



# FACT SHEET: URGING FEDERAL & STATE CLEAN CARS POLICY

**Transportation is the largest source of pollution that fuels the climate crisis in the US.**

*Finalizing strong federal standards for cars and trucks is crucial for the health of Latino/e communities.*

Latine communities disproportionately suffer harm from tailpipe emissions. While Latines are less likely to have access to a car and Latine workers commute by public transit nearly three times the rate of white commuters, our community can face up to 75% higher rates of exposure to harmful pollutants.



The 2023 American Lung Association State of the Air Report finds that more than one-third (36%) of people in the U.S. live in areas with failing grades for ozone or particulate pollution. The same report found that people of color are 3.7 times more likely than white people to live in a county with failing national air quality standards, putting our communities at even greater risk of severe health impacts and premature death.

- Nationally, Latines are most vulnerable to the impacts of pollution from vehicles – with PM2.5 (fine particulate matter from vehicle exhaust) exposure rates that are 12% higher than the average person in the US. Latine children are three times more likely than white children to live in counties with low air quality.
- About 10% of Latine children suffer from asthma, and Latine children are 40% more likely to die from asthma than non-Latine white children.
- These disparities have only increased over time relative to the air quality standards set by the U.S. EPA.



- At the federal level, it is critical that the Biden administration pass strong tailpipe emissions and fuel economy standard (CAFE) regulations to reduce vehicle pollution and accelerate the shift to zero emissions cars. .
- Pollution from vehicles literally makes us sick and kills us. Nationally, Latine children are 40 percent more likely to die from asthma, as compared to non-Latine white children.





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**Let's check out the state of the stats in AZ, IL, NV, TX.**

*We are focusing on these four states because they have sizable Latino populations and have yet to introduce clean car policies to encourage EV sales and protect their communities from the harmful effects of tailpipe emissions.*

## ARIZONA



→ In 2012, the Governor's Regulatory Review Council voted to repeal a previous Clean Cars program based on an earlier California clean cars regulation. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality reverted to the less stringent federal standard a year after a stronger rule was put into effect.

### Latino population

32.4% of state population

### Car ownership

94% of households have at least one vehicle

### Air quality

- For ozone pollution (smog), Arizona reports data on 10 counties. Of these, four got an F grade, including the two largest counties in the state (Maricopa and Pima).
- Phoenix is the state's largest city: It ranks fifth worst in the country for ozone, and seventh worst for year-round particle pollution.

### Health benefits

Arizona would experience significant public health benefits from implementing zero-emission transportation and electricity resources by 2050:

- \$15.1 billion in health benefits
- 1,360 premature deaths avoided
- 38,500 asthma attacks avoided
- 182,000 lost work days avoided.

### Pediatric asthma

- 10.9% of children in Arizona have asthma, higher than the national average of 9.2%(1)
- In 2021, Tucson (Arizona's second largest city) was ranked 10th in the top 100 most challenging places to live with asthma.

### Potential consumer savings

- Arizona drivers could save money on fuel by switching from gas-powered vehicles to EVs.
- On average, fueling with electricity cost \$1.11 per "eGallon" compared to \$3.10 per gallon for regular gasoline. (2)
- Rural drivers in Arizona could save an average of \$763 annually by switching from gasoline to electricity.
- Charging an EV at home in Tucson, Arizona, is the equivalent to paying \$0.49 per gallon of gasoline.

### IIJA and IRA funds invested in Arizona

- \$5.6B in public infrastructure and clean energy investments, with \$2.7B for transportation investments, including EV charging
- + \$9B in committed private investments in EVs and batteries

1. This is data reported in 2014, but unfortunately no newer asthma data in AZ does not seem to exist.

2. An "eGallon" is a metric to compare the cost of driving an electric vehicle the same distance as a gasoline powered vehicle could travel on one gallon of gasoline.





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## ILLINOIS



→ Currently, there's an active bill in the State General Assembly (H.B. 1634) calling for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to adopt rules to implement and maintain consistency with the California emissions standards, including ACCII, ACT, and the heavy-duty low NOx omnibus program.

### Latino population

18.3% of state population

### Car ownership

89% of households have at least one vehicle

### Air quality

- For ozone pollution (smog), Illinois reports data on 23 counties. Of these, 6 got an F, including Cook county, which has the highest population and includes Chicago, the state's largest city.
- The Chicago metro area ranked 17th worst for high ozone days and 23rd worst for annual particle pollution.

### Inequitable pollution exposure

Latinos are exposed to 19 percent higher PM 2.5 concentrations from on-road transportation than the average Illinois resident.

### Health benefits

Illinois would experience significant public health benefits from implementing zero-emission transportation and electricity resources by 2050:

- \$59.5 billion in health benefits
- 5,410 premature deaths avoided
- 138,000 asthma attacks avoided
- 670,000 lost work days avoided.

### Pediatric asthma

Asthma is the leading chronic disease in children across the state.

- 8.9% of children in Illinois have been diagnosed with asthma at some point.
- 16% of families in Chicago reported having a child with asthma.
- In 2021, Chicago was ranked 54th out of the top 100 most challenging places to live with asthma.

### Potential consumer savings

- Illinois drivers could save money on fuel by switching from gas-powered vehicles to EVs.
- On average, fueling with electricity cost \$1.12 per "eGallon" compared to \$2.76 per gallon for regular gasoline.
- Charging an EV in Illinois is the equivalent of paying about 60 cents per gallon.
- Rural drivers in Illinois saved an average of \$742 annually by switching from gasoline to electricity.



### IJA and IRA funds invested in Arizona

- \$4.8B in public infrastructure and clean energy investments, with \$3.1B for transportation investments, including EV charging
- +\$2B in committed private investments in EVs and batteries





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## NEVADA



→ In 2021, Nevada adopted the previous California clean car standards (ACCI), but has not yet updated to ACCII standards. In 2023, a bill was signed into law establishing an incentive program for the purchase of certain zero-emission medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicles.

### Latino population

30.3% of state population

### Car ownership

93% of households have at least one vehicle

### Air quality

- For ozone pollution (smog), Nevada reports data for 6 counties. Of these, 4 got an F, including Clark county, which has the highest population and includes Las Vegas, the state's largest city.
- The Las Vegas metro area ranked 15th worst for high ozone days and 30th worst for annual particle pollution.

### Health benefits

Nevada would experience public health benefits from implementing zero-emission transportation and electricity resources by 2050:

- \$7.5 billion in health benefits
- 676 premature deaths avoided
- 14,800 asthma attacks avoided

### Pediatric asthma

- Nevada has the sixth lowest rate of pediatric asthma in the US, with only 5.4% of children reported to have asthma.
- In 2021, Las Vegas was ranked 43rd out of the top 100 most challenging places to live with asthma.



### Potential consumer savings

- Nevada drivers could save money on fuel by switching from gas-powered vehicles to EVs.
- On average, fueling with electricity cost \$1.02 per "eGallon"(3) compared to \$3.10 per gallon for regular gasoline.
- Rural drivers saved an average of \$1,011 annually by switching from gasoline to electricity.
- Charging an EV at home in Las Vegas is the equivalent of paying \$0.41 per gallon of gasoline.

### IIJA and IRA funds invested in Arizona

- \$1.1B in public infrastructure and clean energy investments, with \$637.3M for transportation investments, including EV charging
- +\$7B in committed private investments in EVs and batteries





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## TEXAS



→ Texas leads the nation in fossil fuels production (42% of crude oil and natural gas). Emissions from cars and trucks produce close to half of air pollution in some parts of the state. In 2023, a bill was signed into law establishing a \$400 fee to register an EV in Texas — in addition to a \$200 annual fee.

**Latino population**  
40.2% of state population

**Car ownership**  
95% of households have at least one vehicle

- Potential consumer savings**
- Texas drivers could save money on fuel by switching from gas-powered vehicles to EVs.
  - On average, fueling with electricity cost \$1.08 per “eGallon” compared to \$2.58 per gallon for regular gasoline.
  - Rural drivers saved an average of \$674 annually by switching from gas-powered cars to EVs.
  - Charging an EV at home in Dallas is the equivalent of paying \$0.57 per gallon of gasoline.

### Air quality

- For ozone pollution (smog), Texas reports data on 35 counties. Of these, 13 got an F, including the three most populous – Harris, Dallas, and Tarrant, which house the three largest cities, Houston, Dallas, and Fort Worth. The Houston metro area ranked 9th worst for high ozone days and 15th worst for annual particle pollution.
- In 2021, Dallas was ranked 88th out of the top 100 most challenging places to live with asthma.

### Health benefits

Texas would experience significant public health benefits from implementing zero-emission transportation and electricity resources by 2050:

- \$104 billion in health benefits
- 9,320 premature deaths avoided
- 346,000 asthma attacks avoided
- 1,520,000 lost work days avoided.

### Pediatric asthma

- 7.1% of children in Texas have asthma.
- In Harris county, 8.9% of children have asthma.

### IIJA and IRA funds invested in Arizona

- \$20B in public infrastructure and clean energy investments, with \$13B for transportation investments, including EV charging
- +\$770M in committed private investments in EVs and batteries

## KEY STATE STATISTICS

| State    | Latino population (as a percentage of total) | Ozone ranking (by county that reported data) | Health benefit savings from 100% EVs | IIJA + IRA funds invested (in transportation projects) |
|----------|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Arizona  | 32.4%  | F for 4 counties                             | \$15.1B                              | \$2.7B   |
| Illinois | 18.3%  | F for 6 counties                             | \$59.5B                              | \$3.1B   |
| Nevada   | 30.3%  | F for 4 counties                             | \$7.5B                               | \$637.3M   |
| Texas    | 40.2%  | F for 13 counties                            | \$104B                               | \$13B  |