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Zapmap data reveals over two million charging sessions on public network each month

Insights into usage patterns enable charge point operators to pre-empt demand and strengthen key en-route sites.

Utilisation data from Zapmap, the UK's leading charge point mapping service, has revealed that over two million successful electric vehicle (EV) charging sessions are now taking place on the public network each month. Nearly 60 per cent of these charging sessions use rapid / ultra-rapid chargers¹, which have a power rating of 50kW+ and can typically charge an EV to 80% in 20 minutes to an hour.²

Underpinned by the UK's most accurate and comprehensive data, and taking advantage of open data opportunities brought about by Public Charge Point Regulations, Zapmap can now report in greater detail on utilisation trends across the nearly 76,000 charging devices that make up the public charging network. By collating and analysing status data provided by charge point operators (CPOs) for each charge point in their network via the Open Charge Point Interface (OCPI), Zapmap tracks the time each UK public charge point spends in use.

Zapmap utilisation data shows that the busiest day for the public charging network in 2024 fell on 23rd December, which saw 104,215 charging events, while the quietest day for the network was the 25th December, with 33,250 charges. The peak summer travel day, with 66,621 charging events, fell on 2nd August, the first Friday after the majority of schools in England broke up for the summer holidays. A thorough understanding of

¹ As at end Feb 2025

² Depending on battery capacity and starting state of charge

utilisation rates can be used by CPOs and other industry players to enhance strategic planning, improve operational efficiency and optimise the customer experience.

Tracking and analysing utilisation rates at its sites enable GRIDSERVE to anticipate needs and strengthen key en-route sites as demand ramps up. Its Exeter Electric Super Hub is consistently the busiest charging site in the country. With the number of sessions per day in the hundreds across the site as a whole during June–August 2023, the CPO was able to respond to growing demand, increasing devices from 12 to 36 High Power chargers. While the average number of sessions per device dropped for the corresponding period in 2024, the charging sessions for the site overall increased by over 100 sessions, allowing for more sessions, a better customer experience as well as giving drivers the confidence that the GRIDSERVE site is ready for future demand.

Fastned uses a variety of metrics to ensure it is growing its sites in line with demand, as there are many factors to consider. For example, this week, two of its best-performing stations, Ramac Way in London and Ruygenhoek-West in the Netherlands, showed just how important it is to review multiple metrics to judge site performance. On that day, the Dutch site had the lower utilisation in terms of the percentage of the time each charge point was in use (approx. 20%), conversely the British site, with triple the utilisation (approx. 60%), delivered approximately twice as many kWh per day on a per charge point basis.

These examples highlight both the growth of the public charging infrastructure and the way in which CPOs can effectively monitor, respond to and anticipate utilisation demand to serve the next million EV drivers.

Jade Edwards, Head of Insights at Zapmap, commented:

"As increasing numbers of drivers transition to electric vehicles and more investment is made into the charging infrastructure, tracking utilisation to fully understand usage patterns will not only ensure that CPOs optimise the customer experience but also enable them to progress towards profitable businesses."

Rebecca Trebble, Chief Product Officer, GRIDSERVE, commented:

"Utilisation is more than just a snapshot at a single point in time or over a 24-hour period. Tracking fluctuations in traffic and charging patterns help us to fully understand

the customer experience, with peak times telling one story and off-peak times offering a completely different perspective.

“At GRIDSERVE, we take a holistic view which allows us to find a good balance between availability and utilisation at the times when customers are most likely to need charging. It means we are working ahead of the curve to bring additional chargers online at some of the busier sites. We’re proud that customers choose us for their EV journeys and pleased to be one of the most utilised networks in the UK with over 250,000 charging sessions a month.”

Tom Hurst, UK Country Manager, Fastned commented:

"Part of Fastned's "secret sauce" is developing sites with the ability to scale by securing large grid connections, designing with room to grow, and building infrastructure under the ground to enable quick upgrades. Tracking and predicting utilisation growth as EV uptake accelerates is key to maximising the value of this strategy so that we stay just ahead of demand. But we also take a deeper look at our stats to make sure that we're ahead of the game and meeting our customer's needs."

Zapmap Insights, alongside Fastned and GRIDSERVE, will be joining Transport + Energy at 11am on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 for a webinar looking at critical issues around utilisation at ultra-rapid charging sites, and how CPOs manage, plan for and respond to the changes in utilisation across their network. Part of its new 'Explains' webinar series, more details of the webinar can be found on the Transport + Energy website at: <https://transportandenergy.com/2025/02/19/charge-point-utilisation/>

ENDS -

Attachment: Zapmap EV utilisation rates graphic.png

Press contact

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About Zapmap

Zapmap was founded in 2014 with a mission to make the EV charging experience simple, wherever you go. The Zapmap app helps EV drivers find and pay for public charging with confidence and currently has over one million registered users. Zapmap's charge point map is the most comprehensive in the UK, with over 95 per cent of the UK's public points on its network, more than 75 per cent of which show 24/7 live status data.

An integral part of supporting the wider EV industry, Zapmap Insights is the leading source of EV charging data and insights, providing unrivalled data and expert analysis into the shape and usage of EV charging infrastructure, as well as the attitudes and behaviours of EV drivers. For more information, please visit www.zap-map.com

About GRIDSERVE

GRIDSERVE is a technology-enabled electric vehicle charging and sustainable energy business, on a mission to make EV easy. The company is committed to delivering charging infrastructure at the speed and scale to move the needle on climate change and prevent global temperature rises exceeding 1.5°C of warming.

GRIDSERVE is delivering world-class High Power EV charging across the GRIDSERVE Electric Highway, at Electric Forecourts® and Electric Super Hubs found on the UK's motorways and Electric Retail Hubs at popular shopping destinations, all powered by net zero energy.

About Fastned

Fastned is on a mission to accelerate the transition to electric mobility. Since 2012, we've been at the forefront of European charging infrastructure development, building and operating a rapidly growing network of iconic fast charging stations. Our yellow, nature inspired stations create a welcoming environment for drivers during the 10-15 minutes it takes to charge up to 300 km of range. By offering Europe's most reliable, convenient and joyful charging experience, we aim to inspire millions to drive on solar and wind energy so that together we can curb climate change. Fastned is listed at Euronext Amsterdam (AMS: FAST) and is a certified B Corp.