

# Are Electric vehicles Really environmentally friendly?

**Analysis of European Environment Agency Data** 



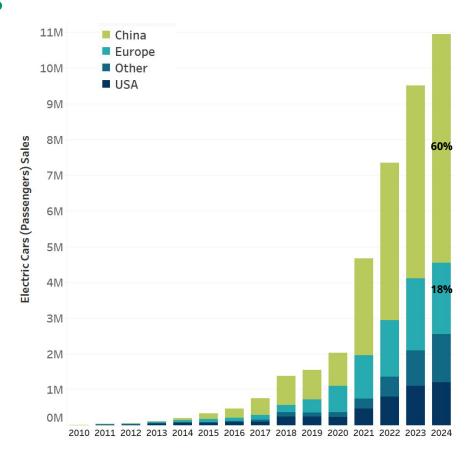
Zahra Homayounfar 11 September 2025

# **Rapid Growth in Electric Vehicles Sales**

#### **Share of Electric Vehicles Worldwide:**

• 2010: **0.1%** 

• 2024: **4.5%** 



# **Electric Vehicles: Not as Clean as They Seem**

#### 1. Battery Composition

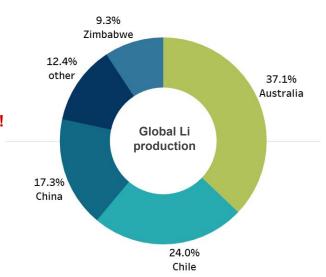
High Lithium Demand: ~160 g per kWh (≈ 10 kg for 1 car)

- Water Consumption: 2 million tons for 1 tone Lithium (≈ 100 cars) !!!
- High Carbon Emissions: 70 120 kg CO₂ per kWh

#### 2. Electricity Consumption

**Coal-Intensive Energy Sources: High Carbon Emissions** 

**Renewable Energy Sources: Lower carbon footprint** 



#### Li Extraction Methods:

- Hard Rock Mining
- Brine Extraction
- Lepidolite

# **Key Questions of the Analysis**

- 1. How do Electric and petrol cars compare in terms of lifecycle CO₂ emissions?
- 2. What is the **break-even point** where EVs become cleaner than petrol cars?
- 3. What factors change the results?

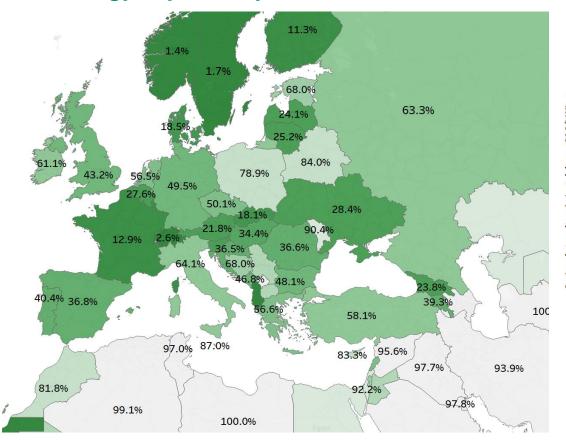
### **Data**

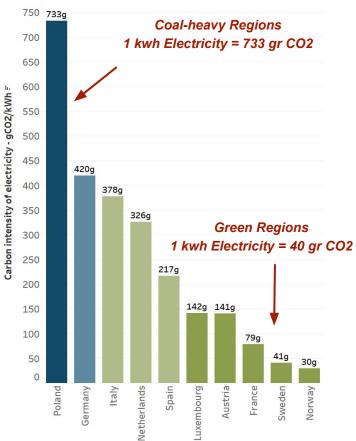
Over 1 million cars (petrol, BEV and Phev)

Year: 2022

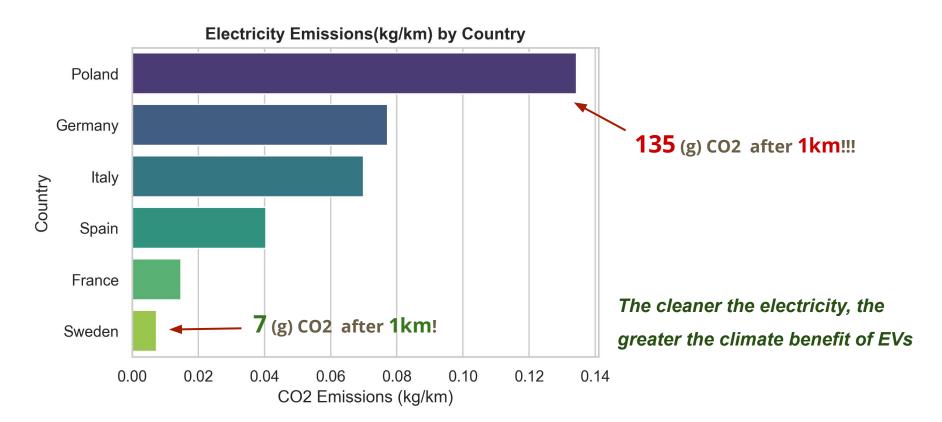
**Region: EU** 

# **Grid Energy Dependency on Coal and Gas**

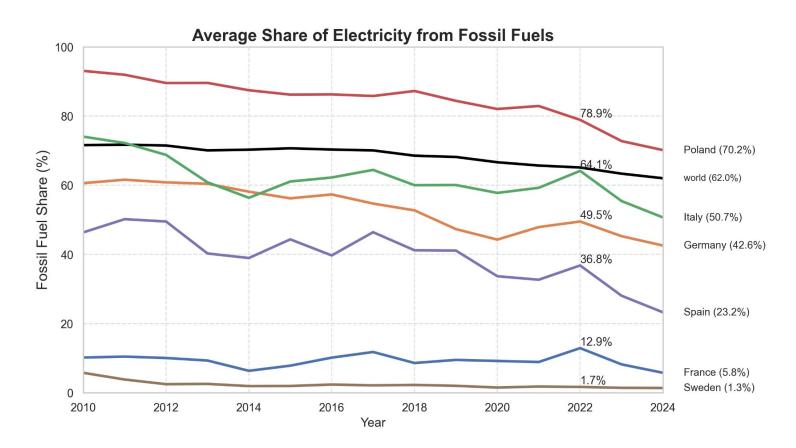




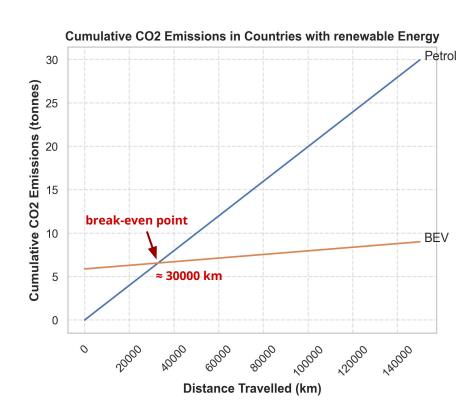
# Average CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions per Kilometer Based on Electricity Usage

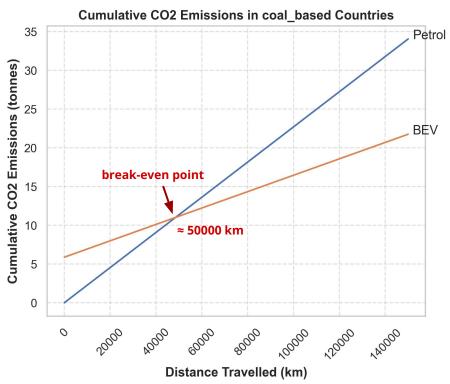


# **Electricity is getting cleaner!**

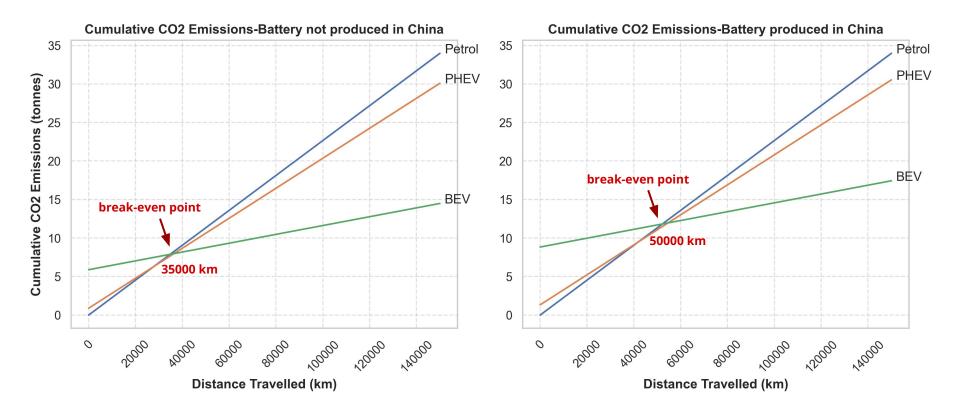


## Break-even Point, where EVs become cleaner than conventional cars





# The effect of Battery production methods on Break-even Point



# **Key Findings & Recommendations**

- EVs perform much better in countries with cleaner energy sources.
- In the long term, EVs are genuinely beneficial for the environment during use.
- Environmental risks from battery disposal still exist.
- Investment in renewable energy and Battery production methods is essential to unlock the full potential of EVs
- Improvement in infrastructure, such as widespread charging stations, is critically important (Maximum electric usage of phev: 35%)



# Thank you

> In hope of a future where nature and technology thrive side by side.