ELECTRIC VEHICLES ARE FAR CHEAPER TO DRIVE THAN GAS-POWERED CARS.

AUGUST 2022

Passage of the Inflation Reduction Act officially set the U.S. on track to transition to clean transportation, saving Americans money and creating millions of jobs.
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Overview

This analysis compares the operating costs of gas-powered vehicles and electric vehicles (EVs) nationally and in various states. The three gas-powered cars featured in the analysis represent the most popular vehicles in the pickup truck, SUV, and sedan vehicle segments in the United States. The EVs included in this analysis are approximate analogues to the highlighted gas-powered vehicles. While they are imperfect corollaries to the gas-powered vehicles, these electric models nevertheless illustrate the substantial cost savings. The passage of the Inflation Reduction Act will further these cost savings with historic clean energy investments and tax credits, lowering the sticker prices of EVs and expanding manufacturing.

Key Takeaways on The Cost to Drive an EV vs. a Gas-Powered Vehicle

Gas prices are inherently volatile—and they always will be. EVs, on the other hand, operate independently of global oil and gas markets, so their operating costs are not subject to fossil fuel price shocks, disruptions, and supply shortages. Instead, EVs run on electricity, which is cheaper than gasoline, is price-stable, and is domestically produced from increasingly renewable and local resources.

EVs are far cheaper to drive than gas-powered vehicles. Nationally, gas-powered vehicles are 3-5 times more expensive to drive per mile than EVs. In nearly half of the states examined in this report (including Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia), EVs can be driven at just 15-20% of the cost of gas-powered cars per mile. In addition to examining this month’s data, this ZETA report also looks back at previous months, and the data confirms that over time, EVs are markedly cheaper to drive per mile—and experience far greater price stability—than gas-powered vehicles.

The total cost of EVs is lower than that of gas-powered vehicles. In many cases, EVs are already comparable in price to similar new gas-powered models. And in addition to their fuel cost savings, EVs require less maintenance than gas-powered vehicles, too. EVs can save drivers between $1,800 and $2,600 on operating and maintenance costs per year, according to Consumer Reports.

EVs will cost even less to buy thanks to consumer and manufacturing tax credits. The EV tax credit expansions and advanced manufacturing production tax credits in the Inflation Reduction Act will further reduce EV sticker prices, making it cost less to both buy and drive an EV. This will help American EV manufacturers compete against foreign entrants into the market by aggressively incentivising supply chain onshoring. Furthermore, EV tax credits will help signal durable market certainty, which will help American EV manufacturers scale up to meet demand. This will create millions of good-paying American jobs and help the United States win the global clean transportation race. When the IRA reached the presidents desk, the US made a historic investment in climate, the consumer, and this transportation race with unallied foreign competitors.
Comparing The Operating Costs of Electric and Gas-Powered Vehicles Over The Past Six Months

National Avg. Cost Per Gallon of Gasoline

National Avg. Cost Per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity

Cost Per Mile* To Drive electric and gas vehicles

*Gasoline prices are based on that month’s data, and residential end-use sector electricity prices are backdated by three months. In both cases, these are the most recent available data. Even with inflationary pressures, the effect of electricity price changes on the operating costs of EVs has been minimal, as demonstrated in the data.
### Comparing The Fueling/Charging Costs of Gas-Powered And Electric Vehicles

#### Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of July 7, 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Total Fueling Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ford F150 (Regular Cab)</td>
<td>$95.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota RAV4</td>
<td>$60.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honda Civic</td>
<td>$51.28</td>
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</table>

#### Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of April 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Total Charging Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$8.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivian R1T/S</td>
<td>$20.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford F150 Lightning</td>
<td>$14.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Fueling Cost
(Internal Combustion Engine Vehicles)

### Total Charging Cost
(Electric Vehicles)
Comparing The Operating Costs of Gas-Powered And Electric Vehicles

Estimated Mileage

- **506 miles** for Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)
- **435 miles** for Rivian R1T/S
- **421 miles** for Ford F150 Lightning
- **314 miles** for Honda Civic
- **267 miles** for Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)

- **23 Gallons** for Ford F150 (Regular Cab)
- **14.5 Gallons** for Toyota RAV4
- **12.4 Gallons** for Honda Civic
- **98 kWh** for Ford F150 Lightning
- **135 kWh** for Rivian R1T/S
- **54 kWh** for Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)

Total Cost Per Mile

- **$0.188** for Ford F150 (Regular Cab)
- **$0.138** for Toyota RAV4
- **$0.122** for Honda Civic
- **$0.064** for Ford F150 Lightning
- **$0.064** for Rivian R1T/S
- **$0.030** for Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)

Gas-Powered Vehicles

Electric Vehicles
## Arizona

### Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

- $4.400

### Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

- $0.1321

---

**Total Fueling Cost**

- Ford F150 (Regular Cab): $101.20
- Toyota RAV4: $63.80
- Honda Civic: $54.52
- Ford F150 Lightning: $12.95
- Rivian R1S: $17.84
- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range): $7.13

**Total Charging Cost**

- Total Cost Per Mile

- Ford F150 (Regular Cab): $0.200
- Toyota RAV4: $0.147
- Honda Civic: $0.129
- Ford F150 Lightning: $0.056
- Rivian R1S: $0.057
- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range): $0.027
Arkansas

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.704

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1219

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Total Cost Per Mile
California

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline  
(As of August 4, 2022)

$5.539

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity  
(As of May 2022)

$0.2702

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline  
(As of August 4, 2022)

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $127.40  
Toyota RAV4 $80.32  
Honda Civic $68.63  
Ford F150 Lightning $26.48  
Rivian R1S $36.48  
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $14.59

Total Cost Per Mile

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $0.252  
Toyota RAV4 $0.185  
Honda Civic $0.163  
Ford F150 Lightning $0.115  
Rivian R1S $0.116  
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $0.055
Colorado

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$4.297

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1382

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Total Cost Per Mile
Florida

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.862

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1358

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $88.83
Toyota RAV4 $56.00
Honda Civic $47.85

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

Ford F150 Lightning $13.31
Rivian R1T $18.33
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $7.33

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Total Cost Per Mile

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $0.176
Toyota RAV4 $0.129
Honda Civic $0.114
Ford F150 Lightning $0.058
Rivian R1T/S $0.058
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $0.027
Georgia

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.699

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1440

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Avg. Price per Gallon of Gasoline</th>
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<td>Honda Civic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ford F150 Lightning</td>
<td>$14.11</td>
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<td>Rivian R1S</td>
<td>$19.44</td>
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<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$7.78</td>
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Total Fueling Cost

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ford F150 (Regular Cab)</td>
<td>$0.168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota RAV4</td>
<td>$0.123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honda Civic</td>
<td>$0.109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford F150 Lightning</td>
<td>$0.061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivian R1S</td>
<td>$0.062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$0.029</td>
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</table>

Total Charging Cost

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<tr>
<td>Ford F150 Lightning</td>
<td>$0.061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivian R1S</td>
<td>$0.062</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$0.029</td>
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Total Cost Per Mile

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ford F150 (Regular Cab)</td>
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<td>Ford F150 Lightning</td>
<td>$0.061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivian R1S</td>
<td>$0.062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$0.029</td>
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Kansas

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.763

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1412

Average Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline:

- Ford F150 (Regular Cab): $86.55
- Toyota RAV4: $54.56
- Honda Civic: $46.62

Average Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity:

- Ford F150 Lightning: $13.84
- Rivian R1T: $19.06
- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range): $7.63

Total Fueling Cost

- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)
- Rivian R1T
- Ford F150 (Regular Cab)

Total Charging Cost

- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)
- Ford F150 Lightning

Total Cost Per Mile

- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range): $0.029
- Rivian R1T: $0.061
- Ford F150 Lightning: $0.060
- Honda Civic: $0.111
- Toyota RAV4: $0.125
- Ford F150 (Regular Cab): $0.171

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline:

- $86.55
- $54.56
- $46.62

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity:

- $13.84
- $19.06
- $7.63
**Michigan**

**Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline**
(As of August 4, 2022)

$4.115

**Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity**
(As of May 2022)

$0.1783

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**Total Fueling Cost**

- Ford F150 (Regular Cab): $94.65
- Toyota RAV4: $59.67
- Honda Civic: $50.99
- Ford F150 Lightning: $17.47
- Rivian R1S: $24.07
- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range): $9.63

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**Total Charging Cost**

- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range): $0.036

---

**Total Cost Per Mile**

- Ford F150 (Regular Cab): $0.187
- Toyota RAV4: $0.137
- Honda Civic: $0.121
- Ford F150 Lightning: $0.076
- Rivian R1S: $0.077
- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range): $0.036
Missouri

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)
$3.765

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)
$0.1195

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<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Total Fueling Cost</th>
<th>Total Charging Cost</th>
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<td>Honda Civic</td>
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<td>$0.111</td>
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<td>Ford F150 Lightning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rivian R1S</td>
<td>$16.13</td>
<td>$0.051</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$6.45</td>
<td>$0.024</td>
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Missouri

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)
$3.765

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)
$0.1195

Total Fueling Cost
Total Charging Cost

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $86.60
Toyota RAV4 $54.59
Honda Civic $46.65
Ford F150 Lightning $11.71
Rivian R1S $16.13
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $6.45

Total Cost Per Mile

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $0.171
Toyota RAV4 $0.126
Honda Civic $0.111
Ford F150 Lightning $0.051
Rivian R1S $0.051
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $0.024
New Jersey

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$4.354

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1700

Total Fueling Cost

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $100.14
Toyota RAV4 $63.13
Honda Civic $53.95

Total Charging Cost

Ford F150 Lightning $16.67
Rivian R1T $22.95
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $9.18

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
As of August 4, 2022

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
As of May 2022

Total Cost Per Mile

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $0.198
Toyota RAV4 $0.145
Honda Civic $0.128
Ford F150 Lightning $0.072
Rivian R1T/S $0.073
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $0.034
Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline (As of August 4, 2022)

$5.044

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity (As of May 2022)

$0.1356

Nevada
New Mexico

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)
$3.912

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)
$0.1295
North Carolina

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.827

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1214

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Total Cost Per Mile
Ohio

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.836

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1374

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Total Cost Per Mile
**Oklahoma**

**Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline**
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.710

**Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity**
(As of May 2022)

$0.1242

---

**Total Fueling Cost**

- Ford F150 (Regular Cab)
- Toyota RAV4
- Honda Civic

**Total Charging Cost**

- Ford F150 Lightning
- Rivian R1T
- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)

---

**Total Cost Per Mile**

- Ford F150 (Regular Cab)
- Toyota RAV4
- Honda Civic
- Ford F150 Lightning
- Rivian R1T
- Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)
Pennsylvania

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$4.440

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1520

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Total Cost Per Mile
Average Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline (As of August 4, 2022)

$3.707

Average Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity (As of May 2022)

$0.1204

Total Fueling Cost

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $85.26
Toyota RAV4 $53.75
Honda Civic $45.93

Total Charging Cost

Ford F150 Lightning $11.80
Rivian R1T $16.25
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $6.50

Total Cost Per Mile

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $0.169
Toyota RAV4 $0.124
Honda Civic $0.109
Ford F150 Lightning $0.051
Rivian R1T $0.052
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $0.024
Texas

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.644

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1315

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $83.81
Toyota RAV4 $52.84
Honda Civic $45.15

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity

Ford F150 Lightning $12.89
Rivian R1T $17.75
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $7.10

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Total Cost Per Mile

Ford F150 (Regular Cab) $0.166
Toyota RAV4 $0.121
Honda Civic $0.107
Ford F150 Lightning $0.056
Rivian R1T/S $0.057
Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range) $0.027
Virginia

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)
$3.921

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)
$0.1302

Total Fueling Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ford F150 (Regular Cab)</td>
<td>$90.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toyota RAV4</td>
<td>$56.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honda Civic</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford F150 Lightning</td>
<td>$12.76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rivian R1S</td>
<td>$17.58</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$7.03</td>
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</table>

Total Charging Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Total Cost Per Mile</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ford F150 (Regular Cab)</td>
<td>$0.178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toyota RAV4</td>
<td>$0.131</td>
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<td>Honda Civic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ford F150 Lightning</td>
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<td>Rivian R1S</td>
<td>$0.056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$0.026</td>
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</tbody>
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West Virginia

Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$4.746

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1324

Total Fueling Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
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<td>Honda Civic</td>
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Total Charging Cost

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<td>Rivian R1S</td>
<td>$0.060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tesla Model 3 (Standard Range)</td>
<td>$0.028</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Avg. Energy Price per Gallon of Gasoline
(As of August 4, 2022)

$3.822

Avg. Energy Price per Kilowatt-hour of Electricity
(As of May 2022)

$0.1610

Total Fueling Cost

Total Charging Cost

Total Cost Per Mile
Sources and Info

*Gasoline prices are based on August 2022 data, and residential end-use sector electricity prices are based on May 2022 data. In both cases, these are the most recent available data. Electricity prices have been relatively static; in many states, the price of residential end-use sector electricity has decreased from previous iterations of this report, which is updated monthly.

Gas Prices as of August 4, 2022: https://gasprices.aaa.com/
Electricity Prices in Residential End-Use Sector in May 2022 (most recent data available):
https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/
Ford F150: https://www.ford.com/trucks/f150/models/f150-xl/
Toyota RAV4: https://www.toyota.com/rav4/features/mpg/4430
Honda Civic:
Ford F150 Lightning:
Rivian R1T + R1S: https://www.caranddriver.com/news/a37500438/rivian-r1t-r1s-epa-range/
Tesla Model 3: https://www.evspecifications.com/en/model-driving-range/cc48e0

Additional Resources

Gas Gallons vs. Electricity E-Gallons: https://www.energy.gov/maps/egallon
Vehicle Fueling Cost Calculator: https://afdc.energy.gov/calc/

About ZETA

The Zero Emission Transportation Association (ZETA) is a federal coalition focused on advocating for 100% EV sales by 2030. ZETA is committed to enacting policies that drive EV adoption, create hundreds of thousands of jobs, secure American global EV manufacturing leadership, drastically improve public health, and significantly reduce carbon pollution.