

Weakened gas mileage rules mean weaker fuel savings for consumers

CR Consumer Reports®

March 2020

Automakers agreed to emissions standards that benefit both car companies and consumers and are set to continue through 2025.

BETTER FUEL ECONOMY SAVES MONEY

TARGETS ARE ACHIEVABLE:

Meeting the 2025 standards will come primarily from improvements to gasoline-powered vehicles, requiring very modest sales of hybrids and electric vehicles (EVs).

Average Vehicle

29 mpg in 2020 37 mpg by 2025



TARGETS ARE FLEXIBLE:

If consumers buy larger vehicles, automakers have easier fuel efficiency targets:



SUVs/trucks

32 mpg by 2025

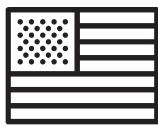


Cars

44 mpg by 2025

73%

of Americans agree that the federal government should be setting higher standards for vehicle efficiency.



HOW CONSUMERS BENEFIT FROM FUEL-SAVING TECHNOLOGY:

$$\boxed{\$} \text{ } \$1 \text{ tech investment} = \boxed{\$} \text{ } \$3 \text{ fuel savings}$$

Fuel-saving innovations provide a terrific 3-to-1 return on investment.

Rolling back federal fuel economy and emissions standards would cost consumers billions of dollars.

A ROLLBACK COSTS CONSUMERS

On average **\$2100 MORE** per vehicle.

That's at least

\$300 billion in **additional** costs.

70%

of the cost of weaker standards will fall on pickup truck and SUV buyers.



Drivers **lose money** if fuel economy standards are weakened



Annual fuel economy improvement required

How investing in fuel economy technology saves consumers money and improves highway safety:



Step 1 Most new vehicle buyers finance their purchase, so consumers start saving money in the very first month of ownership as the **fuel savings are greater than the difference in monthly payment.**



Step 2 Consumers' net savings from better fuel economy puts money in their pockets and increases consumer spending, resulting in **higher vehicle sales.**



Step 3 Higher sales of new vehicles means improved highway safety, because new cars are **more likely to have advanced safety features** (like blind-spot warning and automatic emergency braking).



Step 4 So as consumers replace older vehicles with newer vehicles, **consumers save money and get safer vehicles.**

USED CAR OWNERS BENEFIT FROM STRONG STANDARDS

73%

Used vehicles make up 73% of all annual car and truck sales in U.S.

The **positive effects** of strong fuel economy standards will be **long lasting**, because fuel-saving technologies installed today eventually make their way to the used car market.

About half of the benefits of fuel-saving technology implemented today will be experienced by used car buyers.

A ROLBACK WOULD HARM USED CAR BUYERS OVER THE LONG-TERM

Used car buyers are choosing among vehicles already on the road. **Rolling back** fuel efficiency standards today restricts used car buyers to **fewer fuel efficient vehicle choices available** far into the future.

Furthermore, low-income consumers spend up to

5x

higher a percentage of their income on fuel costs compared to high-income consumers.

Learn more at
ConsumerReports.org/Advocacy