

Integrating EVs in the Electricity System

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NREL Advanced Vehicles and Fueling Infrastructure



The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) **spearheads transportation research, development, and deployment** to accelerate the widespread adoption of high-performance, low-emission, energy-efficient passenger and freight vehicles.

NREL is assessing the potential for **energy diversification** in transportation (CNG, biofuels, hydrogen and electrification) and related **infrastructure requirements** and providing technical support to national, state, and local entities to:

- ✓ Assess long-term **electrification opportunities** across different transportation segments & evaluate policy/technology scenarios for **alternative fuel vehicle adoption**
- ✓ Estimate **infrastructure requirements** to support vehicle electrification
- ✓ Understand **EV charging costs** (affordability) and optimize DCFC station design
- ✓ Explore opportunities for **EV integration with buildings and the electric grid**

Electrification Opportunities

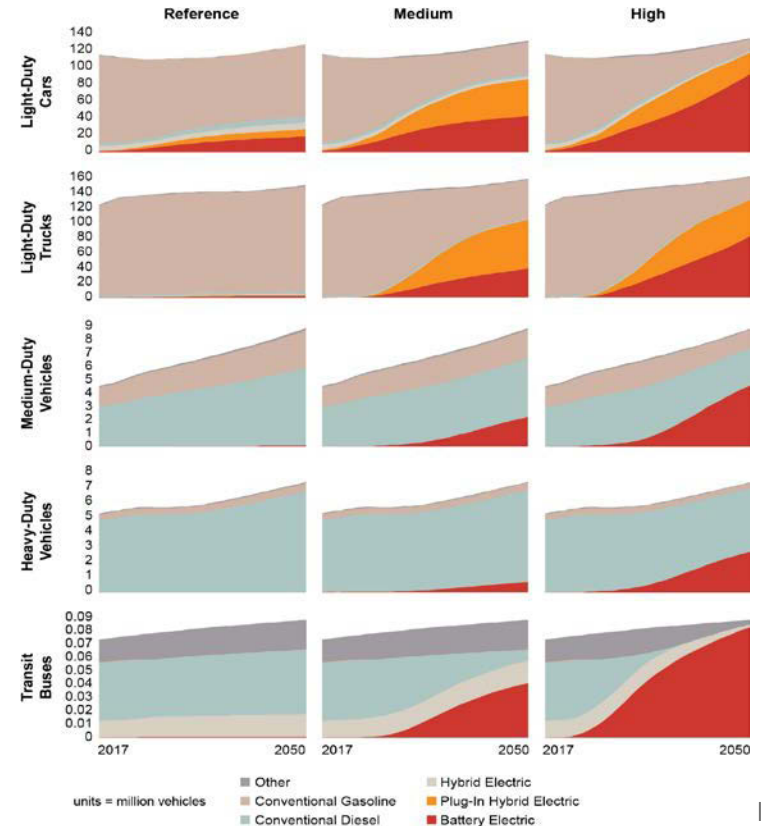


Vehicle electrification has the potential to disrupt the U.S. transportation energy landscape.

Different opportunities for electrification across **different segments and applications** in real-world technology adoption.

- **Today:** Complete reliance on petroleum, 90+%
- **Possible future:** in the [EFS High](#) scenario 76% of on-road miles traveled from electricity in 2050
 - ~85% for light-duty vehicles
 - ~95% for buses
 - ~40% for heavy trucks

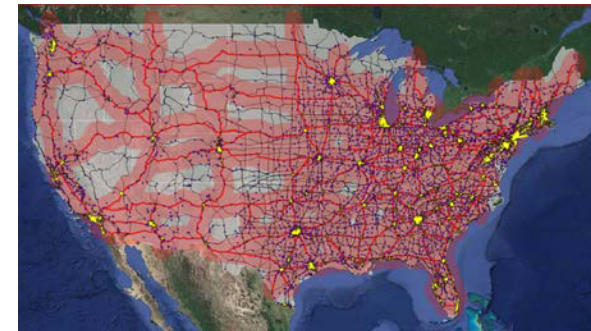
Transportation accounts for **23% of U.S. electricity consumption in 2050**, up from 0.2% today.



EV Infrastructure Requirements



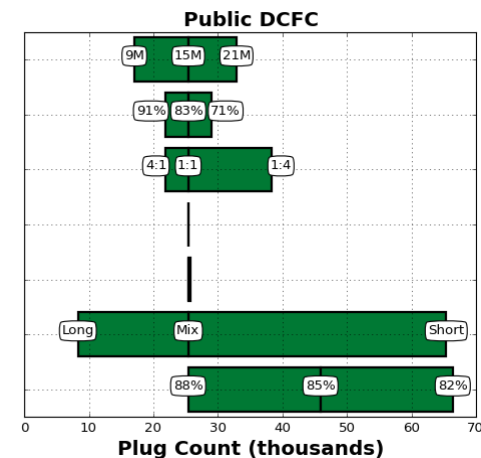
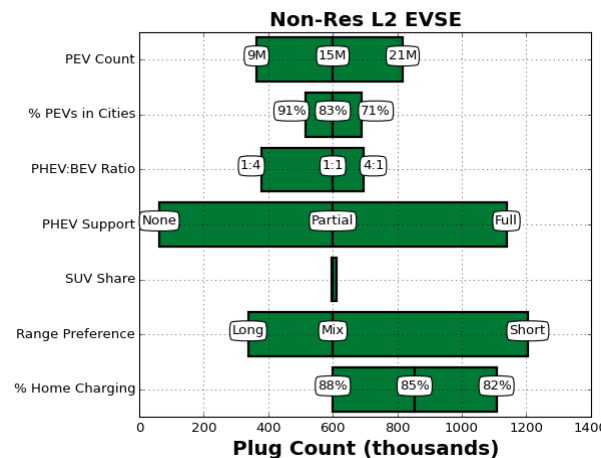
NREL developed EVI-Pro to analyze **charging behavior** and **translate those in public charging infrastructure requirements** to support PEV adoption, including interstate corridors and support for “garage orphans”.



Sensitivity Analysis

Estimated requirements for EV charging infrastructure are heavily dependent on:

- Home charging availability
- Evolution of the EV market,
- Consumer preferences,
- Technology development



EVI-Pro Lite

A free simplified online version of EVI-Pro to assist US state and local governments and make insights from recent studies accessible to public and private organizations investing in EV charging infrastructure.



How Much Electric Vehicle Charging Do I Need in My Area?

State Vehicles Results

Start Over

Your Results

In Colorado, to support 250,000 plug-in electric vehicles you would need:

5,590 Workplace Level 2 Charging Plugs

3,693 Public Level 2 Charging Plugs
There are currently 1,557 plugs with an average of 2.4 plugs per charging station per the Department of Energy's Alternative Fuels Data Center Station Locator.

550 Public DC Fast Charging Plugs
There are currently 214 plugs with an average of 3.3 plugs per charging station per the Department of Energy's Alternative Fuels Data Center Station Locator.

Where Do I Start?

Planners may want to prioritize installation of fast charging infrastructure above Level 2 charging.

Build DC Fast First: Establishing fast charging networks that enable long-distance travel, serve as charging safety nets, and provide charging for drivers without home charging is critical to support all-electric vehicles that have no other alternative for quickly extending their driving range.

Build Level 2 Second: EVI-Pro typically simulates the majority of Level 2 charging demand coming from plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, which have the ability to use gasoline as necessary for quickly extending driving range.

Change Assumptions

Plug-in Electric Vehicles (as of 2016): 8,600

Light Duty Vehicles (as of 2016): 4,974,900

Number of vehicles to support

Vehicle Mix	
Plug-in Hybrids 20-mile electric range	<input type="text" value="15"/> %
Plug-in Hybrids 50-mile electric range	<input type="text" value="35"/> %
All-Electric Vehicles 100-mile electric range	<input type="text" value="15"/> %
All-Electric Vehicles 250-mile electric range	<input type="text" value="35"/> %
Total	100%

How much support do you want to provide for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs)?

- Full Support
Most PHEV drivers wouldn't need to use gasoline on a typical day.
- Partial Support
Calculate using half of full support assumption.
- Do not count PHEVs in charging demand estimates.

Percent of drivers with access to home charging %

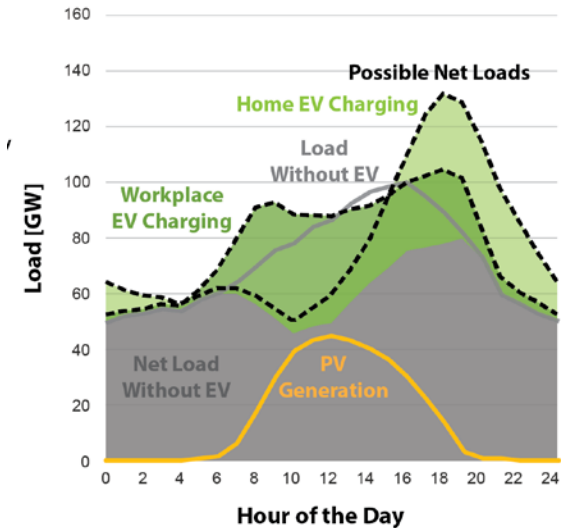
Recalculate

[See all assumptions.](#)

EV-Grid Impact

EVs are an additional load that increases total electricity demand and changes its shape. Integrating EVs creates **load growth opportunities** for electric utilities but also poses **new challenges** in a system of growing complexity.

- Impact on the **overall energy consumption increase is limited** (e.g., 10% PEV market share → demand increase of 5%)
- Impact on system-level **peak electricity demand** can be more significant.
- At the local level, **clustering effects** in EV adoption and high power charging exacerbate the **impact on distribution systems**

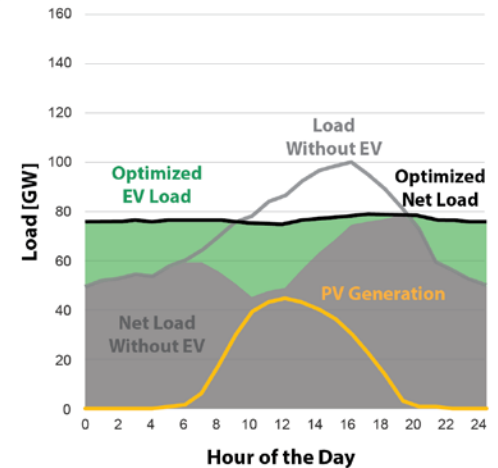
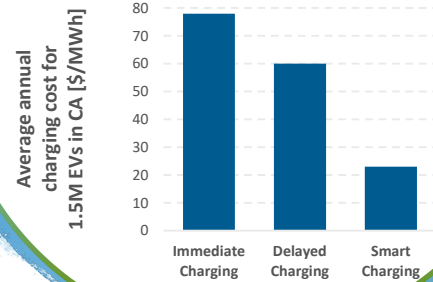


Flexible EV Charging

The grid is evolving into a more integrated supply/demand system in which **demand-side distributed resources respond to supply-side requirements.**

Flexible PEV charging can satisfy mobility needs while also supporting the grid (cheaper electricity) by optimizing the **design and operation of the electric power systems** and facilitate the **integration of renewables:**

- Peak shaving /valley filling
- Ramping mitigation
- Support operations (e.g., curtailment)
- Distributed services (e.g., reserve, contingency)



Conclusions

Emerging topic:

- **Vehicle electrification** is rapidly changing the transportation demand landscape and requires advanced modeling tools to explore future scenarios.

System-level changes:

- **Integrated demand/supply models** are required to inform this transformation, including the key role of recharging infrastructure and EV-grid integration.

Integration challenges/opportunities:

- Electric vehicles introduce load that the grid was not designed to accommodate and can **impact the electricity system**, especially the distribution networks.
- Electric vehicles offers great opportunities to **optimize the design and operation of future integrated transportation/energy systems**.

References & Acknowledgement

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Thanks! Questions?

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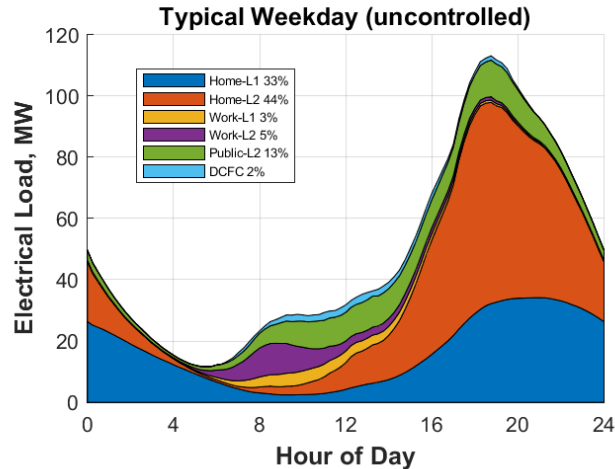
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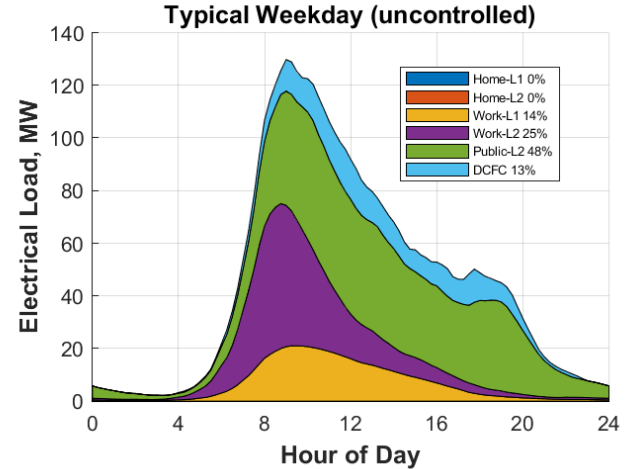
EV Charging Profiles (Location)

EV charging profiles can look significantly different (and would require different levels of charging infrastructure) if **vehicles are charged at different locations** (while respecting mobility needs)

Home-Dominant Charging



No Home Charging

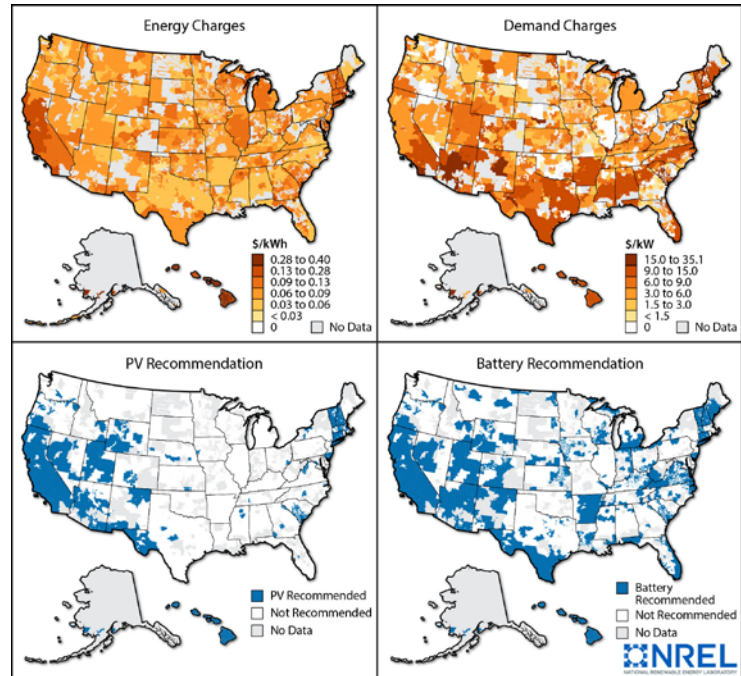
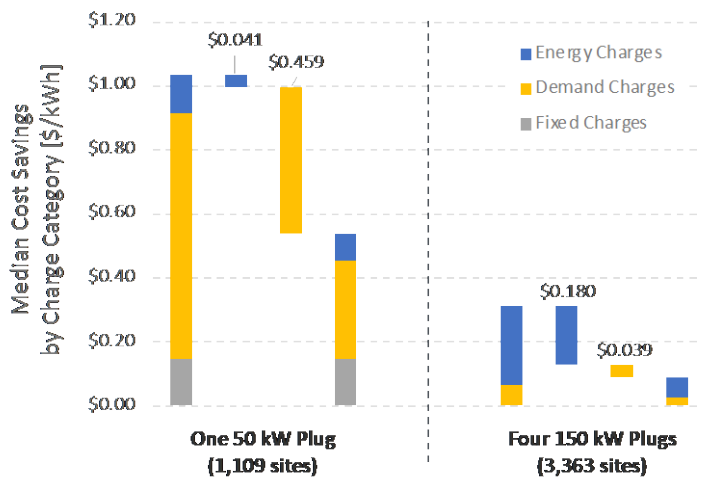


Mitigate DC Fast Charging Cost



Cost of fast charging can be high, due to **low utilization & demand charges**

Technology solutions can be used to reduce cost, including batteries and PV



Source: Muratori M. et al. "[Technology solutions to mitigate electricity cost for electric vehicle DC fast charging.](#)" Applied Energy 242 (2019).