



HYBRID AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Hybrid and plug-in electric vehicles made up only 2% of all registered passenger vehicles in Massachusetts at the end of 2014. Still, the number of hybrids more than doubled over the five year period from 2009 to 2014, rising from 38,700 to more than 89,000 statewide. The number of fully electric vehicles is much smaller, but their growth has been meteoric, rising from just 23 in late 2009 to nearly 1,500 at the end of 2014. The increased prevalence of these vehicles has contributed to increased fuel efficiency in the passenger vehicle fleet since 2009, and their increased adoption is essential for the state to achieve its greenhouse gas reduction goals. However, Massachusetts has a target to have 300,000 zero-emission vehicle (ZEVs) on the state's roads by 2025, so there is still much work to be done in reaching this goal.

Clean-fuel vehicles are more prevalent in the MAPC region, where 25 of every 1,000 vehicles are electric or hybrid.

Registration rates vary widely, ranging from fewer than 10 per 1,000 in Saugus, Revere, Holbrook, and Rockland to more than 60 in Brookline, Lexington, Concord, and Lincoln. Their prevalence is highly correlated with educational attainment (even more so than household income); the percent of adults with a bachelor's degree explains about two-thirds of this variation, though the strong geographic clustering suggests that social networks and community influence may also play a role in vehicle purchases.

To learn more about vehicle ownership and driving patterns in your community, visit VEHICLECENSUS.MAPC.ORG.