

NORTHERN TERRITORY ELECTRIC VEHICLE STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2021 - 2026

Implementation Update

DECEMBER
2023



The Strategy

The Northern Territory Government, released the Northern Territory Electric Vehicle Strategy and Implementation Plan in June 2021, to support the increased uptake of electric vehicles (EVs). The Strategy identified four key priority areas to support uptake:

- Vehicle costs and availability
- Vehicle charging
- Knowledge skills and innovation
- Consumer information

The Strategy is a whole of government undertaking, with responsibility for implementation shared across the Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics, Department of Treasury and Finance, Department of Corporate and Digital Development, Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security, NT Worksafe and the Power and Water Corporation. A strong commitment from all stakeholders has seen significant progress against the Plan.

This report provides an update on implementation since introduction of the Strategy in 2021. Measures have been introduced to address the availability and cost of EVs, the delivery of essential EV infrastructure and transition of the NT Fleet.

The NT EV Strategy and Implementation Plan forms part of the Northern Territory Government's action on climate change and implementation of the Northern Territory Climate Change Response and Action Plan.

Benefits of EVs



Lower Operational Costs



Reducing greenhouse gas emissions



Supporting the Northern Territory's 50% by 2030 renewable energy target



Improved fuel security



Improving urban amenity



Potential economic benefits

Implementation highlights

Vehicle cost and availability

- Removal of the registration component of registration fees for EVs for 5 years implemented July 2022.
- \$1500 reduction in Stamp Duty payable on purchase of EVs for five years implemented in July 2022.
- 62 light passenger EVs in the NT Government Fleet at 30 November 2023, with supply into the second hand market at the end of lease.
- NT Fleet modified the NTG Vehicle Policy to require pool vehicles to be EVs where they meet the transport function of the agency.
- Incentives have been introduced to reduce the lease costs of NT Fleet EVs and encourage uptake.



Vehicle charging

- Charging infrastructure for NT Government vehicles installed across the Territory with:
 - 22 chargers in 6 workplaces in Alice Springs
 - 66 chargers in 16 locations across Darwin, Palmerston and the rural area
 - 4 chargers proposed for the Katherine area, a further 4 for Alice Springs and 75 across 15 Top End sites.
- EV residential and business grant program commenced July 2022.
- 52 applications were approved over the 12 months to June 2023, with 48 being for residential chargers.
- Public EV chargers installed in the State Square car park in Darwin, at the Royal Darwin Hospital and the Alice Springs Hospital.
- The NT Government is working with the Australian Government and the NRMA to facilitate the installation of EV chargers on the NT's national highways through the Driving the Nation program. Through the program around 16 fast chargers are expected to be installed on the Stuart, Barkly and Victoria Highways. The first installation, an innovative off-grid prototype using solar and battery technology was installed in October at the remote Erldunda Roadhouse on the Stuart Highway, 200 km south of Alice Springs.



Knowledge skills and innovation

- Investigating the introduction of zero emission buses to the urban bus fleet utilising key learnings from interstate bus trials.
- Industry is leading the response to training for mechanics with the Motor Trade Association delivering training for mechanics in Darwin during 2022.
- The NT Government continues to provide support to the World Solar Challenge, including providing restricted registration to eligible vehicles.
- Consistent with the national vehicle registration database, changes have been made to vehicle registration classes in the NT to allow for separate registration of Hybrid, BEV, PHEV and Hydrogen vehicles.

Consumer Information

The [NT EV Strategy and Implementation Plan](#) webpage provides information on the implementation of the NT EV Strategy and links to [Stamp Duty and Registration Concessions](#)

The page also provides link to sites that address common consumer questions;

EV Charging

[Plugshare](#) – charging locations

[Green Vehicle Guide](#) on low emission vehicles

An approved charger list for EV grants has been compiled. The List is available on the EV Grant website.

Number plate labelling for electric vehicles has been implemented in line with Australian Standard. Labelling allows the identification of the vehicle power source for emergency responders [Number plate labels for electric, hybrid and hydrogen vehicles | NT.GOV.AU](#)

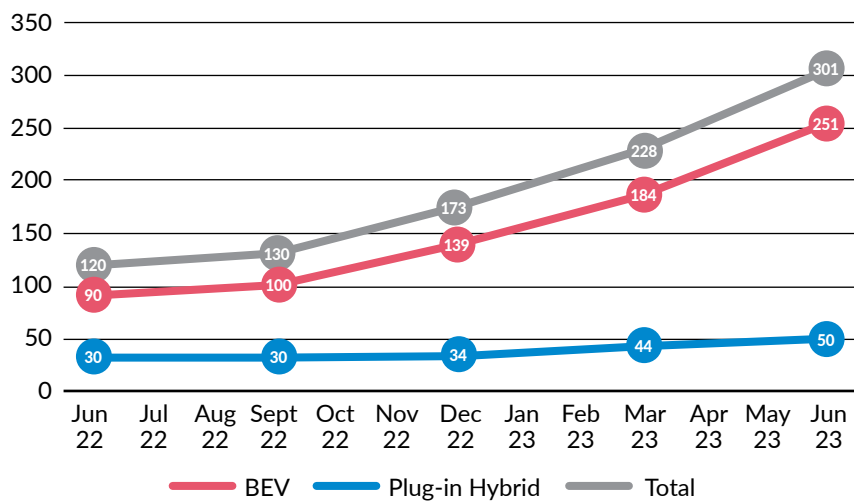
The emission reduction potential of EV's has been recognised in the NT Climate Response 3 year Action Plan [Action Items | Climate Change NT](#)

The NT Government is working with a national EV Working Group to implement the National EV Strategy, including coordination of national standards and provision of nationally consistent information for consumers.

Electric Vehicle uptake in the NT

- The number of battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) registered in the Northern Territory is showing a marked increase with 453 vehicles registered at 31 October 2023.
- In the three quarters to June 2023 the number of vehicles increased by an average of 35% per quarter.
- Consumers are demonstrating a preference for Battery Electric Vehicles over Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles at a ratio of 5:1

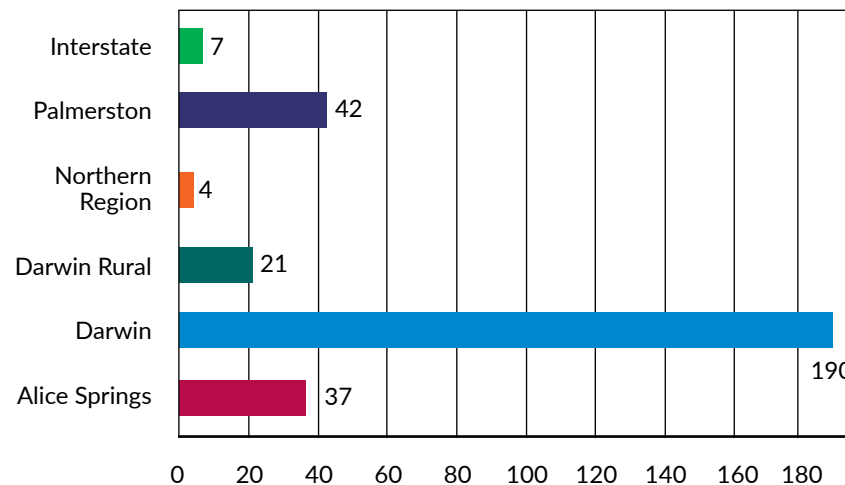
Number of NT Registered Electric Vehicles June 22 – June 23



Electric Vehicle ownership location

- EV ownership reflects the NT population distribution with 63% of vehicles located in Darwin and the northern suburbs.
- A further 20% of EVs are registered in Palmerston and the rural area.
- Despite the isolation of Alice Springs, it is home to approximately 11.5% of NT registered EVs demonstrating EVs meet daily travel needs.

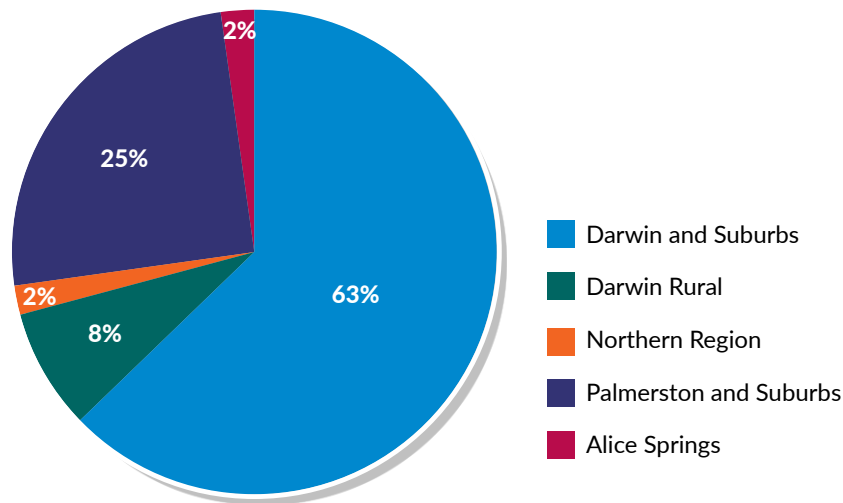
NT BEV and PHEV ownership by region in June 2023



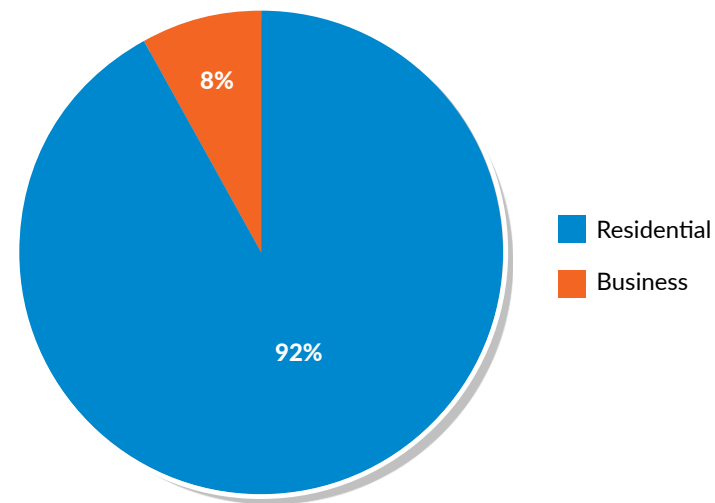
NT Electric Charger Grant Scheme (Residential and Business)

- \$300,000 Grant Scheme to assist with the purchase of an electric vehicle charger, commenced in July 2022
- Available Grants
 - Business Grants \$2500 x 80
 - Residential Grants \$1000 x 100
- Over the 12 months from July 2022 – 2023 there were;
 - 48 approved residential applications
 - 4 approved business applications
- Overall uptake of grants has been highest in Darwin and Palmerston.
- Residential applications have significantly outnumbered applications from businesses.
- Excluding government fleet vehicles, the number of EVs registered to businesses, represent approximately 25% of EVs registered in the Northern Territory.

Approved Home Charger Applications by Location



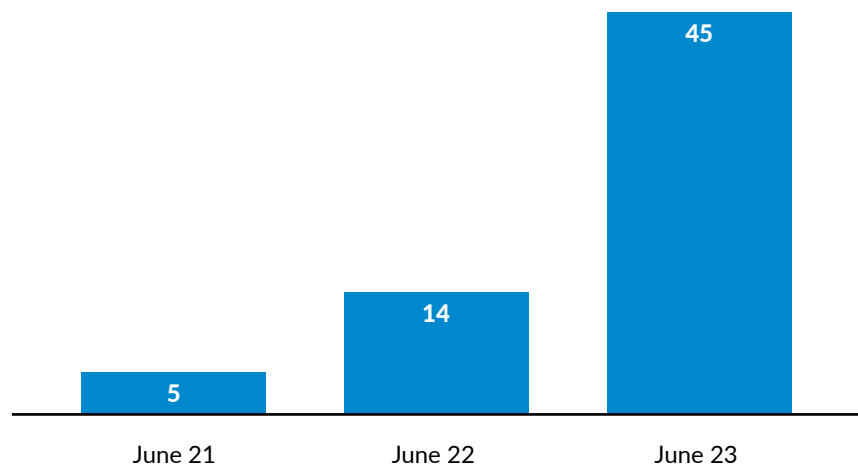
Approved Residential and Business Applications



NT Government Fleet

- There has been a 300% increase in EV's in NT Fleet over two years.
- Vehicles are transitioned where the use and operational environment are suitable. Considerations include the distance travelled, terrain, vehicle use, convenient access to charging and servicing.
- Ex Fleet vehicles will contribute to the growth of a second hand market.


Number of vehicles in NT Government Fleet June 21 – June 23




Future focus

 Transitioning of the NT bus fleet to low and zero emission vehicles.


 Ongoing transition of suitable NT government fleet vehicles to electric.

 Reviewing uptake of the Electric Vehicle Charger Grant Scheme and operational timeframe.

 Updating the NT EV webpage to report on the progress of the implementation plan and innovation in the EV sector.

 Continuing to work with the Australian Government and NRMA on the installation of public fast charging on the NT highway network.

 Continuing to work with the National EV Working Group to implement the National EV Strategy.

 Investigating the transition of freight vehicles to low and zero emissions.