

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 6TH JULY 2026



Zapmap statistics for H1 2026 reveal evolving shape of charging infrastructure

- **Growth bias towards high-powered and en-route charging**
- **108 additional charging hubs since the start of the year**
- **Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure contract awards a continued focus**

Zapmap, the UK's leading charge point mapping service, has published new statistics on public EV charger installations in the first half of 2026.

The figures taken from the Zapmap platform at the end of June 2026 show 5,119 new EV chargers* were installed in the first half of 2026. The EV charging infrastructure now encompasses 121,171 EV chargers at 46,731 locations representing a year-on-year increase of 10%.

Across different power bands and charging location categories spanning en-route, destination and on-street charging, this growth picture reveals a developing focus on two key areas: meeting the needs of the next wave of EV drivers, who may not have off-street parking, and providing high-powered charging throughout the strategic road network to support longer journeys.

On-street charging, designed for overnight or full-day use, and aimed at drivers who wish to charge close to home but do not have off-street parking, has seen the highest year-on-year growth at 18%. This use case now accounts for 39,859 EV chargers.

En-route locations, designed for drivers looking to recharge their vehicle as quickly as possible on longer journeys, now extends to 13,711 EV chargers and has grown 15.2% year-on-year.

The number of charging hubs across the country (defined as eight or more Rapid or Ultra-rapid EV chargers at a single location**) now stands at 1,034, with 108 of them being added to the Zapmap database in the first half of 2026.

In parallel, the highest power-band growth continues to be seen in Ultra-rapid chargers delivering charging speeds of 150kW and above, which have seen 37% year-on-year growth. There are now 13,996 EV chargers in this power band, while Rapid chargers continue to see the lowest growth rate of all power bands, as devices are upgraded to higher power ratings with the potential to deliver a faster charging experience for EV drivers.

Significant new hubs since Zapmap's last quarterly update include:

- GRIDSERVE announced the opening of its latest Electric Super Hub at Moto Lymm Services on the M6, comprising 24 Ultra-rapid chargers.
- GRIDSERVE also expanded its hubs at Cobham (M25 J9/10) and Peterborough (A1(M) J17) Extra MSA services, adding 42 extra Ultra-rapid chargers between the two sites.
- Osprey opened a new site at Lidl Belshill, Glasgow, situated on the A725, M74 and M8 and providing Ultra-rapid charging for 16 EVs.
- Fastned opened a new hub in Hemel Hempstead, comprising eight Ultra-rapid and two Rapid EV chargers.
- Working in partnership with Places for London, Fastned also delivered Ultra-rapid charging for 12 cars at Hatton Cross underground station, ideally situated for easy access from Heathrow Airport, the M25, M4 and A30.
- Source EV opened its charging hub featuring ten 150kW Ultra-rapid chargers at Edinburgh Business Park, an area which is expanding into a mixed use business / retail / residential location.

Destination charging, where people charge when stopped, rather than stopping to charge, covers several use cases, from retail sites through gyms and restaurants to theme parks. This category now extends to 62,609 EV chargers***, representing 5.7% year-on-year growth. Whilst <50KW chargers form the majority here, for those cases

with a sub-four hour dwell time, there is a trend towards installing more high-powered chargers, further supporting the strong growth in Ultra-rapid charging provision.

Developments over the past quarter include:

- RAW Charging installed charging provision at three retail sites: Cardigan Fields in Leeds, as part of its partnership with Landsec, featuring 12 Ultra-rapid chargers combined with 14 Standard Plus and six Rapid chargers, Leamington Shopping Park, with six Standard Plus and 11 Ultra-rapid EV chargers and Bagshot Park retail site, providing eight Ultra-rapid chargers for shoppers, while also convenient for travellers along the A30 and M3.
- In a busy quarter, RAW Charging also partnered with B&Q to provide charging at 26 of its retail sites, with installations already live at B&Q stores in Cheltenham, Sidcup, Boston, Stanmore and Galashiels.
- Believ partnered with Mitchells & Butlers to deliver EV charging infrastructure across 65 hospitality venues across the UK.
- Roam Charging announced a new partnership with Hand Picked Hotels to deploy charging infrastructure across its portfolio of luxury country house hotels and coastal resorts.
- Zest opened new charging facilities comprising six 120kW EV chargers at the Starbucks and Wendy's drive-thru stores at Croft Retail Park in Bromborough, in partnership with franchise operator Café Fortune.

As EV adoption expands into the c.40 % of UK households without off-street parking, on-street charging is set to grow significantly. The majority of local authorities and combined authorities have now received allocations from the LEVI (Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure) fund, although many are still at the tender, commercial contract and planning phases. While this use case has seen the highest recent year-on-year growth, we are likely to see further acceleration as contracts translate into chargers in the ground.

LEVI contract announcements over the past quarter include:

- char.gy will deliver a rollout of over 1,500 public EV chargers across the Isle of Wight, backed by £1.625 million of LEVI funding.
- char.gy has also been selected by Reading Borough Council to deliver its LEVI infrastructure, with plans for 2,600 chargers around the borough.

- Thurrock Council awarded Zest a contract to deliver up to 4,046 public EV chargers across the borough.
- Believ partnered with Hertfordshire County Council to deliver up to 3,974 Standard Plus chargers and 248 Rapid chargers across Dacorum, Hertsmere, Three Rivers and Watford, backed by £2.1m of LEVI funding.
- Hampshire County Council also selected Believ to deliver possibly the biggest LEVI contract signed to date, bringing 17,180 public EV chargers to the county supported by £6.6m of public funding.
- Connected Kerb and EZ-Charge were selected by Oxfordshire Council to deliver an additional 1,500 chargers throughout the county.

Simultaneously, Zapmap's statistics show progress in the regional distribution of high-powered chargers this year: nine out of 12 geographical areas of the UK now have over 2,000 50kW+ chargers and four of those have over 3,000. Of particular note, Northern Ireland (24%), the North West (22%) and East of England (22%), are the regions with the strongest year-to-date growth in high-powered chargers.

Melanie Shufflebotham, Co-founder & COO at Zapmap, said:

“At a time of so much activity in the charging industry, it seems counterintuitive that the growth of the charging infrastructure is lower than we have been used to over the past couple of years. This shifting growth landscape reflects a transition from the rush to secure prime locations into the next phase of development, combining more considered expansion and a growing number of network mergers and acquisitions. Charge point operators are learning and focusing on what the data shows about EV driver preferences and usage patterns and we're seeing this reflected in the numbers.”

Jade Edwards, Head of Insights at Zapmap, said:

“The growing focus of charge point operators on utilisation rather than primarily on deployment will ultimately be good news for EV drivers, ensuring that the right chargers are installed in the right locations. Ever-increasing charger power is a story we've seen unfolding over the past twelve months, opening up the potential for faster charging sessions and therefore increased usage across the same number of EV chargers.”

“Meanwhile, several factors are driving shorter term data fluctuations: network operators are responding to Public Charge Point Regulations by tightening up the quality of data flowing into eMSPs like Zapmap, poorly performing chargers are taken out of public use, , while other chargers temporarily drop out of view while transferring from one back office or network to another.”

- ENDS -

Notes:

*From February 2026, Zapmap switched to using EV chargers (EVSE) as our lead metric in infrastructure stats, to align with changes in the way that the DfT now reports official public charging infrastructure statistics. Power band descriptors have also been updated, with ‘Slow’ and ‘Fast’ becoming ‘Standard’ and ‘Standard plus’, providing more intuitive language for EV drivers and a better reflection of the charging experience. A full explanation of these changes can be found on our [EV charging statistics](#) page.

**The way Zapmap categorises EV charging hubs has also changed in line with the above, meaning that counts may not align with figures published prior to February 2026.

***A small number of chargers on the Zapmap database fall into an ‘other’ category, meaning that the sum of en-route, destination and on-street chargers will fall short of the total overall EV charger count reported.

About Zapmap

Zapmap was founded in 2014 with a mission to to accelerate the transition to low emission mobility by helping people switch to electric vehicles. The Zapmap app helps EV drivers find and pay for public charging with confidence and has over one million registered users. This is powered by Zapmap’s charge point data with unrivalled coverage, detailed information and 24/7 live availability data.

An integral part of supporting the wider EV industry, Zapmap Insights is the leading source of EV charging data and insights, providing unrivalled data and expert analysis into the shape and usage of EV charging infrastructure, as well as the attitudes and behaviours of EV drivers.

For more information, please visit www.zapmap.com.

Accompanying graphic: Growth of EV chargers: June 2026 year-on-year.

1. Breakdown of EV chargers by power rating (UK)

Power rating	EV chargers end June 2025	EV chargers end June 2026	YOY growth
Standard / Standard Plus (<50kW)	85,319	92,284	8.2%
Rapid (50kW - 149kW)	14,587	14,891	2.1%
Ultra-rapid (150kW+)	10,226	13,996	36.9%
Charging hubs	841	1,034	11.7%
Total	110,132	121,171	10.0%

Source: Zapmap platform, 30th June 2026

* Charging hub = eight or more Rapid or Ultra-rapid EV chargers, excludes Tesla non-public hubs

2. Breakdown of Rapid/Ultra-rapid chargers by geographical area (UK)

Region	June 2025	June 2026	YOY growth
East Midlands	1,771	2,145	21.1%
East of England	2,631	3,199	21.6%
Greater London	2,190	2,540	16.0%
North East	807	951	17.8%
North West	2,543	3,095	21.7%
N. Ireland	300	372	24.0%
Scotland	3,174	3,277	3.3%
South East	3,536	4,056	14.7%
South West	2,514	2,913	15.9%
Wales	1,175	1,364	16.1%
West Midlands	2,354	2,828	20.1%
Yorkshire and the Humber	1,818	2,147	18.1%
Total	24,813	28,887	16.4%

Source: Zapmap database, 30th June 2026

Rapid (50-149kW) and Ultra-rapid (150+kW)

Net new figures reflect the number of additions to the Zapmap platform minus those EV chargers that have been removed from the platform.

From August 2025, to align with DfT official statistics provided by Zapmap, we have excluded Channel Islands and Isle of Man from the total charger count, meaning totals in these tables may not align with previously published figures.