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# How clean are electric cars?

## How much CO2 can electric cars really save compared to diesel and petrol cars?

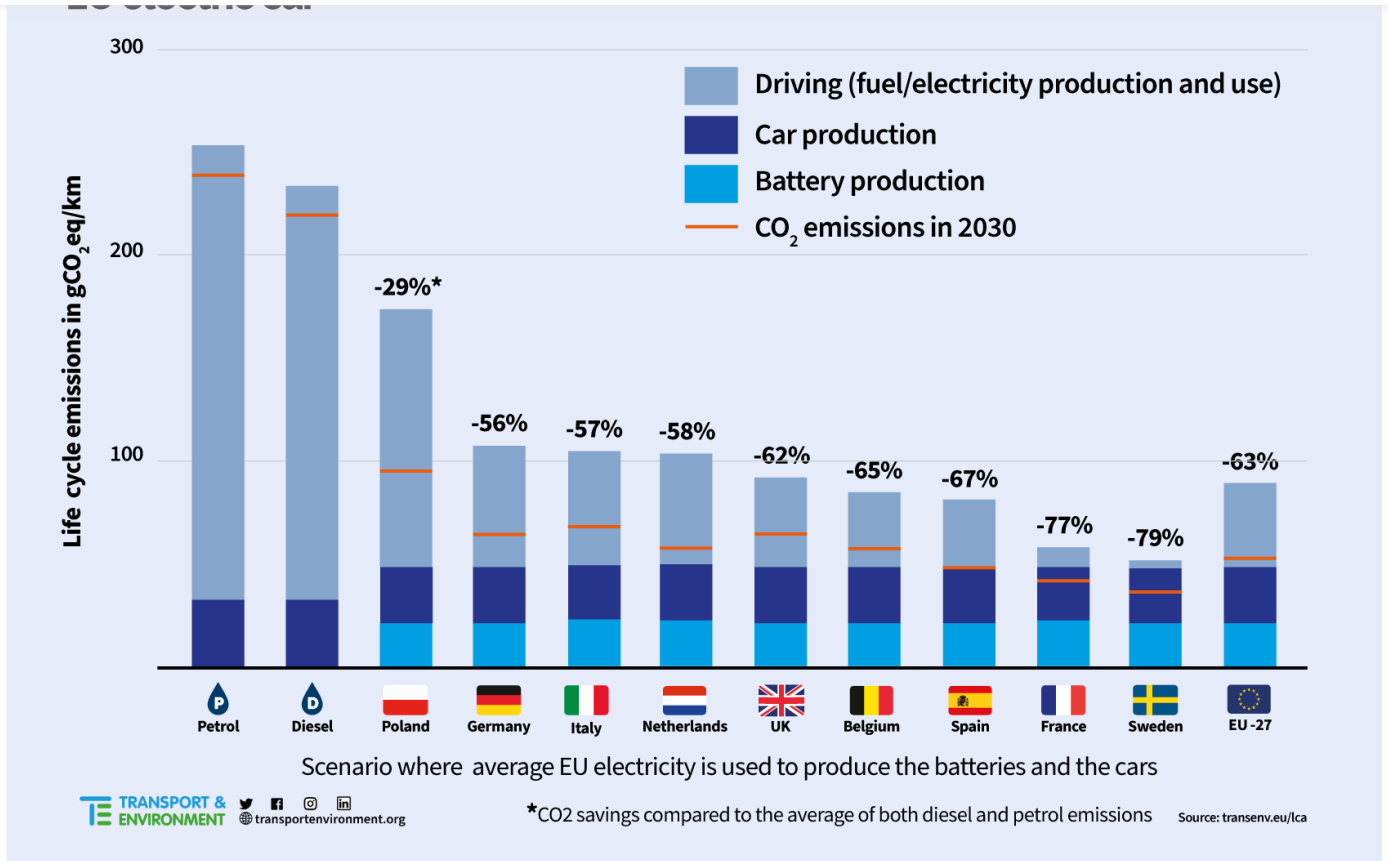
To answer this question we have developed a tool (see below) that compiles all the most up-to-date data on CO2 emissions linked to the use of an electric, diesel or petrol car.

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We have taken into account all possible criteria such as the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted when electricity is produced or fuel is burnt, as well as the carbon impact of resource extraction for batteries or of building a power plant.

We find out that electric cars in Europe emit, on average, almost 3 times less CO<sub>2</sub> than equivalent petrol/diesel cars.

In the worst case scenario, an electric car with a battery produced in China and driven in Poland still emits 22% less CO<sub>2</sub> than diesel and 28% less than petrol. And in the best case scenario, an electric car with a battery produced in Sweden and driven in Sweden can emit 80% less CO<sub>2</sub> than diesel and 81% less than petrol.

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## Compare the lifetime CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of an electric car with a petrol car, a diesel

Year of purchase

Vehicle Segment

Medium car (ex: Volkswagen Golf)



Technology

Electric

Electric

Electricity used for battery production

Electricity used for battery

EU average

EU average

Country where the electric car is driven

Country where the electric

EU27

Sweden



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Downloads:

FAQ T&E's EV LCA tool.pdf  
PDF, 326.5 KByte



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