

MARCH 2, 2023

## Poll: Majority of Delawareans Don't Support Eliminating the Sale of New Gas- and Diesel-Powered Cars and Trucks

WASHINGTON, DC — Next week, the Delaware General Assembly begins a new session and media reports suggest that Delaware may seek to increase the use of electric vehicles (EV) in the state, including implementation of a California policy that is a full ban on the sale of any new gasoline and diesel vehicles starting in 2035. To help Democrats in Dover better understand voter attitudes on this issue, the Centrist Democrats of America (CDA) [released a poll](#) on Delawareans' attitudes about EVs and the state's transportation future.

The key findings:

**Only 6% of Delawareans** “strongly support” adopting California’s ban on the sale of new gas-powered vehicles.

**62% of respondents** agreed that “An incremental approach to getting more electric vehicles on the road makes more sense for Delaware residents and the gradual build up will allow for the market to fix itself along the way.”

**Only 2% of respondents** want to “ban” or “limit” the number of gas-powered vehicles allowed to sold in the state.

**Only 31% of respondents** are “likely” to purchase an EV in the next two to three years.

“Delawareans (61%) hope their current vehicle will last several years and worry about the high cost of EVs,” said Hank Naughton, President of Centrist Democrats of America. “If Democrats want to be the Party for the working-class Americans, we shouldn’t pressure low-income and middle-class families buy expensive EVs.”

“Democratic lawmakers in Dover should support common sense programs to promote EVs, but CDA’s polling indicates that Democrats should not be pushing extreme policies like banning the sale of new gas-powered cars and trucks,” Naughton added.

Delawareans do think spending priorities should be: funding for “ending childhood hunger,” fixing “our roads and bridges,” and increasing the use of “wind and solar energy.” Rounding out the bottom of funding priorities was funding to “build K-12 schools,” “police training and hiring,” “public transportation,” and coming in last was “increasing the number of electric vehicles.”

### Other topline findings from the survey:

90% of respondents are “somewhat” or “very concerned” about the high cost of gasoline.

80% of respondents are “somewhat” or “very concerned” about climate change.

39% of respondents said that personally, high energy costs are “making it harder to make ends meet.”

When asked why they don't plan on buying an EV in the next two years or more, 68% said, "There aren't enough charging stations for it to make sense right now," 60% responded, "I don't have the ability to charge an electric vehicle where I live," and over half of respondents (55%) stated, "Currently there is not an electric vehicle on the market that would really work for my needs."

**About the poll:**

Methodology: 500 interviews among voters in Delaware were conducted from February 16-23, 2023, using an online survey. The results were weighted to ensure proportional responses. The Bayesian confidence interval for 500 interviews is approximately 5.0, which is roughly equivalent to a margin of error of  $\pm 4.4$  at the 95% confidence level.

**Link to poll:**

[Click here](#) or:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ffced5a6c82fc0f469b81ea/t/6400b0ac09819e56542d5372/1677766828770/DE+Poll+Results+Top+Line+.pdf>

**About Centrist Democrats of America:**

[Centrist Democrats of America](#) (CDA) is a group dedicated to the principle that Democrats are most effective when they lead from the political center. CDA promotes respectful dialogue, sensible laws, fiscal responsibility, consumer protections and regulations that appeal to the broadest portion of the American people. CDA advocates for common sense public policies that advance the interests of the nation and put the wellbeing of the American people ahead of politics, ideologies and party affiliation.

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