2020 SUMMER REPORT CARD KEEP THE AIR CLEAN AFTER QUARANTINE

How is Your Florida County Doing?

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF FLORIDA

The devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have had significant consequences across our communities in Florida; however, one silver lining has been a considerable improvement in the quality of air that we breathe as pollution has dropped by up to 30% in many of our cities, giving us the cleanest air Floridians have had in years.[1] As we begin to recover, many are calling to preserve this clean air, particularly as more air pollution increases the deadliness of COVID-19.[2] According to the EPA, the transportation sector of our economy is now the largest source of carbon dioxide pollution in the United States.[3] Therefore, one of the most impactful changes we can make right now is to accelerate the shift to zero-emission electric vehicles (EVs). With that in mind, the League of Women Voters of Florida adopted electrification of transportation as part of our State Program for Action and has produced this 2020 EV Report Card to measure how well counties in Florida are facilitating the transition to EVs.

> **Overall, only 30% of Florida's 67 counties have above average scores.**

This report card is based on four measures. The first is ***EV share***, which is current EV sales as a share of total registered cars and trucks. The next two measure adequate ***charging*** (Level 2) and ***fast charging*** (Level 3) infrastructure to support the transition to electric vehicles, as a lack of accessible and fast charging stations is a barrier to EV purchase and use. Finally, we measured how well counties have incorporated the presence of an EV-ready ***policy*** in each county, which makes adding EV charging into new homes and businesses cheaper and easier. County quartile scores across these measures were combined into a final ***rank*** score based on the average quartile they fell into (the top 25%, above average, below average, and bottom 25%). Overall, only 30% of Florida's 67 counties have above average scores, demonstrating that they are making some progress and preparation for the future of electric transportation. The vast majority of Florida's counties are far behind.

Lastly, we recognize that wealth inequalities across the state play a significant role in EV investments and readiness. As the last column, ***low income***, shows, the counties marked with median incomes below the statewide average overwhelmingly scored lower and the wealthier counties tended to score the highest. ***Out of the 47 counties in the Below Average or Failing tiers, all but 18 have household median incomes below the statewide median.*** Out of the 11 counties in the bottom Failing tier, 7 are in the bottom 25% statewide, and 10 below 50%. All of but one of the Top Tier counties have incomes above the statewide median. Therefore, it is imperative that stakeholders put forth policies and programs to increase electric transportation equity and access to ensure no county and no Floridian is left behind in this transition.

League members will be using this report card to educate fellow citizens and public officials about the public health benefits of electrifying transportation and the urgent need for new charging infrastructure and policy, thus promoting cleaner air and water, and a more promising future for our state.

1 https://www.tampabay.com/news/environment/2020/05/02/air-pollution-dropped-while-florida-shut-down-for-the-coronavirus-nasa-says/
2 https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/hsph-in-the-news/air-pollution-linked-with-higher-covid-19-death-rates/
3 https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/sources-greenhouse-gas-emissions

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	COUNTY	EV SHARE[1]	CHARGING[2]	FAST CHARGING[3]	POLICY[4]	RANK[5]	LOW INCOME[6]
TOP TIER	Miami-Dade	0.5%	0.11	0.07	2	4	<
	Orange	0.5%	0.17	0.08	2	4	
	Palm Beach	0.6%	0.09	0.03	2	4	
	Pinellas	0.4%	0.13	0.07	2	4	
	Broward	0.4%	0.07	0.04	2	4	
ABOVE AVERAGE	Monroe	0.4%	0.40	0.22	0	3	
	Saint Johns	0.8%	0.12	0.18	0	3	
	Seminole	0.6%	0.10	0.10	0	3	
	Walton	0.3%	0.12	0.08	0	3	
	Alachua	0.4%	0.12	0.06	0	3	<
	Collier	0.5%	0.08	0.08	0	3	
	Duval	0.3%	0.09	0.10	0	3	
	Franklin	0.2%	0.38	0.63	0	3	<
	Hillsborough	0.4%	0.09	0.06	0	3	
	Leon	0.3%	0.06	0.10	0	3	
	Sarasota	0.8%	0.13	0.07	0	3	
	Brevard	0.4%	0.07	0.05	0	3	
	Okeechobee	0.1%	0.09	0.21	0	3	<<
	Osceola	0.3%	0.10	0.04	0	3	
	Volusia	0.2%	0.07	0.10	0	3	<

Chart continues on the next page.

Notes:

1 Number of Battery Electric Vehicles and Plugin Hybrid EVs sold as a percentage of total registered cars and trucks.

2 Total number of public Level 2 charging stations per 1,000 registered cars and trucks.

3 Total number of public Level 3 charging stations per 5,000 registered cars and trucks.

4 EV policy coding: (0) for no EV-ready policies in-place or in-motion in any municipal area within the county, (1) for policy in- motion at any municipal area within the county, (2) for policy in-place at any municipal area within the county.

5 Average overall quartile. Each county was ranked by quartile for each individual variable (EV Share, Charging, Fast Charging, Policy); these quartiles were then averaged overall to provide the final ranking.

6 Marks counties with a Median Household Income lower than the statewide median. "<<" indicates income in bottom quartile of income statewide (0-25%); "<" indicates second quartile (25-50%). This variable did not factor into the overall rank score.

Sources:
Registered Vehicles: Data pull from DMV quarterly for all BEV/PHEV vehicles registered in Florida conducted by Peter Westlake of the Orlando Utilities Commission {Accessed 4/10/2020} EV Charging: U.S. Department of Energy's Alternative Fuels Data Center Station Locator (https://afdc.energy.gov/stations/#/find/nearest) {Accessed 4/10/2020}
EV Ready Policies: Electrify the South, EV-Make-Ready Policies (https://www.electrifythesouth.org/charging-infrastructure) {Accessed 4/10/2020}
Median Household Income: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey (http://www.flhealthcharts.com/charts/) {Accessed 6/10/2020}

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	COUNTY	EV SHARE[1]	CHARGING[2]	FAST CHARGING[3]	POLICY[4]	RANK[5]	LOW INCOME[6]
BELOW AVERAGE	Bay	0.2%	0.05	0.04	0	2	
	Charlotte	0.2%	0.02	0.10	0	2	
	Highlands	0.2%	0.09	0.07	0	2	<<
	Indian River	0.3%	0.02	0.08	0	2	
	Lake	0.3%	0.05	0.07	0	2	
	Lee	0.3%	0.04	0.04	0	2	
	Manatee	0.4%	0.08	0.00	0	2	
	Martin	0.4%	0.03	0.00	0	2	
	Nassau	0.2%	0.14	0.00	0	2	
	Polk	0.2%	0.03	0.05	0	2	<
	Sumter	0.3%	0.02	0.11	0	2	
	Flagler	0.3%	0.04	0.00	0	2	
	Okaloosa	0.2%	0.07	0.00	0	2	
	Putnam	0.1%	0.02	0.10	0	2	<<
	Citrus	0.1%	0.05	0.00	0	2	<
	Clay	0.2%	0.02	0.00	0	2	
	Columbia	0.1%	0.02	0.22	0	2	<
	Escambia	0.2%	0.01	0.02	0	2	
	Marion	0.2%	0.02	0.04	0	2	<
	Pasco	0.3%	0.02	0.01	0	2	
	Saint Lucie	0.1%	0.01	0.04	0	2	
	Suwannee	0.0%	0.00	0.17	0	2	<
	Washington	0.0%	0.00	0.29	0	2	<<
	Desoto	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	2	<<
	Gilchrist	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	2	<
	Gulf	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	2	<
	Hardee	0.0%	0.06	0.00	0	2	<<
	Hendry	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	2	<
	Hernando	0.2%	0.00	0.00	0	2	<
	Jackson	0.0%	0.03	0.00	0	2	<<
	Jefferson	0.2%	0.00	0.00	0	2	<
	Levy	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	2	<<
	Liberty	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	2	<<
	Santa Rosa	0.1%	0.02	0.00	0	2	
	Taylor	0.1%	0.07	0.00	0	2	<<
	Wakulla	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	2	

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BOTTOM TIER

COUNTY	EV SHARE[1]	CHARGING[2]	FAST CHARGING[3]	POLICY[4]	RANK[5]	LOW INCOME[6]
Baker	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	1	
Bradford	0.0%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<
Calhoun	0.0%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<<
Dixie	0.0%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<<
Gadsden	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<
Glades	0.1%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<<
Hamilton	0.0%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<<
Holmes	0.0%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<<
Madison	0.0%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<<
Union	0.0%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<
Lafayette	0.0%	0.00	0.00	0	1	<<

How to Increase Access to EVs in Your Community

1. Number of EVs on the road

Offer incentives to encourage the purchase and utilization of EVs. Provide free or reduced cost high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) access, tolls and prime parking locations to EV drivers. Support local campaigns like Driving on Sunshine and Drive Electric Week to establish EV ride and drives (including virtual events), collaborate with ride shares to convert their fleet to electric in your area, and discuss the immense cost benefits of converting other large fleets in the area to electric with local owners. Utilities and car dealers can provide education programs to help customers understand the value of EV adoption, provide rebates for EV purchases, and sponsor ride and drives.

2. EV charging infrastructure

Local governments can install and own EV charging equipment and adopt policies to encourage private investment in charging infrastructure. One useful tool to help determine the amount of charging needed is the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Projection Tool (EVI-Pro) Lite, from the Alternative Fuels Data Center, U.S. Department of Energy. Additionally, the cost of installing chargers may be reduced by leveraging funds available for charging equipment from the Volkswagen diesel emissions settlement fund. Please visit Electrify the South for more info. Also, leverage the work that is already happening with Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Office of Energy, which is working on an Electric Vehicle (EV) Roadmap for the state.

3. EV-ready ordinance/policy

EV make-ready or EV-capable policies ensure that buildings permitted today are prepared to support the electrification of transportation. EV make-ready policies require new homes, buildings, and parking structures to have the conduit and wiring in place to accommodate incremental additions of EV chargers later on. They do NOT require builders to install the charging stations now. It is more cost effective to add these features during initial construction or during a major building upgrade rather than retrofitting existing buildings and parking lots when the need for EV chargers arises. Please visit Electrify the South for more information and to view their Municipal Policy Toolkit.

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To Learn More or to Find Out How Your Community Can Add Stations or EV-Ready Policies

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NORTH FLORIDA CLEAN FUELS COALITION (JACKSONVILLE)

https://cleancities.energy.gov/coalitions/north-florida
Wanda Forrest, wforrest@northfloridatpo.com, 904-306-7514

CENTRAL FLORIDA CLEAN CITIES COALITION

https://cflcc.org/
Doug Kettles, doug@cflcc.org, 321-300-4555

TAMPA BAY CLEAN CITIES COALITION

https://cleancities.energy.gov/coalitions/tampa-bay
USF Center for Urban Transportation Research
Alexander Kolpakov, kolpakov@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-4038

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CLEAN CITIES COALITION (MIAMI REGION)

https://cleancities.energy.gov/coalitions/southeast-florida

South Florida Regional Planning Council
http://sfregionalcouncil.org/portfolio_category/transportation-and-alt-fuels/
Mark-Anthony Smith, MPA, msmith@sfrpc.com, 954-924-3653

Check with your local power service provider to see if they have incentives or programs for the installation of electric vehicle charging; also check with your city and county for the same information.

For additional information on electric transportation, explore:

https://afdc.energy.gov/fuels/electricity.html
https://driveelectricweek.org/resources.php
https://pluginamerica.org/
https://southeastfloridaclimatecompact.org/
https://www.driveelectricflorida.org/
https://www.electrifythesouth.org/
https://www.lwvfl.org/issue/solar-affordable-energy/
https://www.nextcarpledge.org/