

# How electric vehicles will benefit rural America

Electric vehicles are gaining momentum. American car and truck manufacturers and fleet owners are making big investments to make electric cars more accessible and affordable. Our state and federal leaders are also taking steps to make this clean transportation future a reality. Electric trucks, cars, and buses are for and benefit **all** Americans.

## Here are five ways electric vehicles will benefit rural Americans across the country.



Rivian's electric truck is expected to be available before the end of 2021. Image credit: Richard Truesdell

1. **Electric vehicles are reliable:** Electric cars require a lot [less maintenance](#) than combustion engines. The battery, motor, and associated electronics require little to no regular checks. There are less fluids, such as no oil, to change regularly, there is less wear on the brakes, and overall there are far less moving parts to check and fix. EVs are also [mandated](#) to have warranties on batteries.
2. **Electric vehicles have lower operating costs:** This lower maintenance adds up to lower costs. Annual costs of fueling with electricity are cheaper - [20-50% the costs](#) of fueling with gasoline, on average. A recent [report](#) found that these savings are greater for residents of rural counties than urban counties, with residents saving up to \$2,800 per year.

Nationwide, EVs are [expected](#) to reach price parity with gasoline-powered cars by 2025, and by 2030 the average EV owner is expected to [save at least](#) \$7,200 over the life of a car, compared to gasoline-powered cars.

3. **Electric trucks are expected to have strong towing capacity and performance:** Electric pickup trucks and other electric vehicles are expected to have more torque than traditional combustion vehicles, so they are well suited to tasks such as hauling trailers and towing [other heavy equipment](#). This includes [Rivian's](#) electric truck expected later this year, an electric Ford F-150 which is [likely](#) to be available in 2022 and electric [Chevrolet Silverado](#) in 2023.
4. **Electric vehicles travel long distances:** EV batteries are now more efficient and higher quality and many [can go](#) over 250 miles, with some up to 500 miles without needing to recharge.
5. **Electric vehicle charging is convenient:** Most electric vehicle charging happens at home. EV owners can use a standard outlet or install an upgraded charger. Range concerns will also be alleviated as charging stations become more common along highways, near businesses and at other convenient locations. President Biden has proposed to install 500,000 new charging stations across the country, and rural electric co-ops, large utilities and other stakeholders are also [already working](#) to build out charging networks.

*Note: Only on-road vehicles -- not farm equipment or other off-road vehicles -- are included in near-term goals to have manufacturers shift to electric vehicles.*