

Status of Fuel Quality and Vehicle Emission Standards:

Middle East West

Asia (MEWA)

Updated January 2012

Country	Lead		Sulphur ppm max allowable by law			Vehicle Emission Standards (Light Duty Passenger)	
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments	Emissions	Import Restrictions
Bahrain	Unleaded		500 local (10ppm export)		Effective April 2008. Produces up 10ppm for export demand. Local available is 500ppm.	UN report indicates there are emissions control regulations, no details about this	No import restrictions found
Iraq	Leaded	100% leaded			Standards 25,000 ppm. No plans. Significant quantities of fuels imported from Kuwait and actual quality estimated to be 2,000ppm	New traffic code established in 2004 requires vehicle inspections, with stations to be located at traffic police stations	No information found
Israel	Unleaded	2004	10		Follows EU standards and from January 2009 effected 10ppm	New light duty vehicle standards based on European legislation, albeit with a time lag. Previous regulations were based on Euro 4 standards, introduced in October 2006 for new models (October 2007 for all models). Euro 5 standards came into force in January 2009 for new models (January 2010 for existing models). www.integer-research.com/legislation/middle-east/	83% sales tax on all vehicles powered by conventional combustion engines. 30% sales tax on hybrids (through 2012, then it will be raised). 10% sales tax on electric vehicles (until 2014, then it will be raised). Israel adheres to European motor vehicle standards but most U.S. lighting and safety standards also accepted. The "green" car tax reform, (in effect in August 2009) provides incentives for buyers of low-polluting vehicles. Under the reform, the purchase tax rate on a vehicle will be directly linked for the first time to emission levels. Vehicles are split into 15 groups that form the basis for tax credits, with the first representing the cleanest vehicle group and the 15th the most polluting. The tax benefit is granted after applying the new standard purchase tax rate of 83 percent. The benefit ranges from NIS 15,000 (US\$3,900) for relatively clean vehicles to zero for the most polluting group. http://trade.gov/static/autos_report_tradebarriers2011.pdf

Jordan	Unleaded	2008	7,000-10,000		Actual Standard is 350ppm based on international standard 14596 but operating on government waiver. Plan to be reduced to 50 ppm after planned refinery expansion is completed	Indication of roadworthiness inspection system, no indication if it includes emissions (UN ESCWA report)	Imports of used trucks older than three years are not allowed. Vehicles tinted windows should not exceed 10 percent. Imports of used tires are not allowed except for retreading purposes. http://trade.gov/static/autos_report_tradebarriers2011.pdf
Kuwait	Unleaded	1998	2,000		Imported 50ppm Cargo in March 2009 from European refinery. Announced plans in 2008 for Clean fuels project for 2012 for 10 ppm delayed to 2013.	Roadworthiness inspection system established in 2004; for vehicles over two years old; inspection is annual for petrol vehicles, every six months for diesel vehicles;	Imports of motor vehicles more than five years old are restricted. http://trade.gov/wcm/groups/internet/@trade/@mas/@man/@aai/documents/web_content/auto_reports_tradebarriers.pdf (2008)
Lebanon	Unleaded	2003	500 Vehicle grade (Industrial grade 5,000ppm)		Imported. Information gathered from traders suggest two grades marketed.		Lebanon allows the import of cars up to 8 years old. http://www.carmedium.com/rules.htm This is being legislated down to 5 years. http://www.japaneseautoauctions.com/lebanon-non-new-used-vehicle-import-regulations
Oman	Unleaded	2001	50		Oman oil refinery company installed a diesel-hydro-sulphurisation unit and adopted the ISO-14001:2004 standard on environmental management that provides for the reduction of sulphur from the fuels. Official specification standard is 500 but actual fuels quality less than 50ppm from July 2008.	Vehicle inspection system in place, though no indication if it includes emissions testing	Importation of second-hand vehicle requires permission by Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Palestine	Unleaded	2008	10,000		Gets fuel from Jordan which is at 10,000 ppm	No emission standards, no indication of any vehicle testing	Imported second-hand vehicles must be less than 3 years old

Qatar	Unleaded	2001	500		Announced Road map plans in 2006 for 10ppm by 2010 now postponed possibly to 2012.	Roadworthiness inspection system in place; inspections are regular, no information as to time interval	Imported second-hand vehicles must be less than 5 years old
Saudi Arabia	Unleaded	2001	500		Whilst current Standards are at 10,000ppm, the diesel hydrotreater at Ras Tanura was commissioned in 2011 and the country is now on 500 ppm sulphur fuel except for small area in the Kingdom." Country announced a 2020 Road Map in 2008 to go to 50ppm and lower by 2013/2014. Plans to go to 500ppm by end 2010, now met in 2011. Most cities are at 800ppm	Euro II - 01/01/2004 & Euro III from 1/1/2010 but these regulations have yet to be approved, meaning that implementation of Euro 3 is still uncertain. Indication of roadworthiness inspection system, no indication if it includes emissions	Imports of remanufactured, rebuilt, and/or used motor vehicle parts are not authorized. The import of automobiles and light trucks (under five tons) over five years old is prohibited under law since 2005. http://trade.gov/static/autos_report_tradebarriers2011.pdf
Syria	Unleaded	2006	7000(6,500)		Actual Standards 7,000 ppm. Announced Plans in 2008 to go to 50 ppm 2015. Import of 50ppm for selected cities was planned in 2009 but didn't take place?	UN ESCWA report indicates a vehicle testing programme in place, but no details	Imported second-hand vehicles must be less than 2 years old
United Arab Emirates	Unleaded	2001	500		Announced Plan in 2007 for 50ppm by 2010 but not yet effected. Commenced 50ppm in Dubai city with introduction of Euro IV buses in 2009.	Vehicle inspection system in place, though no indication if it includes emissions testing	The vehicle must be in conformity to the State standards and its steering wheel must not be modified. There must be no damages on the vehicle's outer body. Vehicles used as a taxicab or by police are not allowed to be imported. It is permissible to import more than one vehicle per year if the importer does not have a commercial registration legalizing business activity in vehicle sale and import. US Dept of Trade, Dec 2011 Report

Yemen	Unleaded	10% Unleaded	10,000		No current Standards. Domestic crude is somewhat sweet, but exported. Plans to build new refinery and looking to modernise existing ones. Time frame not known.		Imported second-hand vehicles must be less than 5 years old
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