

EXCERPT
(from a total of ca. 210 pages)

Bidirectional Charging Study 2026

A Five-Market Customer Acceptance Study



Objective

Initial Situation:

- Bidirectional charging is currently the focus of technical development and many political discussions, with V2H, V2G and V2B gaining importance for the industry.
- As grid expansion lags behind EV growth, bidirectional charging is becoming a key enabler for further e-mobility adoption and new business models for manufacturers and energy service providers.
- With the recent German EnWG reform, the regulatory framework for V2G in Germany is finally being put into practice. First offerings are on the market.

Research Questions:

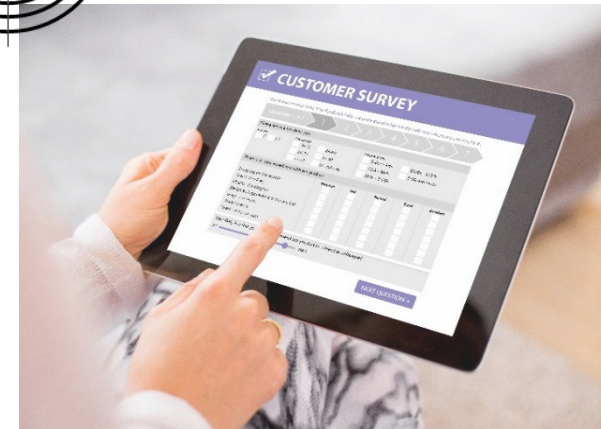
- Which use cases for bidirectional charging are convincing? What are the usage drivers and barriers from the customer's point of view? How big is the successfully addressable market?
- What is the willingness to pay for V2x components? And what is the expected remuneration?
- Who integrates whom in V2x? Who do clients trust? Which differences are to consider between target groups and different European markets?



Target group

Survey:

- Target group:
 - › Drivers of fully-electric battery cars (BEV), self-selecting sample
 - › Drivers of ICE cars, a census-based, stratified sample representative by age, gender and region
- Survey: Online survey (CAWI)
- Market: France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, UK
- Recruitment: Multiple access panels
- Length of interview: 15 min
- Field phase: February 2026



Sample

- Total sample: N = 11,177, thereof: N = 4,505 BEV driver, N = 6,672 ICE driver
of which:
 - Germany: N = 885 (BEV), N = 1,284 (ICE)
 - UK: N = 984 (BEV), N = 1,242 (ICE)
 - France: N = 876 (BEV), N = 1,591 (ICE)
 - Netherlands: N = 895 (BEV), N = 1,304 (ICE)
 - Sweden: N = 865 (BEV), N = 1,251 (ICE)

Target group segmentation: BEV adopter segments

The study differentiates between three adopter segments in order to identify trends.

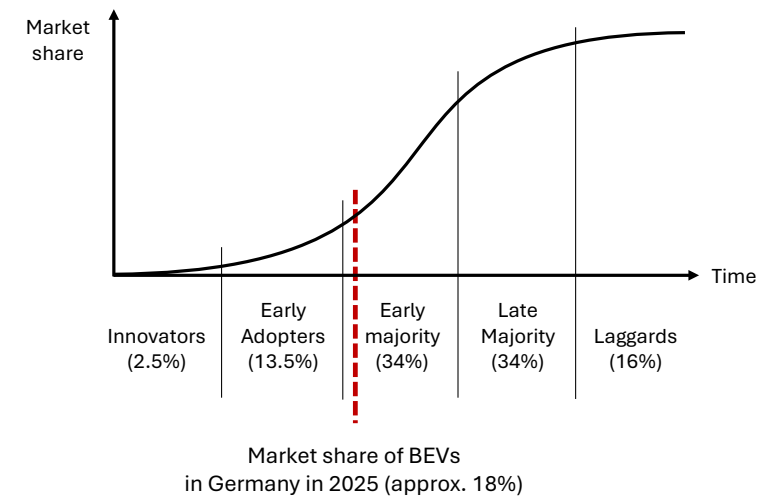
BEV driver segmentation:

- The best-known model for the ramp-up of innovations segments adopters according to the time of conversion (figure). It assumes (simplistically) that the time of adoption correlates with motivation. (Criticism: Many EV enthusiasts switch later due to the usually long car ownership periods.)
- This study therefore distinguishes between the date on which respondents registered their first own EV. This results in three segments:

EV Pioneers	EV Regulars	EV Newbies
> 3 years experience	2 to 3 years of experience	< 2 years experience

If the results differ, this indicates a trend.

Segments in the ramp-up of electric mobility*:



* The classification shown is based on Everett Rogers' diffusion model ([LINK](#)).

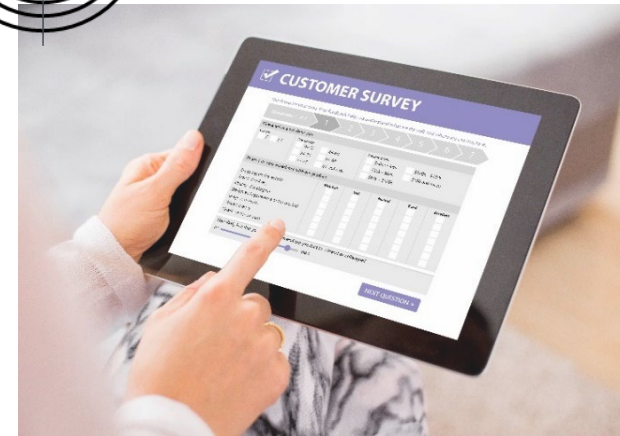
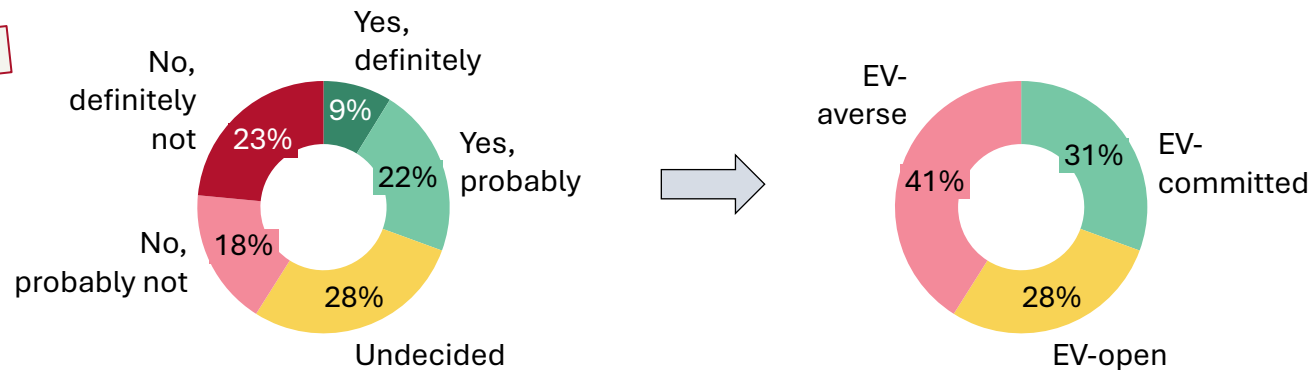
Target group segmentation: ICE adopter segments

The study differentiates between three EV adopter segments among ICE drivers in order to segment respondents and enable projections.

ICE driver segmentation:

In order to gauge the interest of future EV adopter segments in V2X, stratified ICE drivers were surveyed as well. Respondents were segmented according to their openness to purchase a BEV as their next vehicle.

Interest in a BEV*:



* "If you had to buy a car now, would you buy an electric car?"

Dashboard for individual analyses

Deep dives into individual subgroups.

Only selected splits are shown in this document.

The associated dashboard allows splits according to any other variables.

To log in, please contact your USCALE representative.

Example



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- ▶ **1. Management summary**
- 2. Target group
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Management summary

- 1. **Executive Summary** highlights the key findings of the study, including the potential for bidirectional charging to reduce grid congestion and improve energy efficiency. It also outlines the main recommendations for policy and industry action.
- 2. **Introduction** provides an overview of the study's objectives and the context of bidirectional charging in the UK electricity market. It discusses the challenges of peak demand and the potential of EVs to provide flexible capacity.
- 3. **Methodology** describes the data sources and models used in the study, including the UK electricity demand forecast and the EV fleet projections. It also details the assumptions made for EV charging patterns and the value of flexibility.
- 4. **Results** presents the key findings of the study, including the potential for bidirectional charging to reduce peak demand by up to 10% and to reduce overall electricity costs by up to 5%. It also discusses the potential for EVs to provide ancillary services to the grid.
- 5. **Conclusions** summarizes the main findings and provides recommendations for policy and industry action. It highlights the need for a coordinated approach to the deployment of bidirectional charging and the need for clear rules and incentives.
- 6. **Appendix** provides additional information and data to support the findings of the study, including detailed results from the models and a list of references.

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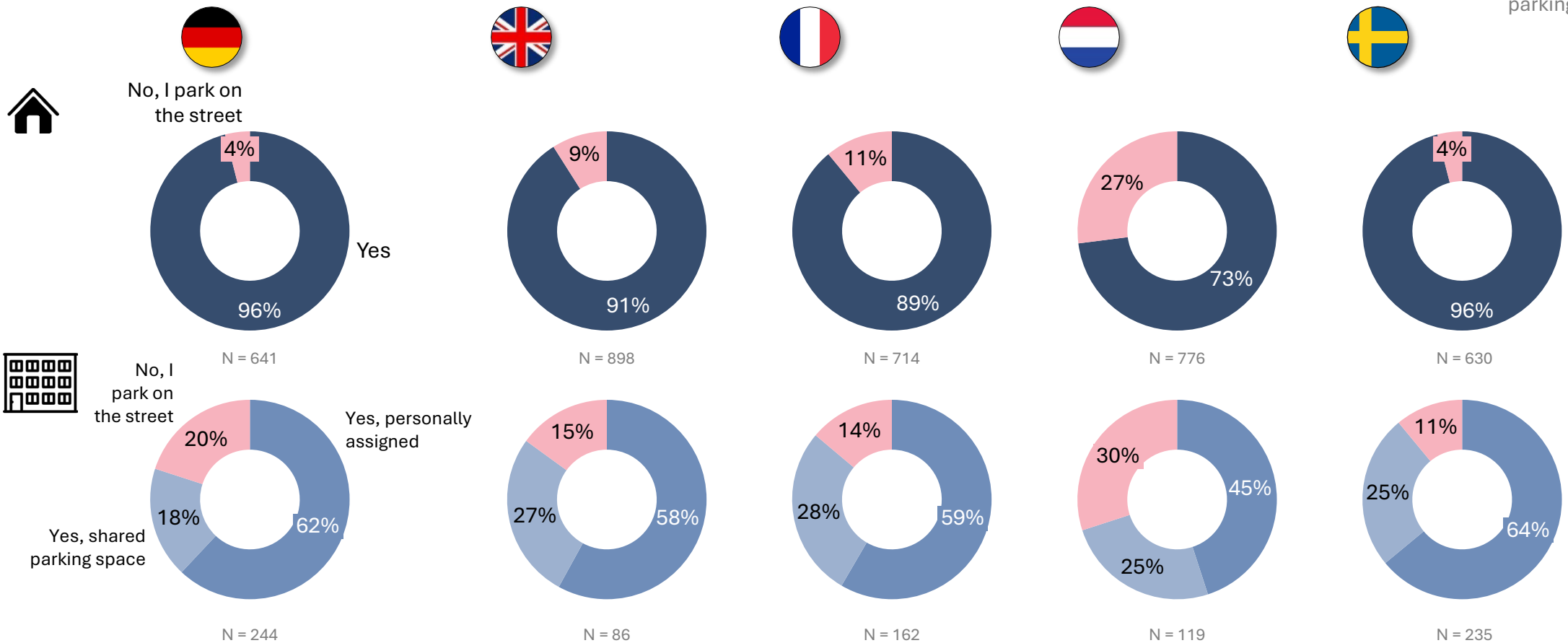
Demographics and living situation

Parking situation

The vast majority of EV drivers have their own parking space at home.

BEV

"Do you have a private parking space?"



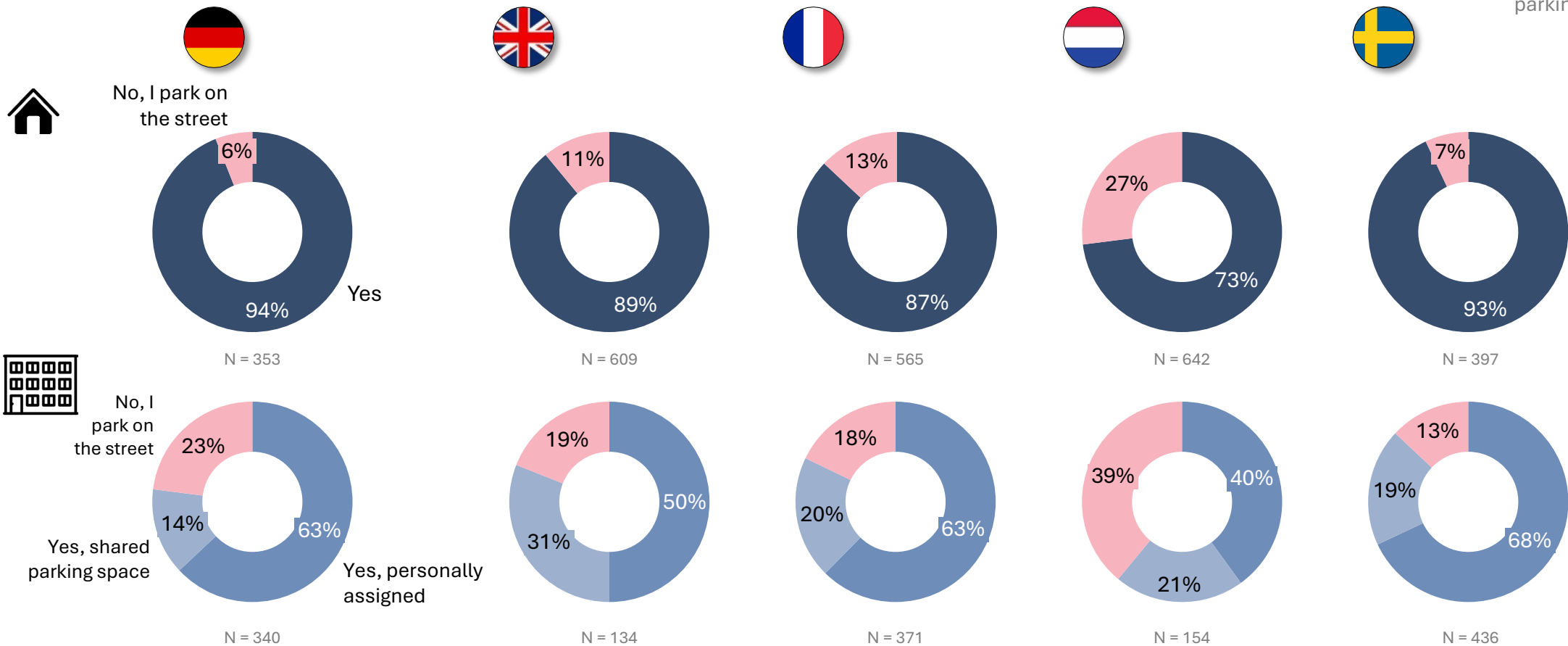
Demographics and living situation

Parking situation

Also, the vast majority of ICE drivers have their own parking space at home.

ICE

"Do you have a private parking space?"



Demographics and living situation

Parking time weekdays

BEV

Private parking space location = directly/near my property/building:

"During the week:

When is your car parked at home in a parking space?"

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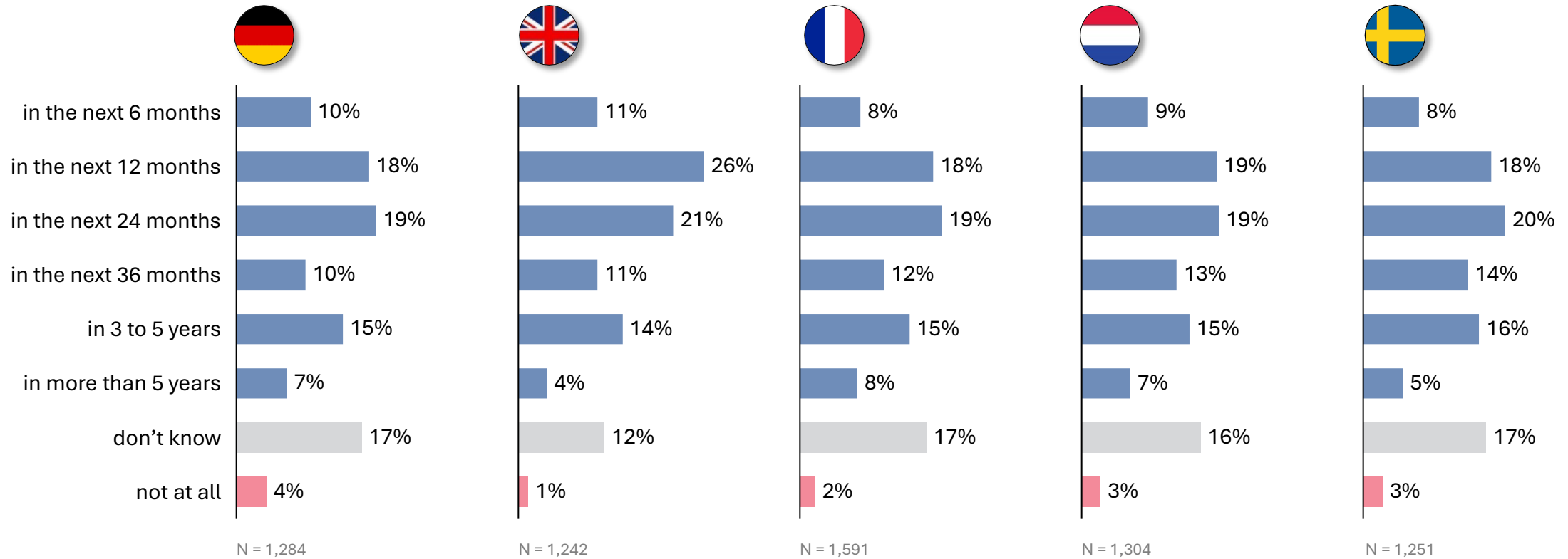
ICE drivers reference group

Next car purchase

Just under half of combustion engine drivers surveyed plan to buy their next (new or used) car in the next 24 months.

ICE

"When do you expect to buy your next car?"



ICE drivers reference group

EV purchase intent

ICE

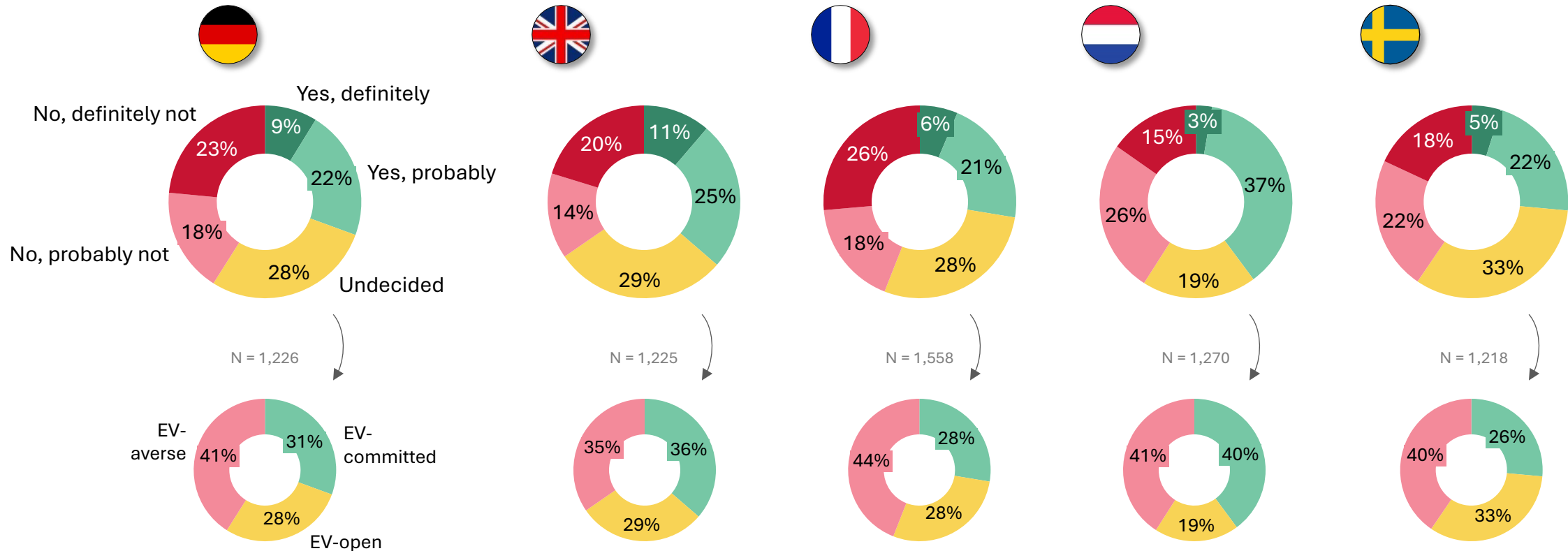
Just around one third of those surveyed would consider a BEV. The number is slightly higher in the Netherlands. For further analysis, the respondents are split into three EV adoption segments (EV-committed, EV-open, EV-averse).

Next purchase ≠ not at all:

"If you had to buy a car now:

Would you buy an electric car?"

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Intro to bidirectional charging

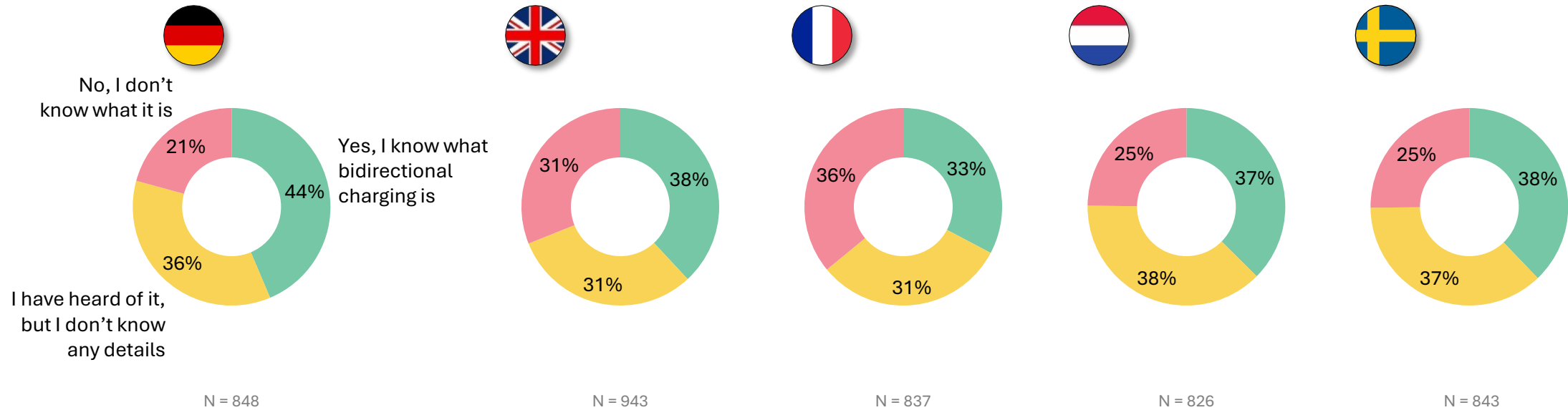
Familiarity with bidirectional charging

BEV

A solid one third of BEV drivers are familiar with the concept of bidirectional charging. Another strong third have at least heard of it.

"In the context of electric cars, "bidirectional charging" is often mentioned. Have you ever heard of it?"

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Intro to bidirectional charging

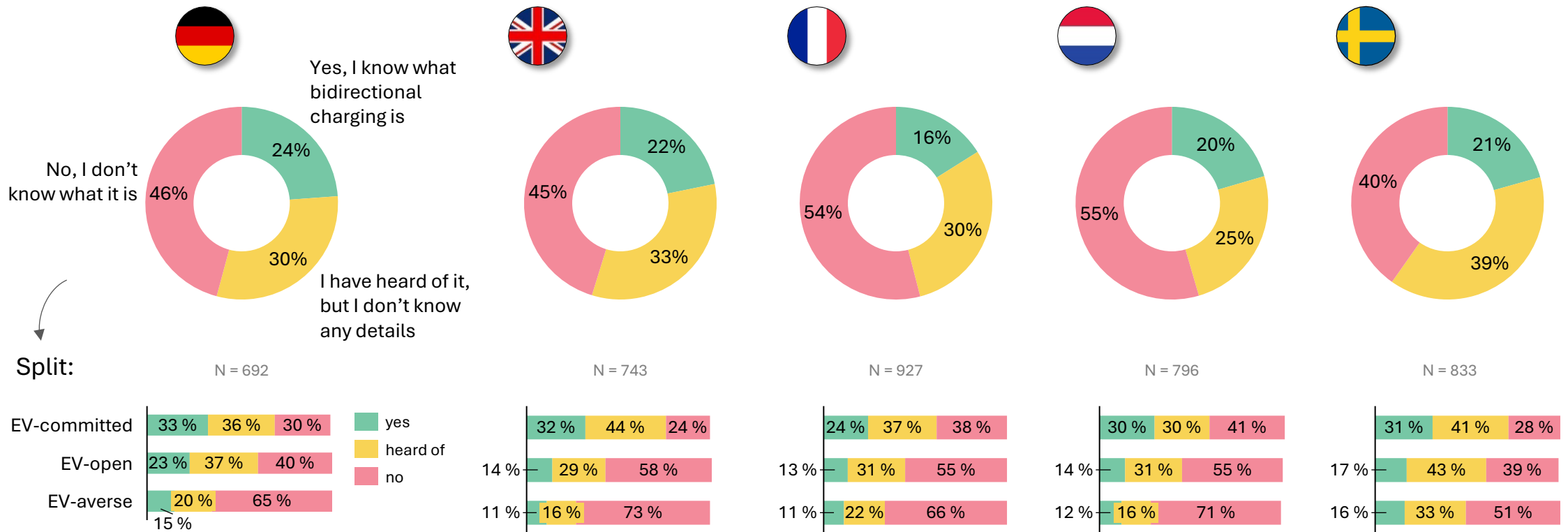
Familiarity with bidirectional charging

ICE

As expected, the share of ICE drivers who are familiar with the bidirectional charging concept is lower than among BEV drivers.

"In the context of electric cars, "bidirectional charging" is often mentioned. Have you ever heard of it?"

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Preliminary remarks on the “vehicle-to-home” use case

In order to obtain as differentiated answers as possible on the various applications of bidirectional charging, the respondents were divided among the three applications

- Vehicle-to-Home
- Vehicle-to-Grid and
- Vehicle-to-building (at work)

As an introduction, all respondents were given an explanatory text on the topic of bidirectional charging.

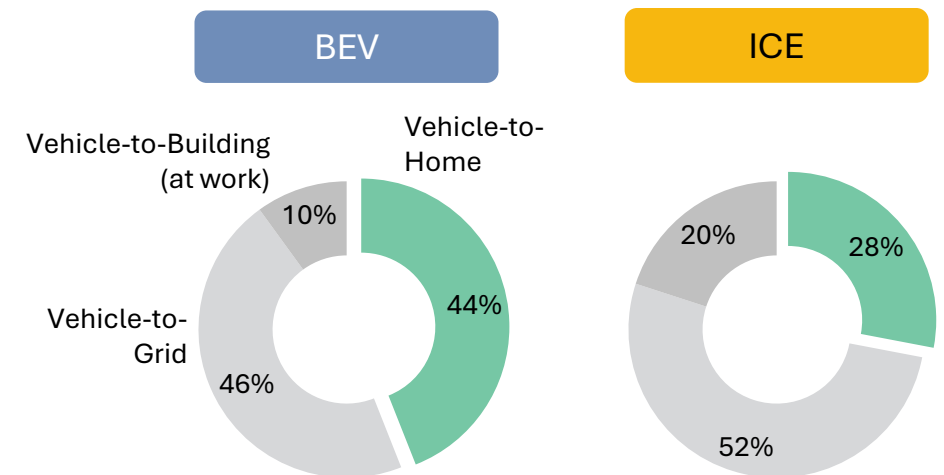
"In the following, we would like to hear your opinion on bidirectional charging.

- *Bidirectional charging means that your EV not only charges electricity but can also supply electricity to your home or the grid, for example.*
- *This means that your car can absorb energy when the sun is shining, the wind is blowing or demand is low, i.e. when electricity is available at a much lower price.*
- *When needed, your car transfers energy to your home or the public grid."*

In order to give respondents a better understanding of the various use cases, the survey provided a more detailed explanation of each use case. The explanatory text for vehicle-to-home was as follows:

"With vehicle-to-home, your car becomes a kind of large power bank for your home. The car can then supply electricity to your home when needed. You specify in the app when you want to leave, and the control system ensures that you always have enough electricity in your car to drive."

Breakdown of respondents into use cases:



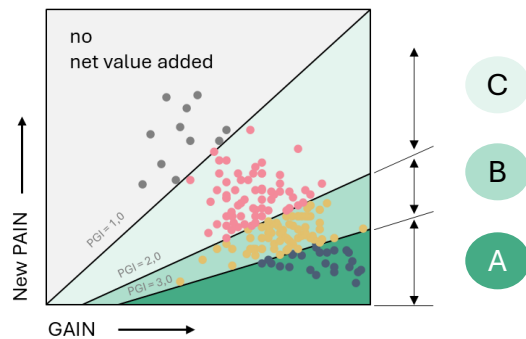
Research methodology: measuring product-market fit

An innovation solves a pain point and/or creates gain. At the same time, it always introduces new pain. Whether the product-market fit of an innovative offering is attractive to a target group depends on the ratio between the gain and the new pain.

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1 Identify gains and new pain, determine net value added

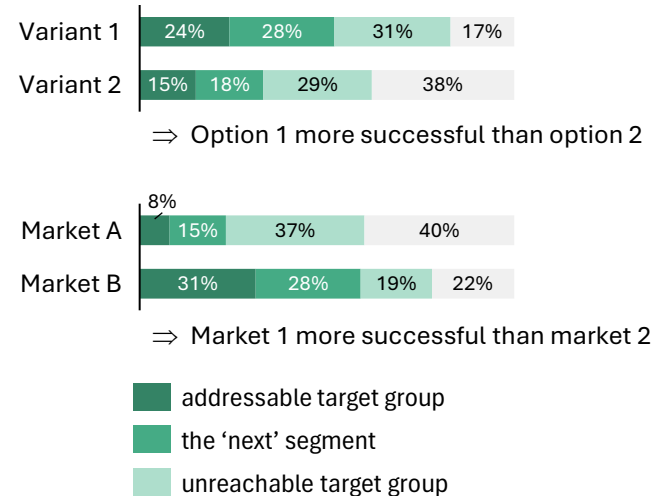
Determine net value added from gains and new pains seen by the target group:



- C** Low net value added = unreachable target group
- B** Medium net value added = the 'next' segment
- A** High net value added = addressable target group

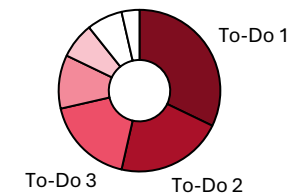
2 Identify target group with high net value added

Compare and prioritise product variants and target markets:

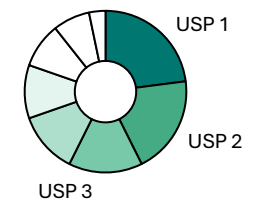


3 Optimise product-market fit

Prioritise and reduce barriers to use:



Prioritise and market usage drivers:



V2H Assessment of usage drivers and barriers

Vehicle-to-home: product-market fit

BEV

ICE

"In summary: How do you personally rate the advantages and disadvantages of vehicle-to-home?"

When the vehicle market is put to the test, the actual figures are significantly lower than the general estimate. The estimated usage grows by 10% in respondents with a net added value of over 5, or high among BEV drivers at 14 to 27%, among BEV users and BEV owners 100 drivers, it is still under 10%.



V2H Assessment of usage drivers and barriers

Vehicle-to-home: biggest usage driver

BEV

Advantage ≠ none:

"What do you think is the biggest advantage?"

What would be the greatest advantage? German, French and Swedish respondents chose the electricity supply. The British and French are especially keen on saving costs.



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V2H Assessment of usage drivers and barriers

Vehicle-to-home: biggest barriers to use

BEV

Disadvantage ≠ none:

"What do you think is the biggest disadvantage?"

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What do you think is the biggest barrier, concern about high investment costs and battery degradation and that will prevent it in all countries.



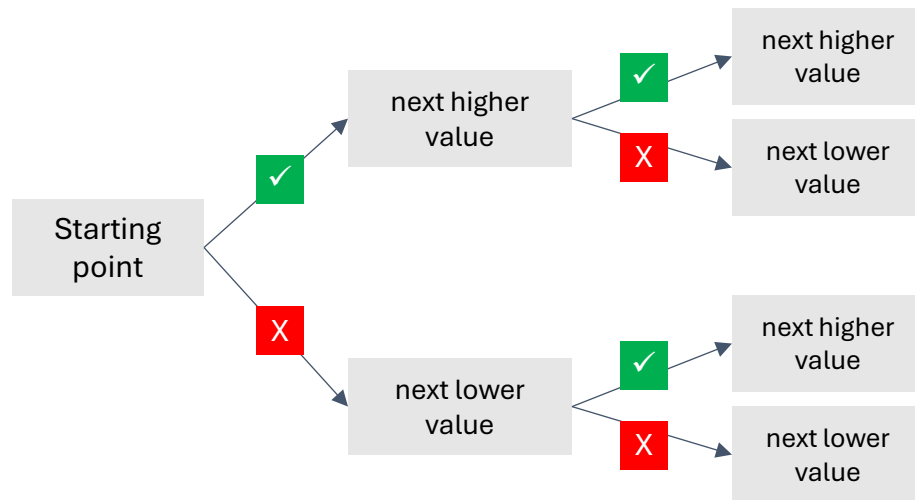
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Research methodology: willingness to invest according to Gabor-Granger

The willingness to invest is assessed using the Gabor-Granger method, a survey-based pricing technique that tests purchase intent at different price points to estimate respondents' willingness to pay and derive a demand curve.



Scheme for Gabor-Granger price ladder:

	X
	X
	Start
	X
	X

- * 16–24h: on weekdays at least once “sometimes”
- 8–16h: on weekdays at least twice “sometimes”, or once “frequently / always”
- 4–8h: all remaining cases

V2H Willingness to invest / expected returns

Willingness to invest

BEV

"Initial estimates from reputable providers suggest **potential savings of up to € 200 to € 400 per year** per household.

In your opinion, would the wall charger + special equipment for bidirectional charging be...?"

(Survey method: Gabor-Granger with starting point € 1,500)

The critical value for willingness to invest is under € 1,000. Above € 1,000, willingness to purchase declines significantly.

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V2H integration

Most important criteria for choosing a solution partner

ICE

"And what would be the most important aspect for you?"

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V2H integration

Trust in solution partners (overview)

BEV

Aspects ≠ none:

"For an integrated solution at home:
Which provider do you trust most to meet your requirements?"

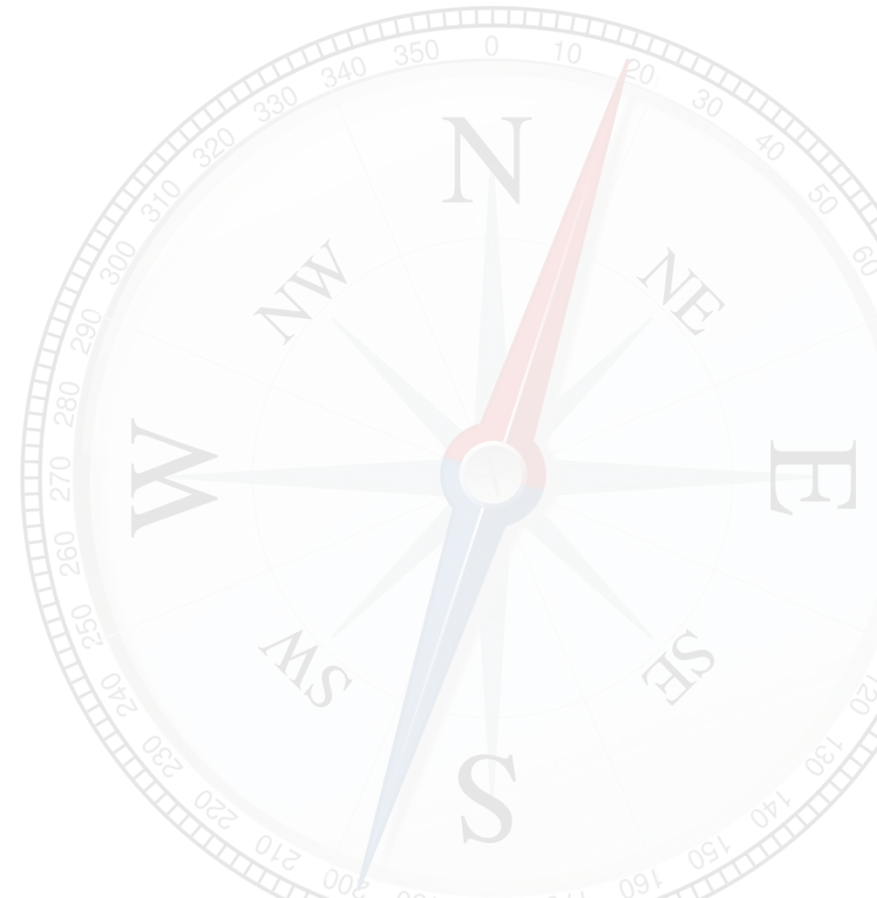
The French trust among suppliers significantly more often, in all other markets, charging technology manufacturers are most trusted. For Sweden, however, there are no levels of trust to other providers.



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V2G Expected remuneration

Expected remuneration (all markets)

The expected remuneration depends on the peak time of the charge. On average, the expected average remuneration after a conversion of 100% of the BEV energy requirements.

"Let's assume that your electric car is at home for [...] hours a day and is available for vehicle-to-grid (V2G) use. You allow your utility company to use your car for V2G during this time.

How much would you need to earn annually to participate?

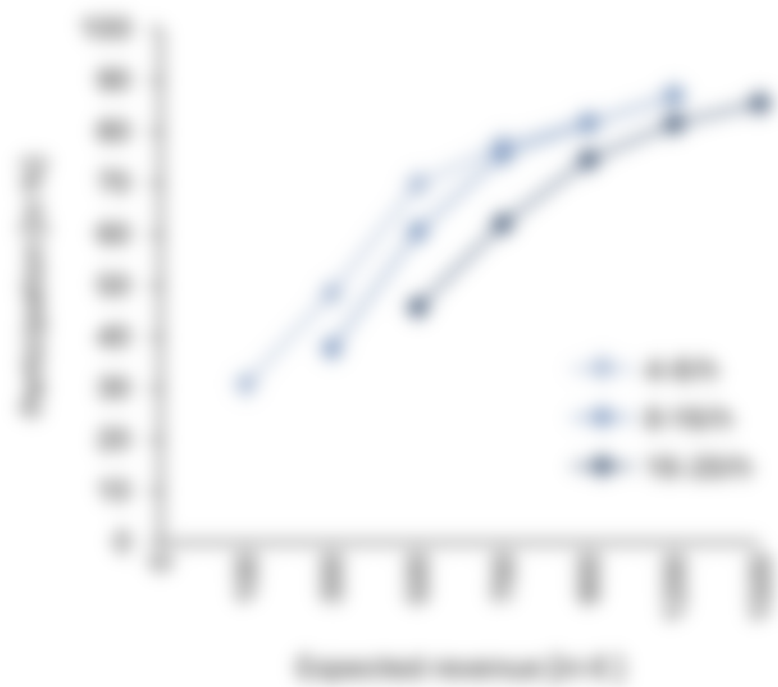
If you had your car connected for an average of [...] hours per day and the utility company paid you [Euro] per year, would you participate?

BEV

4 – 8h

8 – 16h

16 – 24h





SCALE YOUR USER
SCALE YOUR BUSINESS

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