

Amman china electric vehicle market

Chinese electric vehicles are seen in Amman, Jordan, on Feb. 9, 2024. Chinese electric vehicles (EVs) are swiftly gaining traction in Jordan's automotive market, propelled by their remarkable blend of high quality and affordability. (Photo by Mohammad Abu Ghosh/Xinhua)

AMMAN, March 11 (Xinhua) -- Chinese electric vehicles (EVs) are swiftly gaining traction in Jordan's automotive market, propelled by their remarkable blend of high quality and affordability.

In 2023, 87 percent of EVs cleared from Jordan's free zone were from China, the highest percentage to date, according to the Jordan Free Zones Investor Commission (JFZIC).

Sales of Chinese electric cars in Jordan have grown significantly over the past two years, and this trend has continued since the beginning of this year, Jihad Abu Nasser, representative of the vehicle sector in the commission, said in a recent interview with Xinhua.

"When we started importing EVs from China in 2019, the percentages were modest, but the numbers are currently high," he said.

High quality, affordability and availability of maintenance are among the key factors attracting Jordanians to own Chinese EVs, he added.

According to JFZIC statistics, in 2019, there were only 72 Chinese EVs out of the total number of EVs cleared from the zone. This figure rose to 205 in 2020. In 2021, it surged to 3,170 out of 5,863 cleared EVs, accounting for 54 percent. In 2022, it reached approximately 12,820 out of 15,576 EVs, representing 82 percent. The year 2023 witnessed the most significant rise in the figure, with 33,386 out of 38,277 cleared electric cars which accounted for 87 percent.

In January and February of this year alone, 6,643 Chinese electric cars were cleared from the zone, he said, citing the commission's figures.

"Their quality is very high, comparable to European, American and East Asian cars, and their price is very competitive, lower than their counterparts manufactured outside China. This primary factor encouraged Jordanian citizens to purchase Chinese electric cars," he said.

Additionally, there is a tax incentive from the Jordanian government to own electric cars. Electric cars pay a special tax of 10 percent, compared to 55 percent for hybrid cars and 95 percent for fuel-powered cars, he added.

Saeed Ahmed, a 29-year-old citizen, has owned an electric car for three years now, and expressed great satisfaction with the vehicle, especially due to its low operating cost compared to a fuel-powered car.

He told Xinhua that he used to spend between 80 to 100 Jordanian dinars (113 to 141 U.S. dollars) monthly on gasoline, whereas his current electricity bill for charging the car at home only increased by 20 Jordanian dinars (around 28 dollars) compared to his average monthly bill.

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