

How much is electric vehicle charging station

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The SAR government sets a goal to stop registering any new petrol vehicles and hybrid cars by 2035. Instead, electric vehicles (EVs) are expected to keep with the global energy-saving trend to reduce exhaust emissions. That said, a number of drivers are still concerned about the distribution of electric car charging stations in Hong Kong prior to buying one. Unlike in the West, most drivers here don't have the option to install a home electric car charger inside their garage. That's why it is a major consideration for owning an EV in Hong Kong.

As electric cars in HK become the key trend, let's take a look at how to find EV charging stations, the supply/distribution of EV chargers here, its specifications for installation, as well as related costs.

The Environmental Protection Department claims that as of June 2021, Hong Kong provides a total of 4,362 EV charging stations for public use. These include 2,000 semi-quick charging stations and 702 quick-charging stations. Based on the Transport Department's number of registered electric cars as of May 2021, right now, there is a total of about 21,161 EVs in the SAR. In other words, one electric car charger is shared between five cars.

Besides the shortage of EV chargers in Hong Kong, their distribution is also uneven. According to the figures published by the Environmental Protection Department at the end of June, there are as many as 827 charging stations in Kwun Tong, accounting for nearly 25% of the total EV chargers in Hong Kong.

Among them, both Goldin Financial International Center (157) and The Quayside (312) alone possess a total of 469 chargers. On the other hand, less than 60 chargers are available in Tai Po, Tuen Mun, and the Southern District.

Currently, 1,460 electric car chargers, or about one-third of the total chargers, are standard charging stations. They use household charging cables and usually take up to two days to fully recharge your car. This is equivalent to a semi-quick charger's average of 4 hours of charging and a quick charger's 1 hour of charging. As you can see, standard chargers are much slower and rarely used by drivers.

CLP has set up 54 semi-quick and quick EV chargers across major areas in Kowloon, New Territories, and Lantau, providing a total of 161 chargers. It will offer free EV charging services until the end of 2021.

HK Electric offers free-to-use electric car chargers in various districts on Hong Kong Island. These include a total of 12 multi-purpose chargers, semi-quick, and quick charging stations.

E-charge has set up electric car chargers in Hong Kong, Kowloon, and New Territories for their members to

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use. Most of them are free, but some require payment and reservation.

Every once in a while, the Transportation Department provides updates on its website of the latest number of chargers, as well as their types, charging speed, and locations in every district.

In the "Roadmap on the Popularization of Electric Vehicles in Hong Kong" released by the government, its goal is to get at least 150,000 parking spaces in private residential and commercial buildings equipped with electric car chargers by 2025. To subsidize this initiative, the government rolled out measures, such as the HKD \$2 billion "EV-charging at Home Subsidy Scheme", which came out in October 2020.

In terms of public charging facilities, it has also allocated HKD \$120 million to implement a three-year plan. Hong Kong hopes to gradually increase the number of chargers in government parking lots to 1,800 by 2022. As of March 2021, the government has already installed 547 chargers, and the remaining chargers are expected to be installed in 2021 or 2022.

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