

# Use of EV charging stations in B.C. doubles: report



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Metro



Environment Minister Terry Lake demonstrates electric vehicle charging station outside Science World. Photo by Jennifer Gauthier/Metro

The use of public electric vehicle charging stations has doubled in just a year, according to a new report.

The Fraser Basin Council and BC Hydro subsidiary Powertech Labs have been tracking more than 350 of the province's 550 public charging stations and saw a 120 per cent increase in use in August 2014 over the same month last year, 3,745 charging sessions from 1,684.

Overall, there have been over 40,000 charging session reported throughout B.C. since the stations went operational in mid-2013.

Use at individual stations varies greatly, however.

While stations owned by Shape Property Management – in high-traffic areas such as Jericho Village in Vancouver and Brentwood and Lougheed Town Centre malls – see an average of 50 charges a week or more, other stations may only have one or two people plugging in their vehicles in a week.

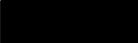
The authors of the report say that is to be expected.

“The first electric car rolled out in B.C. just two years ago. There are now about 1,300 on the road and the numbers are growing steadily,” said Jim Vanderwal, senior program manager at Fraser Basin Council, in a statement. “We expect all station to see more use by the business travelers, tourists and local residents over the next few years as the EV market expands.”

The use of the stations will continue to be tracked over the next several years.

The daily and historical charge event data has been posted online for the public to see at the evCloud website, [www.fleetcarma.com/evcloud](http://www.fleetcarma.com/evcloud) (<https://www.fleetcarma.com/evcloud>).

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