

Mileage Estimation Program



The Automobile Club of Southern California operates the Automotive Research Center (ARC), a state-of-the art vehicle and emissions test center located in Diamond Bar, California.

ARC researchers gathered owner mileage per gallon (mpg) data from 41 vehicles, representing 18 models.

- 36 (90%) got worse in-use mpg than EPA predictions
- The average deviation from EPA ratings was 4.0 mpg (15.7%)
- 17 of these vehicles were also tested in the ARC facility (one per model)

17 vehicles were tested using the AAA recommended US06 test

- Eight got lower mpg than the US06 prediction, six vehicles showed better mpg and three matched the US06 test predictions
- The average deviation between owner mileage and US06 results was
 1.0 mpg (4.4%)

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Conclusions:

- The current tests used by EPA significantly over estimates real-world mpg
- > The US06 test is a more accurate measurement of real world mpg