to a low center of gravity, EVs offer greater stability and traction and are less prone to rollover than gas vehicles. Plus, there are 40% fewer injury claims involving drivers and passengers from EV owners than from their conventional counterparts.

9. EVs can be charged at home, at work, and in many other locations.

EVs can be charged at home overnight while their drivers are sleeping, so they are ready to go first thing in the morning. The cars can even charge from a normal household outlet like the one a toaster uses. While on the go or for a road trip, there are public charging options available. Thanks to federal investments and the private sector, public charging options are rapidly expanding.

10. EVs reduce electricity rates for consumers.

Investment in EVs and charging infrastructure can result in more off-peak energy being sold, thereby reducing rates for ratepayers. Additional load from EVs can make more efficient use of existing utility assets, which – especially through off-peak charging – puts downward pressure on electricity rates.

11. EVs have better warranties.

The average gasoline vehicle has a powertrain warranty of 5 years/50,000 miles. Thanks to federal regulations, EV batteries are required to have an 8-year/100,000-mile warranty. Cars are important investments, and it's important to know your EV is protected for years to come.

About Plug In America

Plug In America is the nation's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating the use of plug-in electric vehicles in the United States through education, advocacy, and research. Formed in 2008, Plug In America provides practical, objective information to consumers and dealerships about EVs through various programs, including National Drive Electric Month, Drive Electric Earth Month, PlugStar.com, and other public outreach events. Learn more at PlugInAmerica.org and the EV shopping tool PlugStar.com.

