

# A Reliable Muddle: Transportation Scenarios for the 80% Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goal for 2050



**California Air Resource  
Board Scenario Meeting**

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# Presentation Overview

**Intro:** Reducing LDV GHGs to 80% below 1990 levels

- Transportation sector-specific emissions data and policy concerns.

**Part 1:** Metrics for the 80% goal: **A Pyramid Framework**

- Three Metrics of the Pyramid Framework
  - **Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)**
  - **Vehicle Fuel Economy (FE)**
  - **Fuel Carbon Intensity (CI)**
- Detailed Scenarios
  - VISION tool

**Part 2:** Major LDV GHG Abatement Strategy: **A Portfolio Approach**

- Policy interactions and the technology innovation process

**Conclusion:** A multi-faceted policy and technology approach will be required to reach the 80% goal.

# Portfolio of Major Transportation Policies that Influence **VMT**, **FE** and **CI** for GHG Reductions

## VMT Reduction

- Reduce vehicle miles traveled (**VMT**) with public transportation, land-use planning, mode switching
- Also: higher fuel prices

## Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE)

- Sets an average fuel economy (**FE**) for new light duty vehicles.

## Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)

- Reduces fuel carbon intensity (**CI**) through use of biofuels.

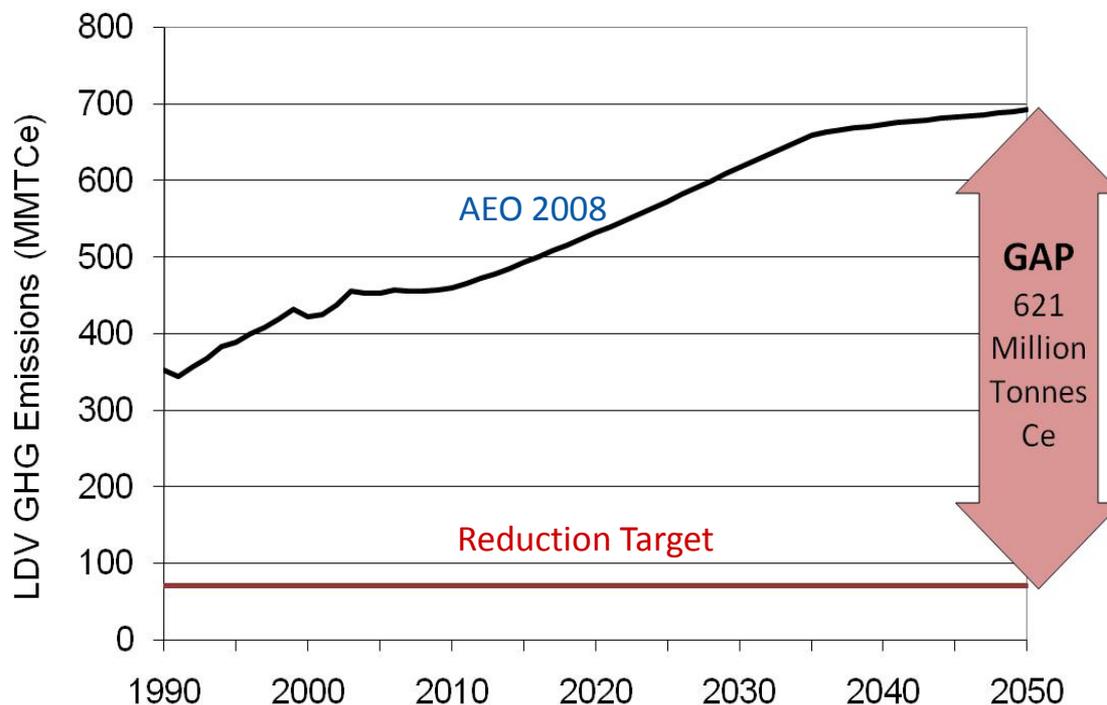
## Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS)

- Reduces fuel carbon intensity (**CI**) through use of variety of alternative fuels and vehicles.

## Zero Emission Vehicle Mandates (ZEV)

- Increases fuel economy (**FE**).

# Three Metrics Provide a Simple Conceptual Framework: Guiding Equation is $C = VMT * CI / FE$



## National Annual Energy Outlook 'Reference' Metrics for Light-Duty Vehicles

**GHGs in 2008: 455 MMTCe**

**GHGs in 2050: 692 MMTCe**



Factor Increases between 2008 & 2050

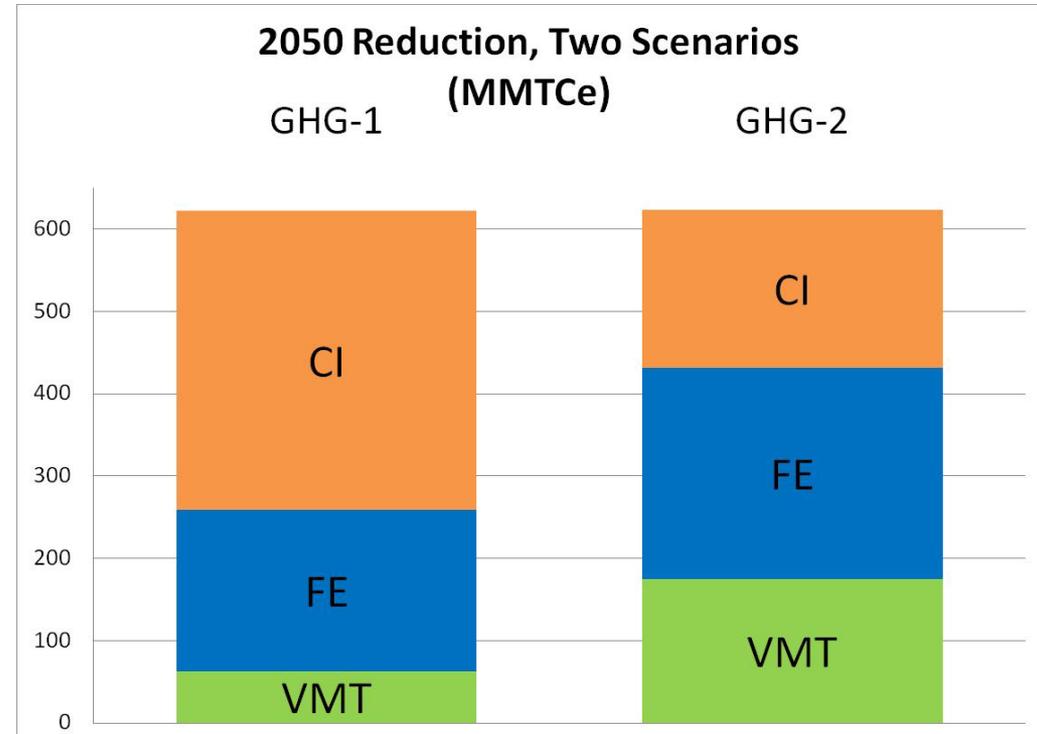
**VMT: +80%, FE: +20%, CI: -1% → GHGs: +50%**

# What GHG reductions are achievable from reducing each of the 3 metrics?

## 2 Illustrative Scenarios for the U.S.:

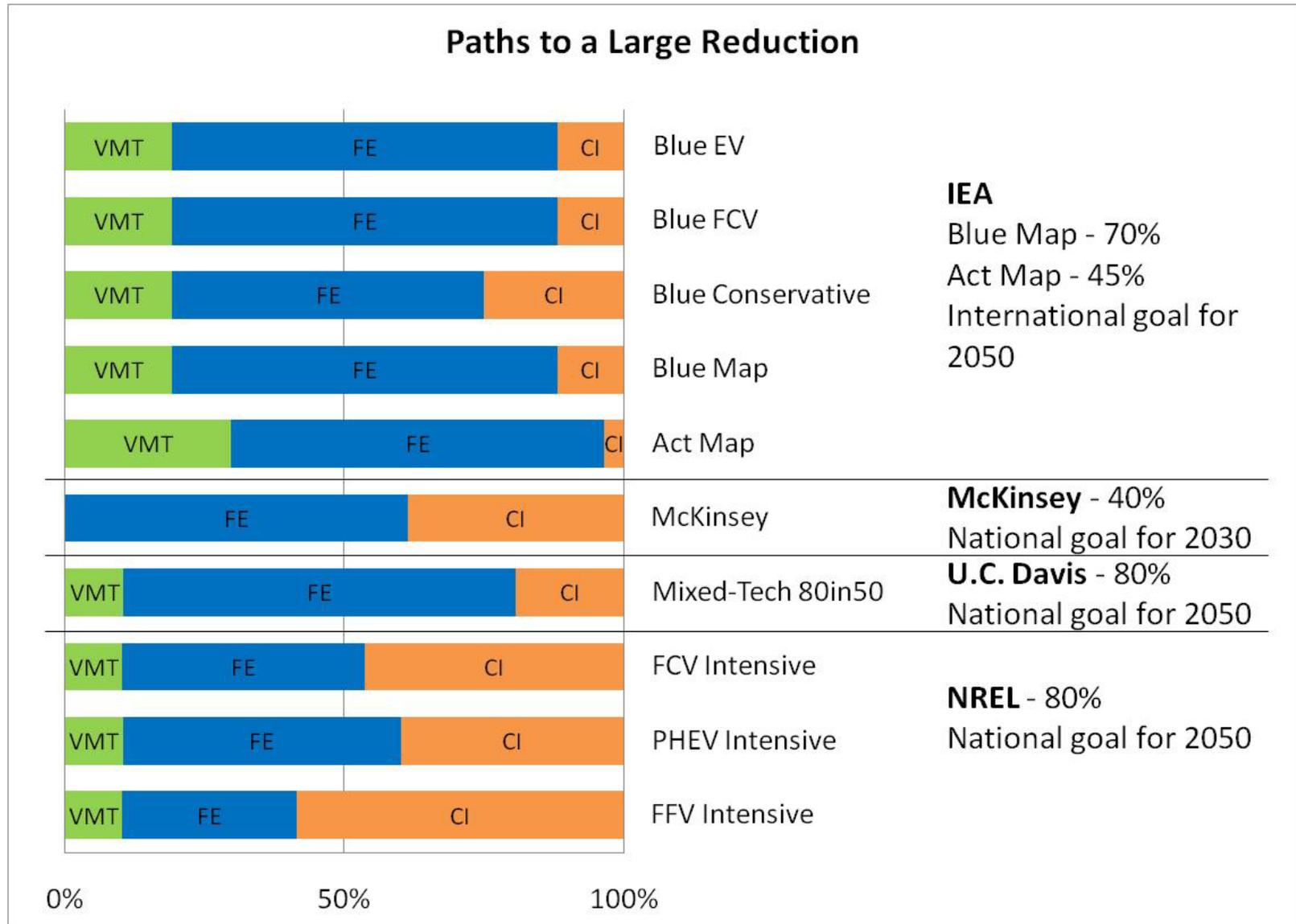
### 'GHG-1' and 'GHG-2'

- Each GHG scenario achieves the 2050 goal
- Scenarios are illustrative, not predictive
- Intent of scenarios is to demonstrate types of change needed for 80% GHG goal
- Baseline is AEO 2008.



- GHG-1:** Modest improvements in **VMT** and **FE**;  
**CI** improvements achieve remainder of 2050 goal reductions
- GHG-2:** Aggressive improvements in **VMT** and **FE**;  
**CI** improvements achieve remainder of 2050 goal reductions

# Multiple Pathways: A variety of suggestions have emerged with differing emphasis on metrics



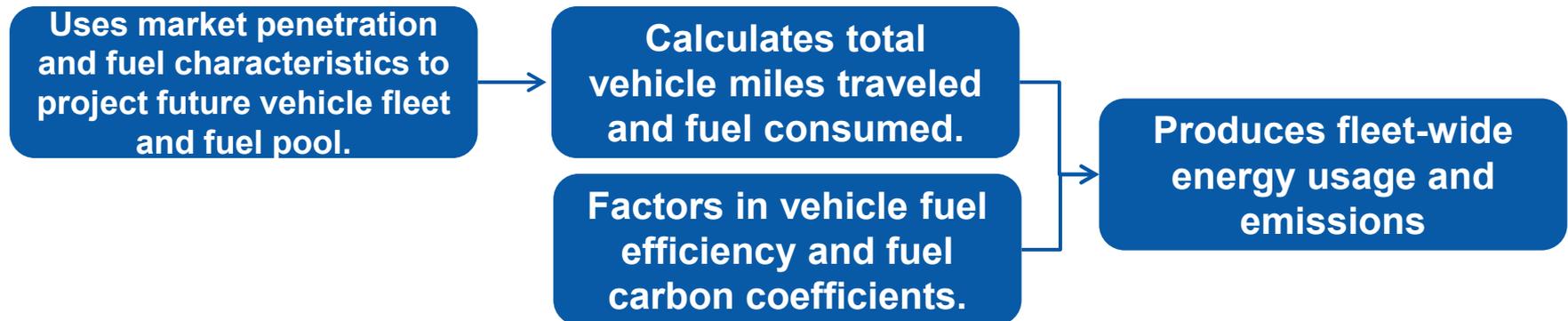
Source: DRAFT NREL Analysis

# Specific scenario characteristics can be elucidated with Argonne's VISION model.

Argonne model for estimating fleet-wide energy use, oil use and carbon emissions. Inputs include:

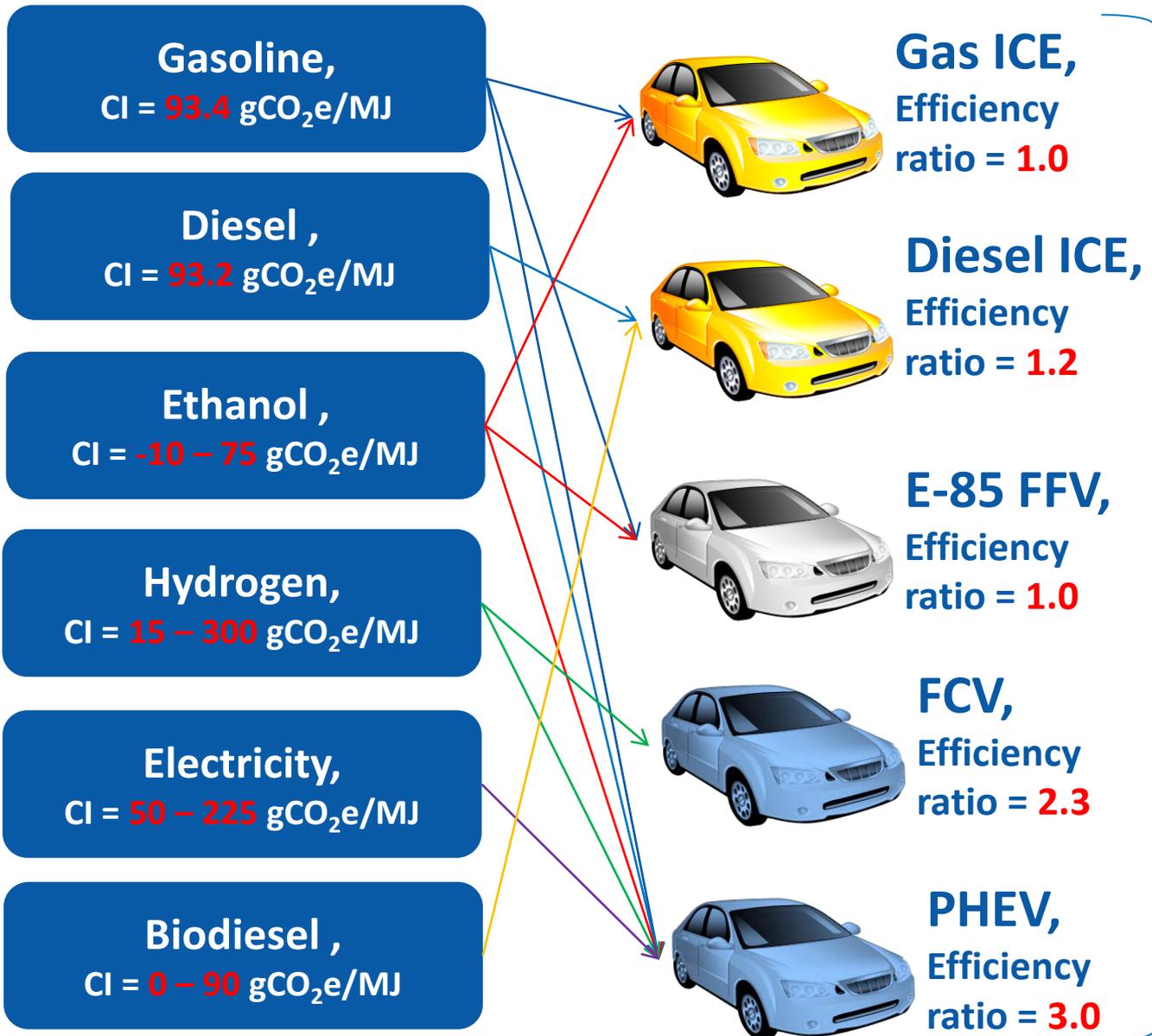
Advanced vehicle market penetration, VMT/LDV, Fuel characteristics, New car fuel efficiency, Fuel-Cycle carbon coefficients (from GREET, based on AEO)

VISION's calculations are based on vehicle survival and age-dependent vehicle usage characteristics.



Market penetration and fuel economy assumptions are determined exogenously (scenario development).

# A large number of input options are combined

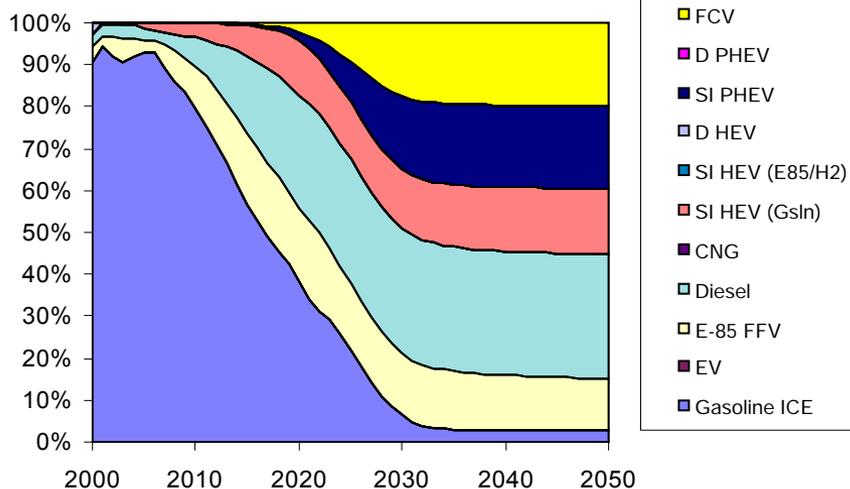


**Fleet-wide  
VMT, FE & CI**

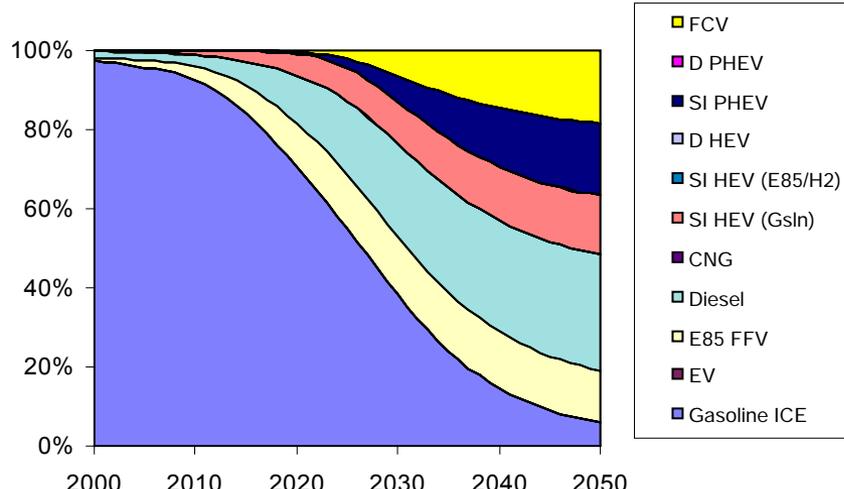


# VISION models the entire population of light-duty and heavy-duty vehicles and fuels over time.

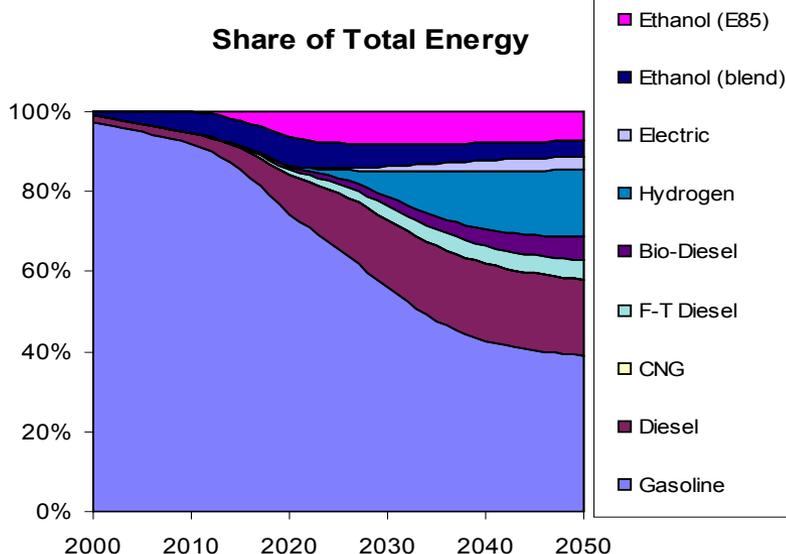
## Total Light Vehicle Market Penetration



## Total Light Vehicle Stock



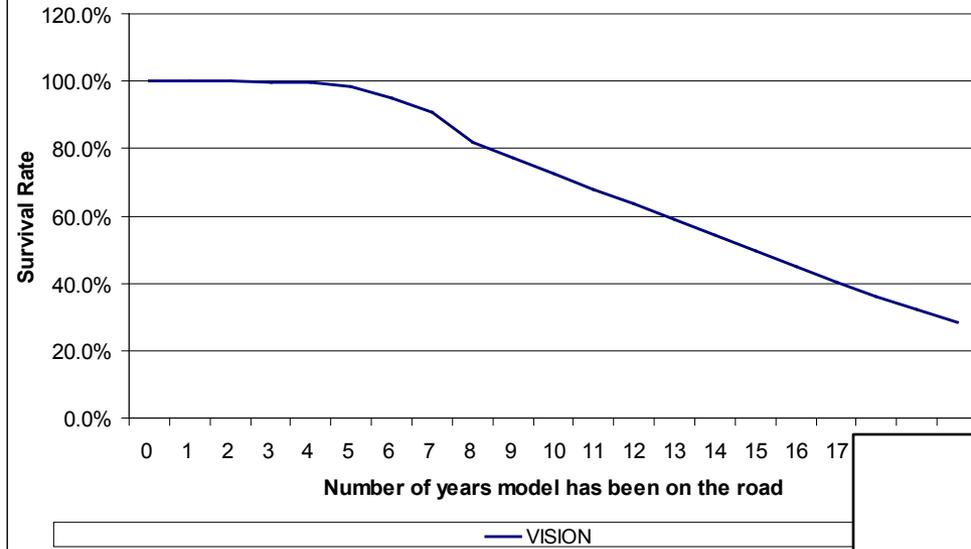
## Share of Total Energy



NOT REAL DATA – EXAMPLE ONLY

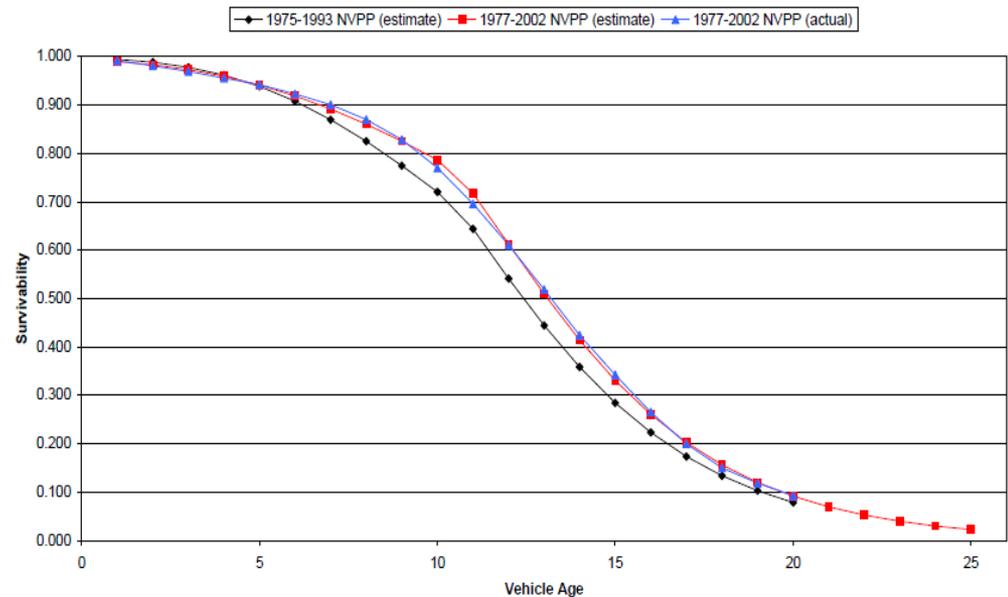
# VISION is a 'stock flow' or 'bucket' model that explicitly tracks vehicle and fuel characteristics over time.

Vehicle Survival in VISION



Source: DRAFT NREL Analysis

Passenger Car Survivability by Vehicle Age



Source: NHTSA, <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/809952.pdf>

# VISION-CI

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Modified version of the Argonne VISION model.

Incorporates fleet-wide **average fuel carbon intensity** calculations for different fuels and aggregate vehicle fleet scenarios.

Scalable for **region-specific** analyses.

Capable of storing and analyzing **multiple regions and technology scenarios**.

Currently incorporating data for California, Texas and on a national level.

A work in progress.

# Examples of Single Technology Scenarios that would fall within the GHG-2 National Compliance Pathway

## FFV fleet running on Cellulosic

VMT (billion miles) 4,621

FE (mpg) 35.1

CI (MMTCe/Quad) 4.3

Producing enough ethanol for this scenario may not be feasible. Current projection for corn stover cellulosic CI is 3.0 MMTCe/Quad

## FCV fleet running on Hydrogen

VMT (billion miles) 4,621

FE (mpg) 42.5

CI (MMTCe/Quad) 5.2

Current Projection for biomass derived hydrogen CI is 10.22 MMTCe/Quad, and for solar derived 5.67 MMTCe/Quad

## PHEV fleet running on Cellulosic Ethanol and Low-Carbon Electricity

### Cellulosic

VMT (billion miles) 2,911

FE (mpg) 29.7

CI (MMTCe/Quad) 4.3

### Low-C Electricity

VMT (billion miles) 1,710

FE (mpg) 75.2

CI (MMTCe/Quad) 11.7

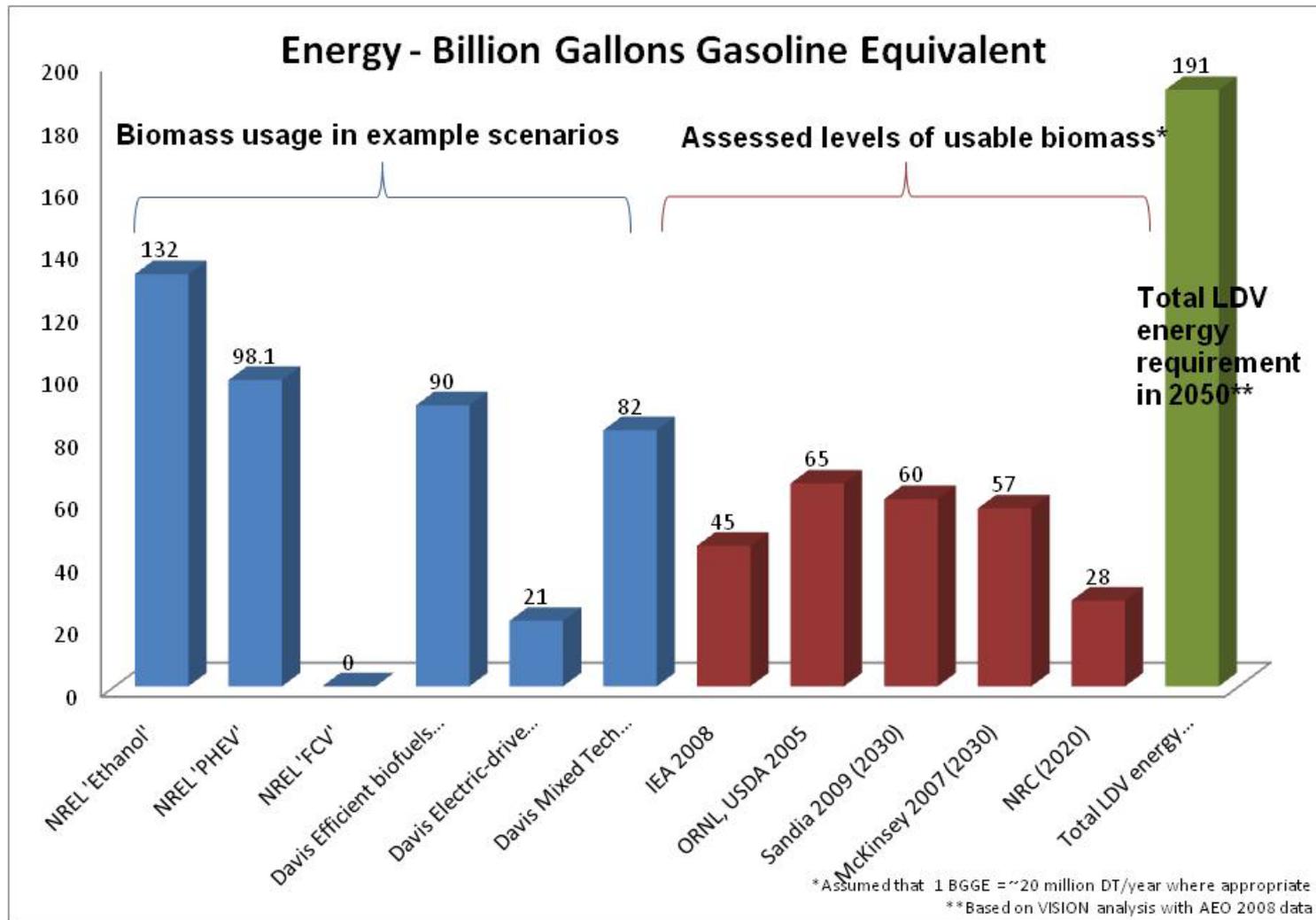
Current projection for a renewable grid CI in 2050 is 22.4 MMTCe/Quad. Assume 37% VMT on electricity.

Many different combinations of vehicles and fuels are conceivable.

**These are simplified examples of (unlikely) “silver bullet” success stories.**

# Biofuels Limitations

The amount of biofuel available for transportation is still unclear.



# Considerations

## The Transportation Sector is Unique

- Long-term support for a portfolio of transportation-specific policies is key to deep reductions in GHGs

Scenarios developed in VISION elucidate issues to be addressed for achieving 80% in 2050.

## No Silver Bullet

- Though support for specific technologies is warranted (e.g., batteries), there is no clear winner among viable long-term, low-carbon vehicle/fuel combinations
- Communication among stakeholders (e.g., autos and fuel suppliers) is key to effective alignment of more stringent policies

## Local and Regional Variability

- Due to the broad range of vehicles, fuels, market conditions, and the geographic distribution of low-carbon energy resources, policy impacts will vary from city-to-city and region-to-region

# Questions?