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BATTERY ELECTRIC

Tesla confirms Semi mass production beginning this year

Production ramps at Nevada facility as Tesla prepares for early serial builds and long-term scale-up.



Jay Traugott

Apr 23, 2026 | Updated May 11, 2026



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What you need to know:

- Tesla targets **Tesla Semi mass production in 2026** but scaling the Nevada plant toward **electric truck manufacturing capacity** remains a key challenge
- Early **EV truck output in 2026** will increase gradually before accelerating into 2027 highlighting potential **production ramp delays**
- The planned **Tesla Megacharger network** remains early stage with about 46 stations targeted by 2027 raising concerns about **electric truck charging infrastructure readiness**
- The **Megacharger deployment map** shows strong concentration in Texas and California first followed by phased expansion across major **freight corridors and logistics states**

Tesla is moving closer to large-scale production of its long-awaited battery-electric truck, the Tesla Semi.

The company has officially confirmed in its just-released [Q1 2026 report](#) that mass production of the Semi remains on track to begin this year. Preparations are currently underway at the recently completed and dedicated manufacturing facility near [Gigafactory Nevada](#), where production lines are being readied for full-scale operations.

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Recent reports suggest that Tesla expects to initiate its first "online builds"—a term referring to serial production—in the first half of 2026. The company is planning a substantial ramp-up in output during the latter half of the year, indicating confidence in both demand and manufacturing readiness.

During Tesla's Q1 earnings call, Musk stated that the company will "begin production of our semi-truck soon," while noting that manufacturing will scale gradually at first before picking up pace later in the year and continuing into 2027.

The Nevada facility has been designed with an ambitious annual production capacity of up to 50,000 trucks. If achieved, this would position Tesla as a major player in the heavy-duty trucking market, competing with both traditional diesel legacy manufacturers and emerging electric rivals.

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[Related: [First look inside Tesla's factory building the Tesla Semi](#)]

Megacharger network status

In parallel with production efforts, Tesla is also building out the infrastructure needed to support its electric fleet. The company has begun deploying its high-powered Megacharger network, tailored specifically for the Semi. [The first public Megacharging site has already been established in Southern California](#), marking an early step toward a broader nationwide rollout.

As Tesla accelerates both manufacturing and infrastructure development, the coming

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Earlier this year, [Tesla released a nationwide overview of both existing and planned Megacharger locations](#), extending beyond California to cover the broader U.S. network.

Looking more closely at the rollout map, Texas currently stands out with 19 proposed sites—the largest number in any state—while California trails closely with 17 projects underway. The distribution suggests a strategy focused on key freight-heavy regions rather than a single concentrated area.

Outside of Texas and California, the next wave of expansion is starting to take shape across other regions. Florida, Georgia, Illinois, and Washington are each expected to host four Megacharger locations, while New York and Nevada are set to receive two sites each.

Tesla's broader roadmap also includes Arizona, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, with one planned Megacharger installation in each of those states.

At last year's Advanced Clean Transportation (ACT) Expo, Tesla Semi Program Manager Dan Priestley also detailed the company's wider charging strategy. He explained that Tesla plans to develop a public Megacharger network of roughly 46 stations by 2027 to accommodate a growing fleet of electric trucks. Based on current progress, the rollout appears to be moving in line with that goal.

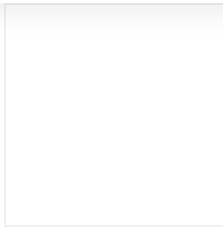
Jay Traugott has covered the automotive and transportation sector for over a decade and now serves as Senior Editor for Clean Trucking. He holds a drifting license and has driven on some of the world's best race tracks, including the Nurburgring and Spa. He lives near Denver, Colorado and spends his free time snowboarding and backcountry hiking. He can be reached at jaytraugott@fusable.com.



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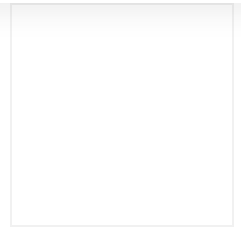
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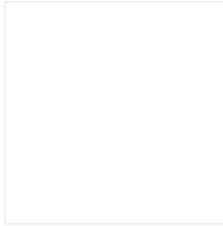
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Apr 25th, 2026 12:41am

These announced stations should pretty much enable Vancouver, BC to

Laredo/Houston runs. We're getting a new variant pretty soon!

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completed and submitted the questionnaire for a total of 407 qualified responses. Cross-tabulations based on respondent type are provided for each question when applicable.

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