

ALA: Transition to electric vehicles would save Wisconsin lives, avoid economic impacts

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Brookfield, WI – Today the American Lung Association will release [“The Road to Clean Air”](#) – a new report which outlines the broad benefits of a transition to an electric transportation sector increasingly powered by clean, non-combustion renewable energy over the coming decades. The report finds a transition to electric cars, buses and trucks by mid-century would both improve air quality and address climate change, benefiting the lives and health of Americans and Wisconsin residents, and would result in significant local benefits.

“The transportation sector is a leading contributor to air pollution and climate change,” said Dona Wininsky, Director of Advocacy for the American Lung Association in Wisconsin. “We have the technology to transition to cleaner cars, trucks and buses, and by taking that step we can prepare Wisconsin for the future while also seeing the health and economic benefits forecasted in ‘The Road to Clean Air’

“The Road to Clean Air” outlines the broad benefits of the transition to an electric transportation sector over the coming decades.

National benefits per year based on emission reductions in 2050:

- avoiding approximately 6,300 premature deaths
- preventing more than 93,000 asthma attacks

- preventing 416,000 lost workdays
- \$72 Billion in public health benefits
- \$113 Billion in climate impacts avoided

Benefits in Wisconsin per year based on emission reductions in 2050:

- **avoiding approximately 73 premature deaths**
- **preventing more than 1,156 asthma attacks**
- **preventing 4,930 lost workdays per year**
- **\$834,519,169 in public health benefits**

Climate change threatens the health of all Americans, from wildfires and extreme storms to worsening air pollution. And poor air quality caused by transportation pollution contributes to a wide range of negative health impacts, including childhood asthma attacks, impaired lung function and development, lung cancer, heart attacks and strokes and premature deaths. As shown in the Lung Association's annual ["State of the Air"](#) report, nearly half of all Americans are living with unhealthy air quality, and low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately impacted by bad air quality. In Wisconsin, several counties received failing grades in the "State of the Air" report.

Achieving these major benefits to our health and our climate will require dedicated and sustained leadership and investment at all levels of government and will require public education and engagement to ensure the transition to electric vehicles provides clean air for all. The Lung Association is encouraging all Wisconsinites to [sign a petition](#) to Governor Evers urging support for the critical transition to electric vehicles across the United States.

For more information about "The Road to Clean Air" report visit [Lung.org/ev](https://lung.org/ev). Journalists seeking to speak with a policy or medical expert about the benefits of a transition to electric vehicles and the health impacts of air pollution or climate change may contact Dona Wininsky at Dona.Wininsky@Lung.org or 262-703-4840.

