Electric vehicles united kingdom



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The adoption of plug-in electric vehicles in the United Kingdom is actively supported by the British government through the plug-in car and van grants schemes and other incentives.[4] About 745,000 light-duty plug-in electric vehicles had been registered in the UK up until December 2021, consisting of 395,000 all-electric vehicles and 350,000 plug-in hybrids.[5] Until 2019, the UK had the second largest European stock of light-duty plug-in vehicles in use after Norway.[6]

A surge of plug-in car sales began in Britain in 2014. Total registrations went from 3,586 in 2013, to 37,092 in 2016, and rose to 59,911 in 2018.[SMMT 3][SMMT 7][SMMT 8] The market share of the plug-in segment went from 0.16% in 2013 to 0.59% in 2014, and achieved 2.6% in 2018.[SMMT 3][SMMT 4][SMMT 8]

As of September 2018[update], the Mitsubishi Outlander P-HEV is the all-time top-selling plug-in car in the UK with almost 37,000 units registered, followed by the Nissan Leaf with nearly 24,000. Ranking third is the BMW 330e with more than 13,000 units, followed by the BMW i3 with 11,000.[7]

As of 18 January 2018[update], the UK had 19,108 public charging points at 6,703 locations, of which 4,391 were rapid charging points at 1,332 locations.[8]

In 2020, the UK government announced an intention to ban sales of new petrol and diesel-powered cars (including hybrids) in 2035.[23]

Two subsidy programs were implemented, the Plug-in Car Grant, from January 2011, and the Plug-In Van Grant, from February 2012. Both offer buyers of eligible vehicles a purchase subsidy discounted at the point of purchase.

The subsidy programme is managed in a similar way to the grant made as part of the 2009 Car Scrappage Scheme, allowing consumers to buy an eligible car discounted at the point of purchase, with the subsidy claimed back by the manufacturer afterwards.[27][28]

The programme was extended in February 2012 to include plug-in vans. Van buyers can receive 20% - up to ?8,000 - off the cost of a plug-in van.[33]

As plug-in car sales surged during 2014 and 2015, the PICG was extended until March 2018. The maximum grant was reduced to ?4,500, and the amount granted varies according to emission levels. Hydrogen fuel cell cars became eligible for the grant. Models with a list price of more than ?60,000 are no longer eligible for the grant. [34][35] The Plug-In Van Grant scheme was extended in October 2016 to make



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electric trucks above 3.5 tonnes eligible for grants of up to ?20,000.[36]

As of September 2018[update], a total of 176,962 eligible cars have benefited from the subsidy since its launch in 2011,[37] and at the same date the number of claims made through the Plug-in Van Grant scheme was 5,218 since the launch of the programme in 2012.[38]

In 2018 the PICG was reduced from ?4500 to ?3500,[39] and in March 2020 it was cut to ?3000.[40]

Vehicles eligible for the subsidy must meet the following criteria: [27] [41]

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