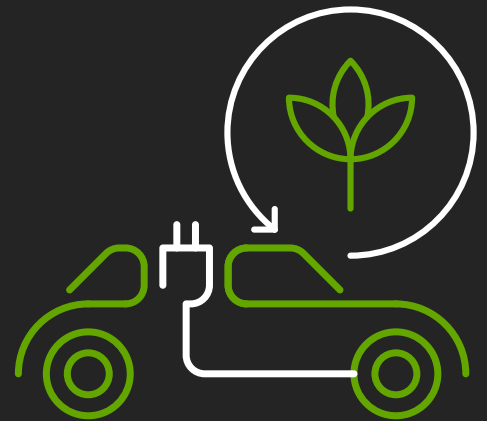


EVS, MYTHS AND FIRE SAFETY REALITY

EV fire risk is often
overestimated



41 vs 160

41 EV fires per 100,000 vehicles compared with 160 petrol or diesel vehicle fires per 100,000 vehicles.

EV fires attract attention because they are highly visible and involve a relatively new technology. But visibility is not the same as likelihood. Lloyds research shows consumers substantially overestimate EV fire incidence, while UK Government guidance states there is no evidence EV fires are more likely than petrol or diesel vehicle fires.



THE EVIDENCE POINTS IN A CONSISTENT DIRECTION

Consumers significantly overestimate EV fire incidence. When told that petrol and diesel vehicles experience around 160 fires per 100,000 vehicles each year, the average survey respondent estimated the same figure for EVs. The evidence-based figure for EVs is 41 fires per 100,000 vehicles. Most international studies indicate that electric vehicle fires are less common than petrol or diesel vehicle fires.



SAFETY IS DESIGNED IN

Modern EVs must comply with international approval requirements before they can be sold or registered in the UK. Battery systems are supported by monitoring, thermal management and protection systems designed to help identify and manage potential issues before they become serious problems.



UNDERSTANDING THE REAL RISK

The right message is not "no risk". It is lower incidence, robust safety design and a clear understanding of how these vehicles operate. Fire services continue to treat lithium-ion battery fires seriously because they can be complex, may reignite and can release toxic gases.



PERCEPTIONS OF THE FREQUENCY OF CAR FIRES PER 100,000 BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLES (BEVS)

(Percentage of responses)

