

1 **# Lack of electric car charging points 'putting off**
2 **drivers'**

3 **![]**
(https://ichef.bbci.co.uk/news/660/cpsprodpb/63C5/production/_106314552_charging1.jpg)

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5 In March 2019 the BBC Shared Data Unit [\[reported\]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-47696839)(<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-47696839>) a "patchy" network of charging points was discouraging UK drivers from embracing electric cars.

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7 Our analysis found more than a third of local authorities had ten or fewer locations where drivers could plug in their vehicles, with wide variation across the country.

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9 We analysed data from Open Charge Map, a crowd-sourced website of charging locations. Not every location will feature in Open Charge Map, but it aims to be a "reliable single point of reference for charging equipment location information". There is no similar resource from the government.

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11 As part of the story we used the [\[Haversine formula\]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haversine_formula)
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haversine_formula) to perform 49 million calculations for each distance (as the crow flies) between each of the 7,000 points, and then store the shortest one.

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13 This piece of content was produced by a regional newspaper reporter working alongside BBC staff.

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15 In a Twitter thread, Peter Sherlock [\[explained why the data was used and how the team worked with that\]](https://twitter.com/petesherlock79/status/1114089816671563777)(<https://twitter.com/petesherlock79/status/1114089816671563777>)

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17 The Shared Data Unit makes data journalism available to news organisations across the media industry, as part of a partnership between the BBC and the News Media Association. Stories generated by the partnership included:

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19 * MKFM: [\[Milton Keynes revealed as having highest number of electric car charging stations in the UK\]](https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/milton-keynes-revealed-as-having-highest-number-of-electric-car-charging-stations-in-the-uk/)(<https://www.mkfm.com/news/local-news/milton-keynes-revealed-as-having-highest-number-of-electric-car-charging-stations-in-the-uk/>) *5 April 2019*

20 * The Scotsman: [\[Scots gradually embracing electric car revolution as numbers rise\]](https://www.scotsman.com/news/transport/scots-gradually-embracing-electric-car-revolution-as-numbers-rise-1-4902216)
(<https://www.scotsman.com/news/transport/scots-gradually-embracing-electric-car-revolution-as-numbers-rise-1-4902216>) *5 April 2019*

21 * The Darlington & Stockton Times: [\[Region will struggle to cope with expected boom in electric vehicles\]](https://www.darlingtonandstocktontimes.co.uk/news/17551632.region-will-struggle-to-cope-with-expected-boom-in-electric-vehicles/)(<https://www.darlingtonandstocktontimes.co.uk/news/17551632.region-will-struggle-to-cope-with-expected-boom-in-electric-vehicles/>) *5 April 2019*

22 * Rochdale Online: [\[Rochdale one of 137 local authorities to have no more than 10 charging points for electric cars\]](https://www.rochdaleonline.co.uk/news-features/2/news-headlines/127100/rochdale-one-of-137-local-authorities-to-have-no-more-than-10-charging-points-for-electric-cars)(<https://www.rochdaleonline.co.uk/news-features/2/news-headlines/127100/rochdale-one-of-137-local-authorities-to-have-no-more-than-10-charging-points-for-electric-cars>) *5 April 2019*

23 * Stourbridge News: [\[Dudley falls short on electric car charging points\]](https://www.stourbridgenews.co.uk/news/17554684/dudley-falls-short-on-electric-car-charging-points)
(<https://www.stourbridgenews.co.uk/news/17554684/dudley-falls-short-on-electric-car-charging-points>)