



SUBARU



2022

Subaru Outback

2.5i Lineartronic petrol AWD CVT



4.8 
/10

Clean Air
Index

2.1 
/10

Energy Efficiency
Index

0.7 
/10

Greenhouse Gas
Index

4.8
/10



Clean Air Tests



Laboratory Test

NMHC

NO_x

NH₃

CO

PN

5.2/10 Cold Test



7.2/10 Warm Test



0.0/10 Highway



Cold Ambient Test

Does not qualify for additional robustness testing



Road Test

6.8/10 On-Road Drive



2.5/5 On-Road Short Trip



On-Road Heavy Load

Does not qualify for additional robustness testing

On-Road Light Load

Does not qualify for additional robustness testing

Congestion

Does not qualify for additional robustness testing



n.a.



good



adequate



marginal



weak



poor

Comments

Ammonia (NH₃), currently not regulated in the EU, is insufficiently controlled in the cold powertrain start cycle and, in general, control of particle number is not the Outback's forte. Major problems occur during the highway test: CO and NH₃ thresholds are drastically exceeded and particle number comes very close to the maximum allowed value. Accordingly, the Outback scores zero for this test. On the positive side, the car never failed to keep NO_x low. The results in the standard on-road drive are comparable to those of the laboratory WLTC+ tests and represent moderate Clean Air performance.

Energy Efficiency Tests



Laboratory Test

Energy

3.2/10 Cold Test



3.1/10 Warm Test



0.0/10 Highway



Cold Ambient Test

Does not qualify for additional robustness testing

Consumption

Driving Range

Average

8.8 l/100 km

729 km

Worst-case

10.8 l/100 km

583 km



n.a.



good



adequate



marginal



weak



poor

Comments

With consumption values of 7.9 l/100 km in both laboratory WLTC+ test runs and 10.8 l/100 km in the BAB130 highway test, the Subaru Outback is far away from being frugal in its use of fuel. In this part of the assessment, no points are scored in the motorway test due to upper threshold exceedance. While the consumption figures are not surprising for a petrol off-roader of this size and power, the Energy Efficiency Index of 2.1 still leaves room for considerable improvement.



Greenhouse gases

CO₂

N₂O

CH₄

1.1/10 Cold Test



1.1/10 Warm Test



0.0/10 Highway



Cold Ambient Test

Does not qualify for additional robustness testing



n.a.



good



adequate



marginal



weak



poor

Comments

The CO₂ output measured in the WLTC+ tests is approx. 177 g/km. Combined with the greenhouse effect of other tailpipe emissions and some 46 g CO₂-eq/km from petrol production and supply, this gives a total value of about 224 g CO₂-eq/km. Due to the high fuel consumption, the greenhouse gas score of the highway test is zero. Most of the points scored in this part of the evaluation come as a credit for good laughing gas (N₂O) and methane (CH₄) emissions control.

Our Verdict

Subaru's AWD Outback is a large family car with well-known all-rounder capabilities. The newest version comes with a 2.5 liter naturally aspirated boxer engine. The high power demand of this vehicle type in combination with no pressure charging or powertrain electrification lead to high consumption figures, which are also reflected in the poor greenhouse gas emissions performance. The vehicle's mass and utility value, however, is no excuse for the pollutant control difficulties the car experiences at high load testing – here made obvious in the BAB130 highway test. On the plus side, pollutants are controlled better than average under moderate power requirement, including standard real-world driving with cold powertrain start. NO_x emissions are always kept low, even on the motorway. Overall, with a final result of only 1½ Green Stars, the Outback's environmental behavior needs to be improved in order to suit better its legendary off-road capabilities or its 5 star Euro NCAP safety performance.

Disclaimer [↗](#)

Specifications

Publication Date 07 2022	Tested Car JF1BT9LL3MG01xxxx	Tyres 225/60 R18 100v	Emissions Class Euro 6d AP
Mass 1,674 kg	Engine Size 2,498 cc	Power/Torque 124 kW/252 Nm	Declared CO ₂ 193 g/km
Declared Battery Capacity n.a.	Declared Driving Range n.a.	Declared Consumption 8.6 l/100km	



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