



# Commercial EV Charging Infrastructure: Modeling Concepts & Techniques

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Brennan Borlaug  
*National Renewable Energy Laboratory*

October 23, 2024

CEM EVI Workshop, EV Charging Infrastructure:  
Global Modeling Approaches

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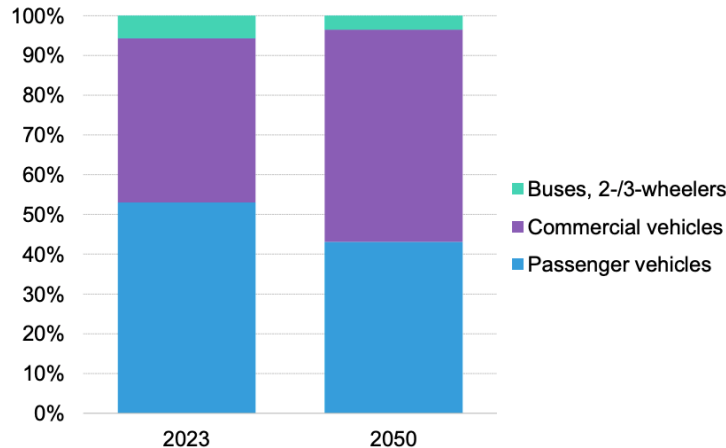
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# Commercial Vehicles: Fastest Growing Source of Global Road Transport-Related CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

## Commercial vehicles are a growing share of road transport emissions

### Distribution of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from road transport



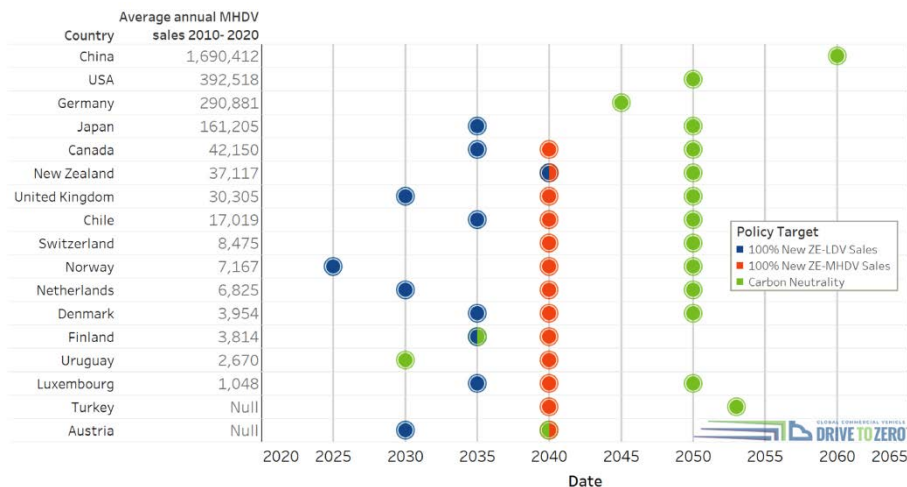
Source: BloombergNEF's 2024 Electric Vehicle Outlook Economic Transition Scenario (ETS). Note: Includes emissions from fuel combustion and upstream emissions from electricity generation. The ETS assumes no new policy intervention.

According to BloombergNEF, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from commercial vehicles will overtake passenger vehicles by 2040, even though the commercial vehicle fleet will be <25% the size of the passenger fleet.

By 2050, the commercial vehicle fleet could grow by >33% due to increased economic activity and the growing popularity of e-commerce.

# Ambitious Global Commitments for Decarbonizing Commercial Vehicles

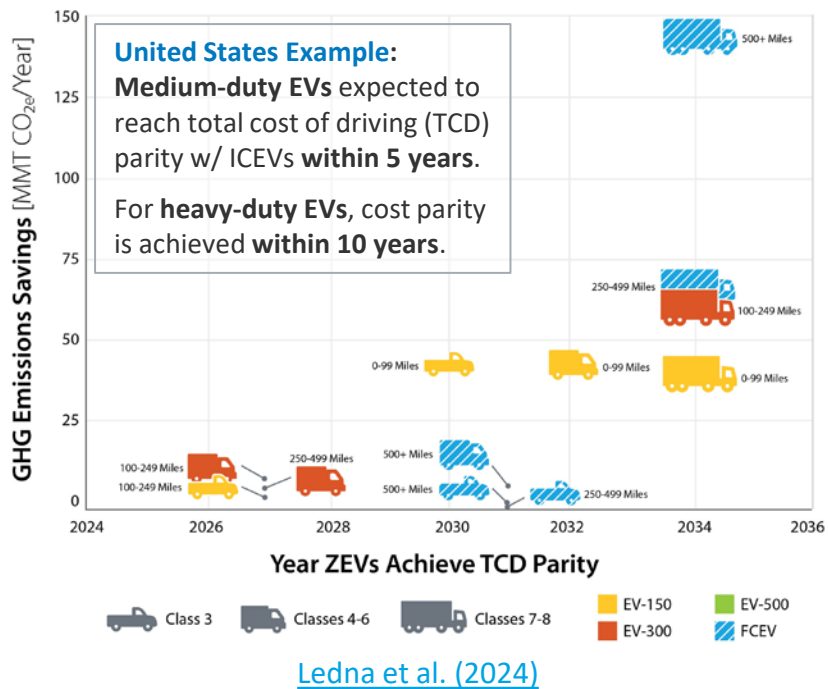
- >15 countries have set MHDV decarbonization targets.
- MHDV manufacturers representing ~45% of global market share have made some type of commitment to decarbonizing their vehicles by 2050.



Note: Countries arranged in descending order by average annual MHDV sales from 2010 – 2020; Data unavailable for Turkey and Austria; LDV = light-duty vehicles; MHDV = Medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

OEM	COMMITMENT	DATE
Scania	At least 90% zero-emission vehicle sales worldwide, with remainder powered by 100% fossil-free energy	2040
GM Group	100% carbon neutral in global products and operations	2040
Stellantis	70% low-emission vehicle sales in Europe, and 40% in the US	2030
Ford Group	100% fossil free new vehicle sales	2040
Daimler Group	100% carbon neutral in driving operation in Europe, North America, and Japan	2039
Toyota Group	100% CO2 neutral in life cycle by 2050	2050
Changan Automobile Group	100% electric vehicle sales	2025
Great Wall Motor Company Ltd. (GWM)	100% CO2 neutral, with interim target of 80% new energy vehicle sales by 2025	2045
Mahindra & Mahindra	100% carbon neutral in operations	2040
VW Group	100% CO2 neutral balance sheet	2050
Renault	100% CO2 neutral worldwide, with interim target of 100% CO2 neutral in Europe by 2040	2050
Nissan	100% carbon neutral across operations and product life cycle	2050
Mitsubishi	100% carbon neutral, with 50% EV sales by 2030	2050
Isuzu	100% CO2 neutral in vehicle operation and plants sheet	2050
Paccar	100% fossil free new vehicle sales	2040
Suzuki	90% reduction in CO2 emissions in driving operation	2050
Volvo Trucks Group	100% fossil free new vehicle sales	2040
CNH Industrial	100% fossil free new vehicle sales	2040
Honda	100% battery-electric and fuel cell electric vehicle sales in North America, with interim targets of 40% by 2030 and 80% by 2035	2040
Mazda	90% reduction in CO2 emissions in driving operation and energy production	2050
Hyundai Kia Automotive Group	100% CO2 neutral in all operations	2050

# Electric Vehicles are a Promising Pathway for Decarbonizing Commercial Vehicle Operations

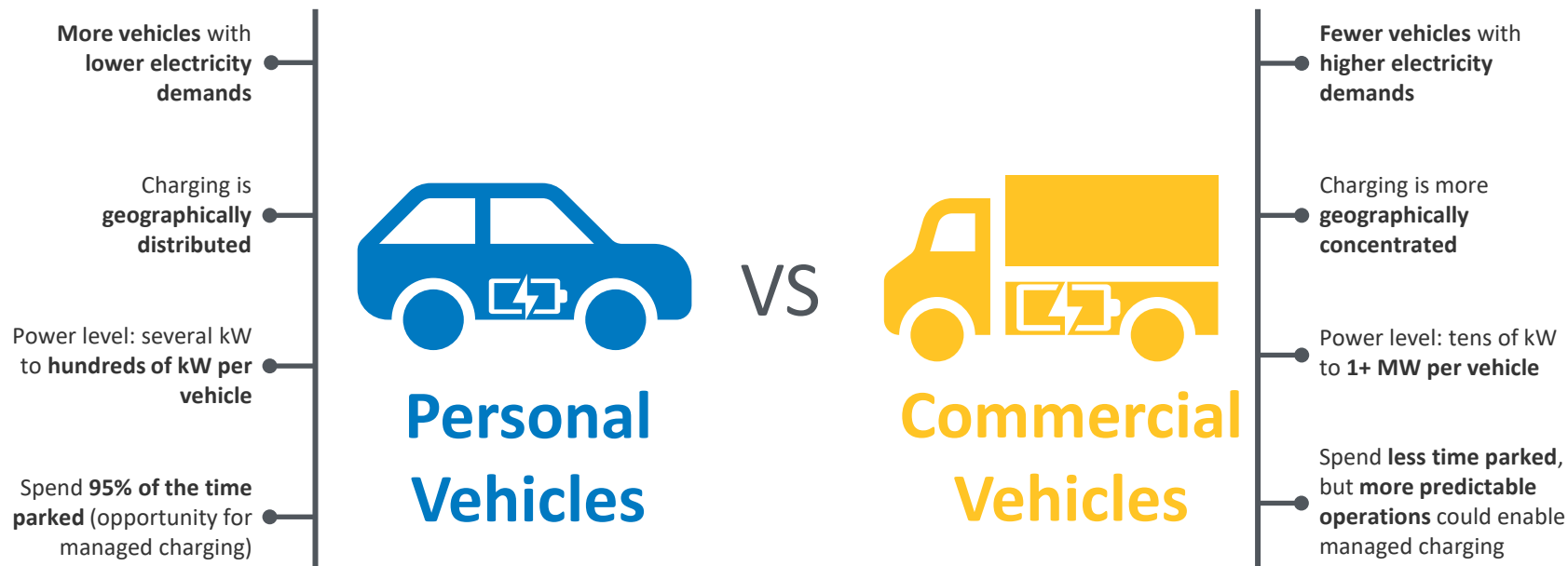


## Commercial EV Advantages:

- EVs are becoming **increasingly cost competitive on an upfront basis** as battery costs continue to decline.
- EVs are more efficient than internal combustion engine vehicles (ICEVs), resulting in **significant operating cost savings.**
- EVs offer **performance advantages** that can improve safety, reliability, and driver retention.
- EVs are the **most mature technology solution** to decarbonize commercial vehicles.

# Commercial Vehicles are Different from Personal Vehicles When it Comes to EV Charging

## EV Charging Expectations:



# Personal Vehicles: Multiple Use Cases



Credit: G. Zeidler, CC BY-NC-ND



Credit: World Bank, CC BY-NC-ND



Credit: NREL



Credit: E. Jeffrey, CC BY-NC-ND



# Commercial Vehicles: Many More Use Cases

## U.S. FHWA Classifications

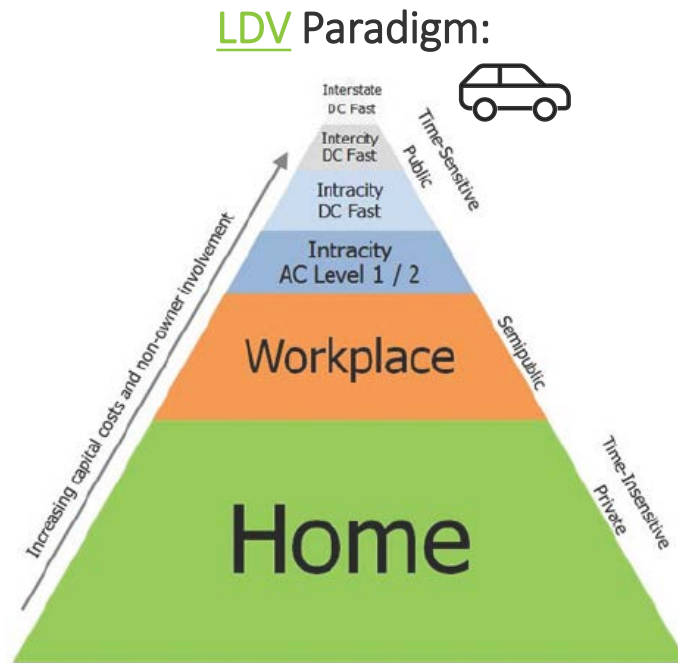
Personal vehicles (Class 1-2)	
<b>Class One:</b> 6,000 lbs. or less	
<b>Class Two:</b> 6,001 to 10,000 lbs.	
<b>Class Three:</b> 10,001 to 14,000 lbs.	
<b>Class Four:</b> 14,001 to 16,000 lbs.	
<b>Class Five:</b> 16,001 to 19,500 lbs.	
<b>Class Six:</b> 19,501 to 26,000 lbs.	
<b>Class Seven:</b> 26,001 to 33,000 lbs.	
<b>Class Eight:</b> 33,001 lbs. & over	
Commercial vehicles (Class 1-8)	





# Personal LDV Charging: “There’s No Place Like Home”

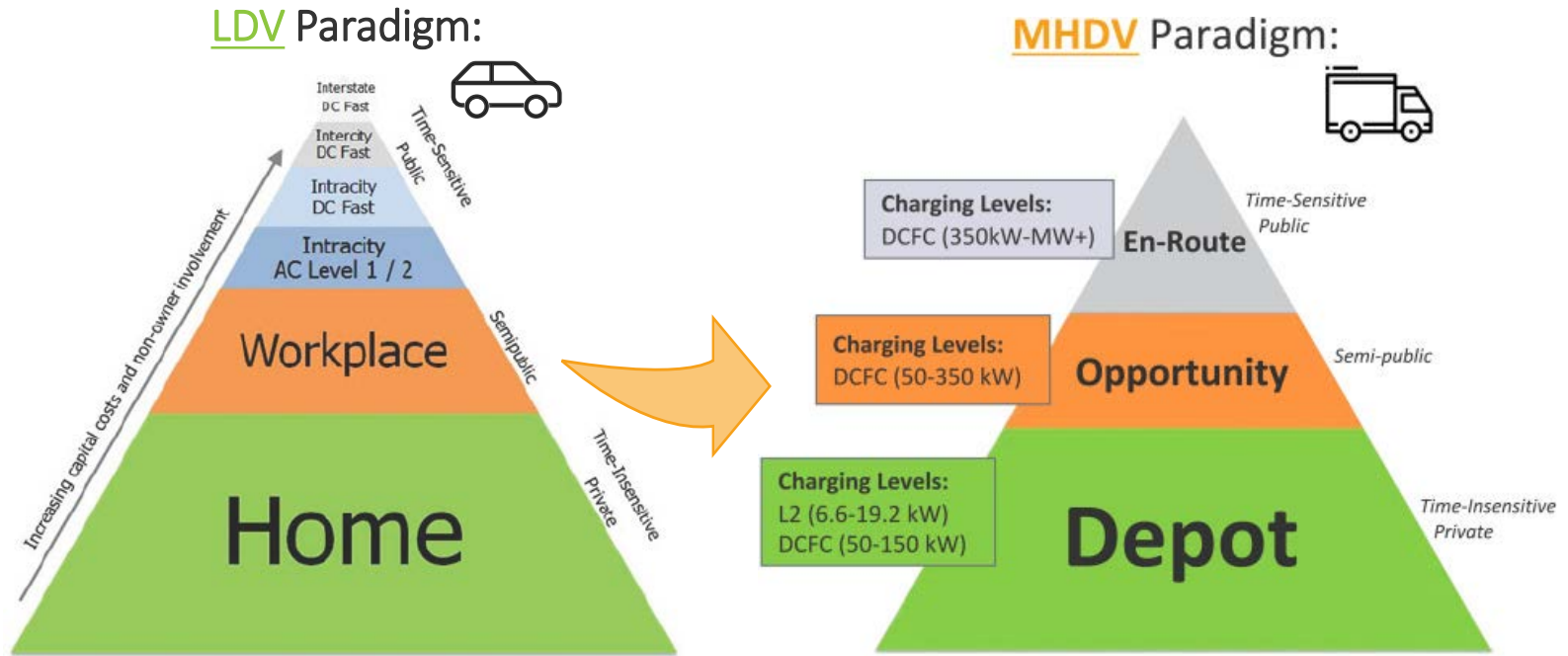
**Home charging** is the **most convenient and preferred LDV charging option today** and represents the majority of EV electricity demand in most countries.



[National Research Council \(2015\)](#)

# MHDV Charging: “There’s No Place Like Home the Depot”

For commercial vehicles, private depot charging could play a similar role, representing the majority of EV electricity demands for limited-range operations.



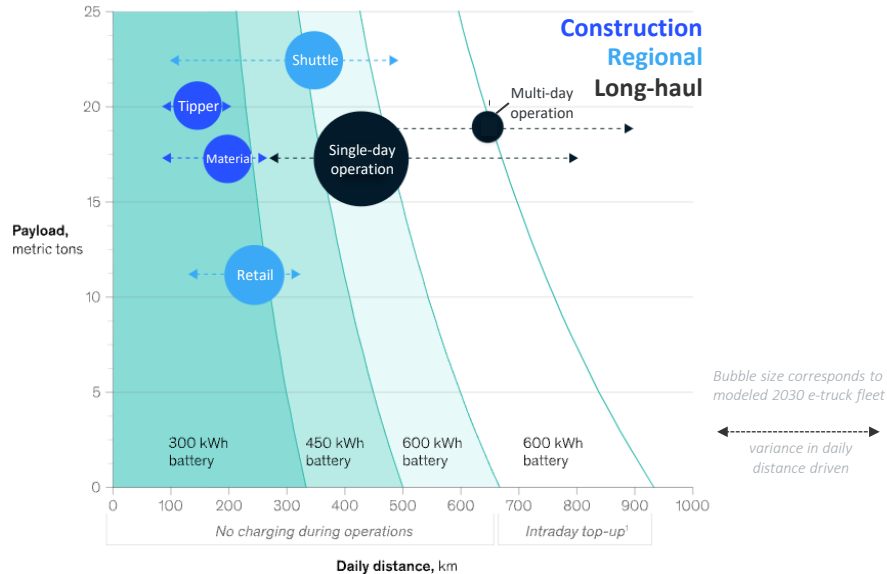
[National Research Council \(2015\)](#)

[Muratori et al. \(2023\)](#)

# Commercial Vehicles Have Varying EV & Charging Requirements

Charging infrastructure, driving patterns, and battery sizes have to be optimized in concert to efficiently electrify truck operations.

2030 view, use cases



**Bigger Payloads:**  
More charging or larger batteries required

**Higher daily distance:**  
More charging or larger batteries required

<sup>1</sup>Assumes charging during mandatory break of 45 minutes at 400 kW DC charger.

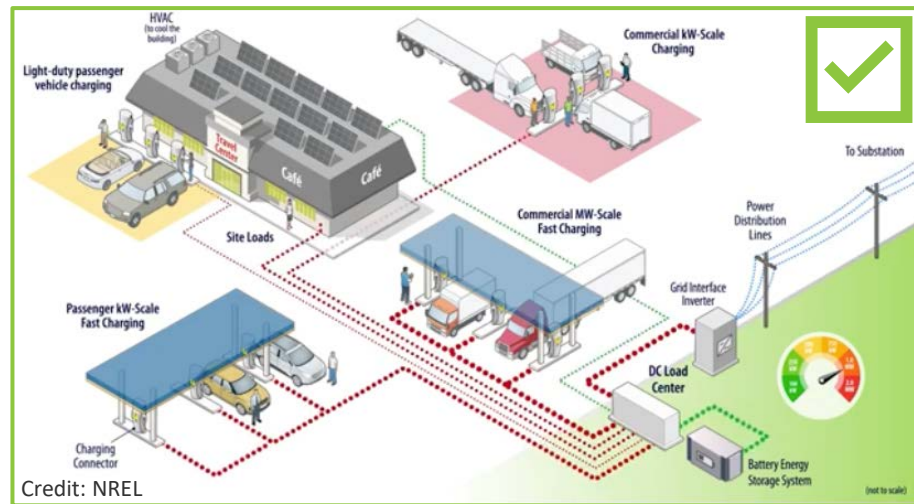
McKinsey & Company

adapted from:  
[Herlt & Hildebrandt \(2024\)](#)

# Port Sharing Feasibility for Commercial Vehicles Limited by Maneuverability Constraints



*Electric semi truck blocking IONITY chargers*



*"Charging plaza of the future" can charge a variety of vehicles at different rates depending on the application.*

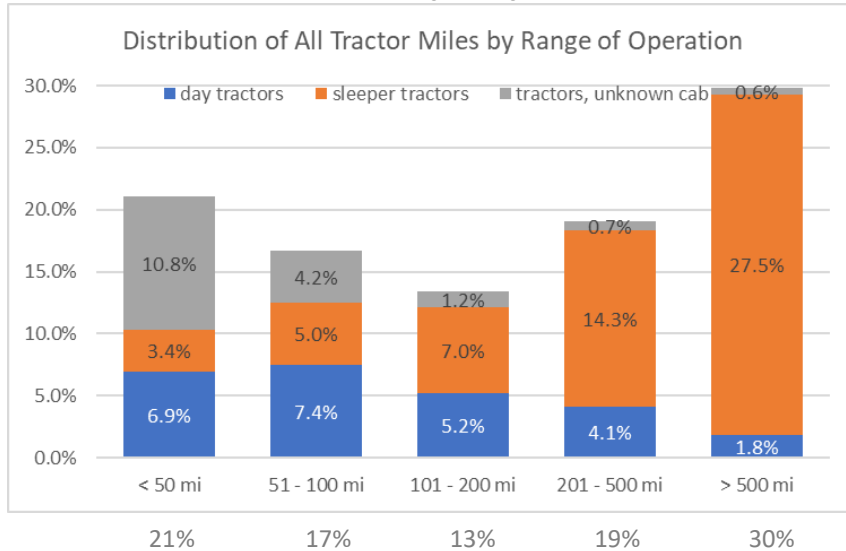
# While Smaller Commercial Vehicles May Leverage Established Passenger Vehicle Networks



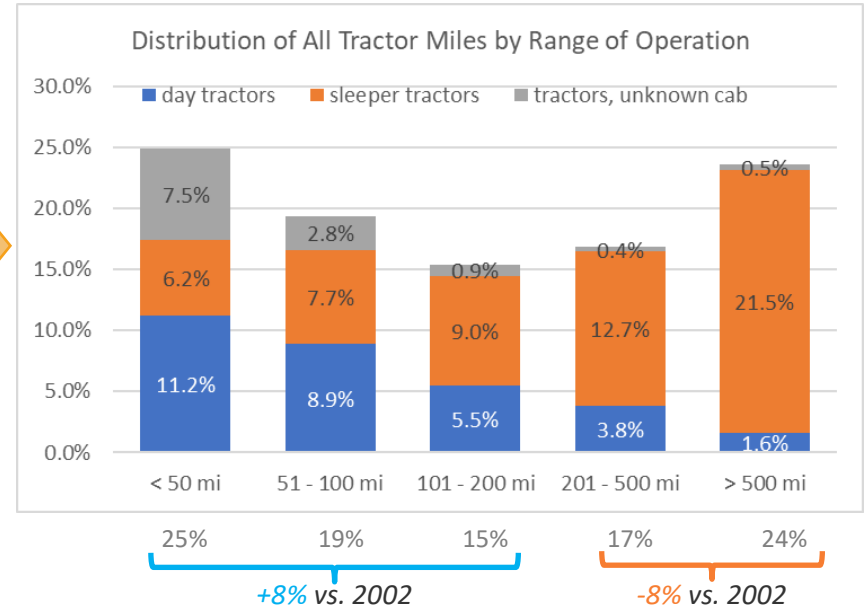
# Freight Demands May Evolve Over Time...

In the last 20 years, there has been a **shift toward more short-haul operations** in the U.S., driven by the growth of e-commerce, supply chain localization, and efforts to improve driver retention.

### 2002 (U.S.):



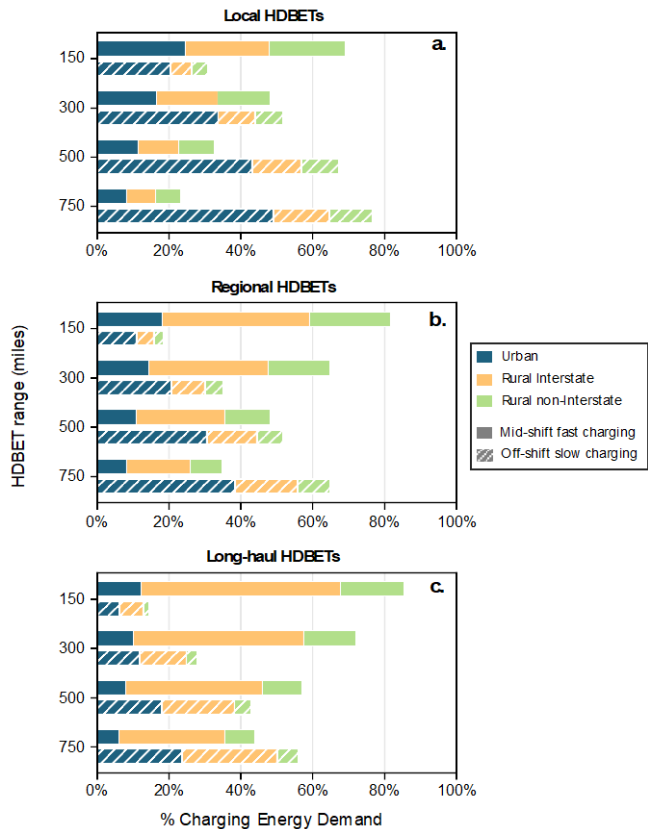
### 2021 (U.S.):



[U.S. DOT \(2002, 2021\)](#)



# ...With Implications on EV Charging Demand




a. **Local trucks** primarily operate and charge in urban areas, with most charging occurring at the depot.

b. **Regional trucks** primarily operate between urban areas, with charging split between urban depots and rural truck stops.

c. **Long-haul trucks** primarily drive on rural interstates, with most charging happening at high power levels at truck stops.

# Phased Rollout of Commercial Charging Infrastructure

Costly and time-consuming commercial EV charging infrastructure installations can be **phased in over time**, with an initial prioritization around favorable launch areas.



Joint Office of  
**Energy and  
Transportation**

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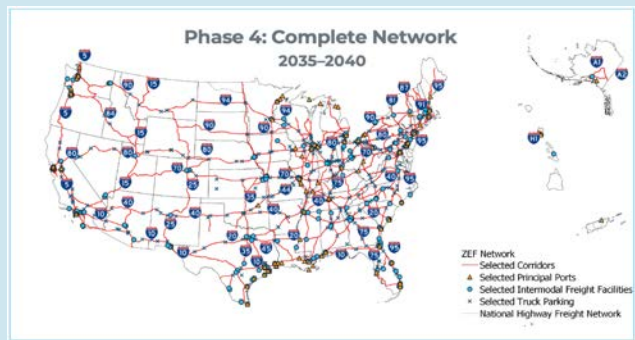
**National Zero-Emission Freight Corridor Strategy**

*Prioritizing investments, planning, and deployment for medium- and heavy-duty vehicle fueling infrastructure to advance zero-emission freight along our nation's corridors.*

**Kang-Ching (Jean) Chu, Kevin George Miller, Alex Schroeder**  
*(Joint Office of Energy and Transportation)*  
**Alycia Gilde, Michael Laughlin** *(U.S. Department of Energy)*

March 2024 (updated September 2024)

DOE/EE-2816 2024

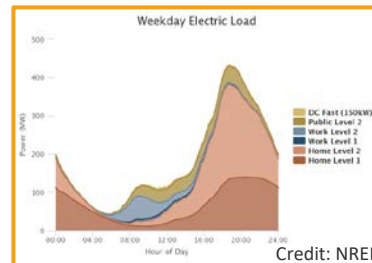


# Walkthrough:

*Steps for EVI Modeling*

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# EVI Modeling: Main Steps



## When/Where/Which EVs are adopted

- Which regions, communities, households are likely to adopt EVs?
- What types of EVs will be adopted?
- How quickly will EVs be adopted?

## How EVs are operated

- How do driving requirements vary by region or household?
- Where are EVs parked during the day?
- Do EV travel patterns differ from ICE vehicles?

## How EVs are charged

- Can EVs charge while at home, work, or in public?
- How do EV drivers prefer to charge, and will this change over time?
- Can EVs shift (in time) or modulate their loads?

## What charging infrastructure is required

- What are realistic utilization levels for charging stations?
- Which deployment strategies will EVI operators take?
- Will EVI operators employ "idle" fees to incentivize throughput?

# When/Where/Which EVs are Adopted

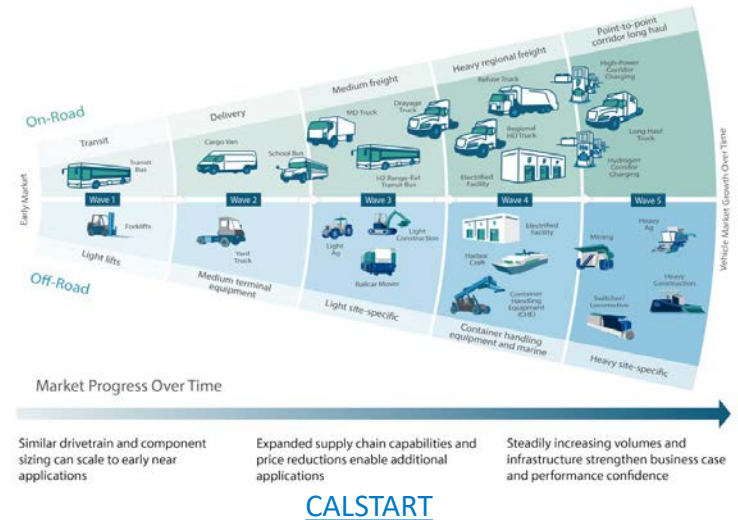
## Basic Approaches:

### • Top-down Models

- **Exogenous EV stock targets** are disaggregated by region and vehicle type based on factors like consumer preferences, housing stock, land use, and local policies.

### • Bottom-up Models

- Technology adoption is **modeled endogenously** at the individual or fleet-level based on factors like consumer preferences, costs, and operational needs.
- Commercial fleet decisions are more centrally controlled and driven by **total cost of ownership (TCO) and reliability** compared to household decisions.



## Rule-of-Thumb:

Commercial vehicles with lighter payloads, predictable routes, more limited daily travel, and return-to-base operations are most likely to electrify first. Additionally, regions or vehicle segments with strong regulatory mandates, emissions reduction goals, and/or incentives are more likely to electrify early.

# How EVs are Operated

## 1. Simple assumptions:

- Daily electricity demand (driving distance and energy consumption)
- Geographical area in which the vehicles are operated and charged

### **Pros:**

- *Easy to implement with minimal data*
- *Rough estimate for early-stage decision making*

### **Cons:**

- *No real-world variability or specific operational patterns*

## 2. Real-World Travel Data:

- Trip origin/destination times and spatial coordinates
- Trip distances
- Dwell locations (e.g., depot)

### **Pros:**

- *More accurate representation of vehicle behavior and potential charging opportunities*

### **Cons:**

- *High data requirements*
- *More complex to model*

## 3. Travel Simulations:

- Agent-based modeling
- Can generate hypothetical travel scenarios

### **Pros:**

- *Highly detailed and customizable simulations*
- *Can model complex interactions*

### **Cons:**

- *High data requirements*
- *Significant computational resources*



# How EVs are Charged

## 1. Simple assumptions:

- **Shares of electricity demand** by charging type (e.g., depot, opportunity, en-route)
- **Load shapes** by charging type + load management (if any)

### Pros:

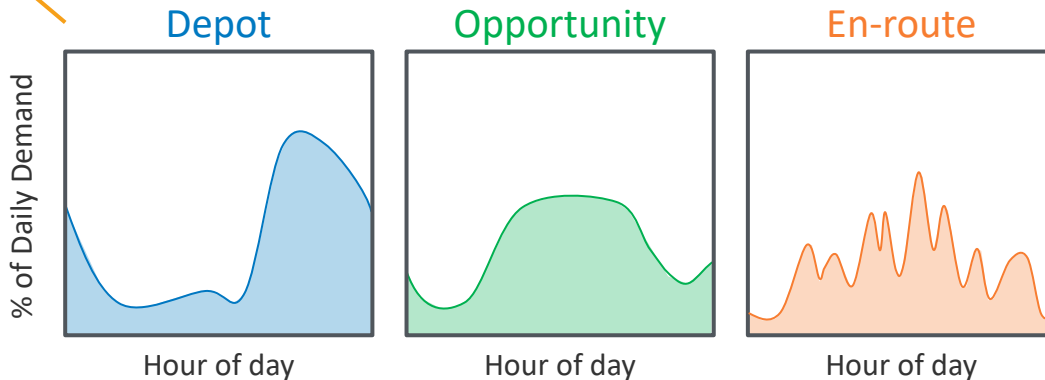
- *Easy to implement with minimal data*
- *Rough estimate for early-stage decision making*

### Cons:

- *Hard to know which assumptions to use without bottom-up modeling*

## Demonstrative:

MHD EV Charging Type	2030	2040	2050
Depot	80%	60%	50%
Opportunity	10%	20%	20%
En-route	10%	20%	30%



# How EVs are Charged

## 1. Simple assumptions:

- Shares of electricity demand by charging type (e.g., depot, opportunity, en-route)
- Load shapes by charging type + load management (if any)

### Pros:

- Easy to implement with minimal data
- Rough estimate for early-stage decision making

### Cons:

- Hard to know which assumptions to use without bottom-up charging behavior modeling

## 2. Charging Behavior Simulations:

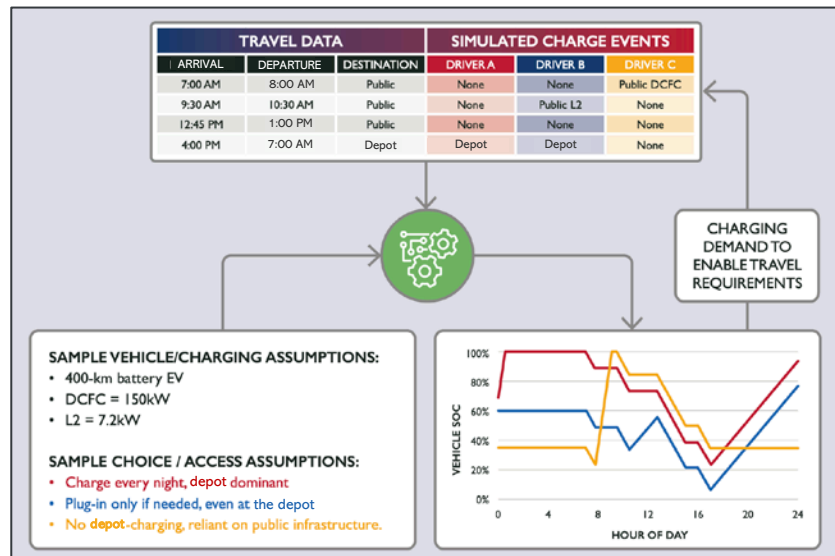
- **Bottom-up** charging behaviors that optimize for cost, convenience, etc.
- Can consider **alternative EVI access scenarios**.

### Pros:

- High precision and flexibility
- Can model complex interactions

### Cons:

- Significant tuning and validation required
- Scalability challenges



adapted from:

<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy24osti/85935.pdf>

# What Charging Infrastructure is Required

Typically involves relationships between:

- EVI stations per rural highway mile / km
- Urban EVI stations per sq. mile / sq. km

providing **Coverage**

- EVI ports per EV
- EVI ports per daily electricity demand
- EVI ports per peak electricity demand

providing **Capacity**

*simplest*  
↓  
*advanced*

# Summary

- **Charging networks** must provide coverage and capacity.
- **Commercial vehicles** encompass a wide range of vehicle types and operations, each with unique EV charging requirements.
- **Commercial EVI deployments** can be phased in over time to reduce costs and improve network efficiency.
- **EVI Modeling – Main Steps:**
  1. *When/where/which EVs are adopted?*
  2. *How EVs are operated?*
  3. *How EVs are charged?*
  4. *What charging infrastructure is needed to meet the demand?*



**Brennan Borlaug**,  
Senior Research Analyst,  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
[brennan.borlaug@nrel.gov](mailto:brennan.borlaug@nrel.gov)

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