



Fact Sheet

California Environmental Protection Agency

Air Resources Board

The Environmental Performance Label – Coming Soon to California Vehicles

Soon it will be easy to determine how each car rates when it comes to air pollution. That is because all new cars beginning with the 2009 model year are required to display a new Environmental Performance (EP) label. The EP label scores a vehicle's Global Warming and Smog emissions from 1-10 with the HIGHEST scores being the cleanest vehicle options.

Two scores are provided on the EP label, a Smog Score and a Global Warming Score – each having unique environmental impacts. The Smog Score is based on the smog forming emissions from the vehicle's operation. The Global Warming Score reflects the emissions of greenhouse gases from the vehicle's operation and fuel production. The average new car will score 5 on both scales.

Although the Air Resources Board (ARB) tightly controls emissions from cars, making them significantly cleaner today than they were in the past, it is important to recognize that emission levels will still vary between vehicles due to differences in emissions standards and emission reduction technologies.

Environmental Performance label scores of 1-10 represent the entire range of emissions over all vehicle classes and sizes. These scores allow consumers to learn how vehicle emissions can have a drastic range, even within the same vehicle class. As a consumer, the Environmental Performance label can be an important tool in comparing vehicles and choosing the cleanest option in any vehicle category. So, protect the environment, choose vehicles with higher scores.

