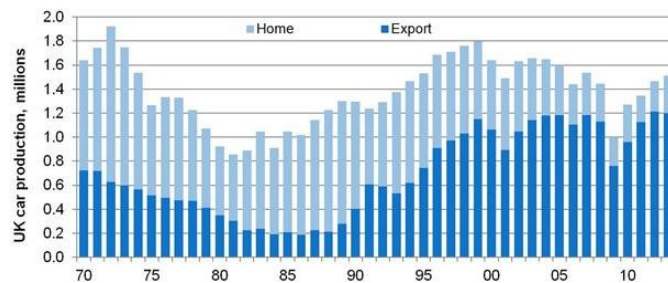


## Car exports and production on the rise but CV production remains subdued

### Car production

A total of 132,570 cars were manufactured in the UK in July, a rise of 2.8% and 3.4% on the year-to-date as 2014's steady growth continues. July also marks five million cars being exported from the UK since the beginning of 2010 – the best performance of any decade. On the year-to-date exports are up 3.8% to 728,440 vehicles.



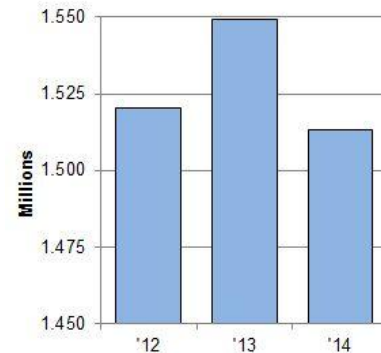
### Commercial vehicles

In July, the total number of commercial vehicles manufactured in the UK declined 25% to 6,338 units, reflecting the trend in previous months with the year-to-date output down 23.3%. This indicates that the effects of the 2013 restructuring are still evident, and allied with the spike in truck registrations towards the end of last year, this decline was to be expected. However, industry is positive that the coming months should provide more optimism with European demand showing sustained improvement.



### Engine production

UK engine production fell 10.2% in July to 205,907 units. However, the year-to-date production shows a more stable figure, down 2.3% at 1,513,350 units. Industry believes that the long-term outlook is bright for UK engine production as the EU market recovery continues, and with new facilities set to begin assembly over the coming months



(Source: SMMT)

<http://www.smmt.co.uk/category/manufacturing/>

## DfT launches consultation on driverless cars regulatory testing framework

The Department for Transport (DfT) has launched a consultation seeking views on an appropriate regulatory regime to enable driverless cars to be tested safely on British roads. The review will establish the obstacles that prevent the testing of driverless cars on UK roads and will also consider how these obstacles can be removed whilst maintaining existing high levels of road user safety. DfT has published a discussion document which provides background information and invites respondents to comments on any issues, including: regulatory, safety and social issues, which need to be addressed; the best ways to trial cars with qualified drivers; and looking further ahead, fully autonomous vehicles. Feedback is requested to be sent to [driverlesscars.review@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:driverlesscars.review@dft.gsi.gov.uk) by 19 September. The DfT review follows the recently announced £10m Technology Strategy Board driverless car competition. This competition is for up to three towns or cities to host trials of driverless cars and other road vehicles in a real-world environment and carry out research that leads to greater levels of

understanding and promotes integration and acceptance of such vehicles into daily operation.

(Source: DfT)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/driverless-cars-regulatory-testing-framework>

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## New 'trailblazer' automotive apprenticeship standards published

The apprenticeship standards developed in the second phase of the trailblazers initiative have been published by government. Included in the 40 new standards are six new automotive apprenticeships for:

- Control/Technical Support Engineer
- Electrical/Electronic Technical Support Engineer
- Manufacturing Engineer
- Product Design and Development Engineer
- Product Design and Development Technician
- Motor Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle)

Further detail on the newly launched standards can be found [here](#). By 2017/18 all apprenticeship standards will be rewritten under the trailblazer methodology – these are standards developed by employers with increased quality and that are simpler to understand for both businesses and potential apprenticeships.

(Source: apprenticeships.org.uk)

<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/standards>



## Government launches 'Get In. Go Far' apprenticeships campaign

Business Secretary Vince Cable MP has launched a government campaign aimed at encouraging young people to choose an apprenticeship. The campaign, 'Get In. Go Far' showcases the variety and quality of apprenticeships on offer in the UK. It features real apprentices in varied sectors giving their own thoughts

on their experiences. The apprentices, shown in the adverts taking selfies in their places of work, will appear on TV, posters, digital channels and in print media. Commenting on the campaign, Skills Minister Nick Boles stated: "The new campaign features some great success stories which show exactly how far an apprenticeship can take you. I would recommend any young person that isn't sure what to do next, to look at some of the new and exciting apprenticeship opportunities available to them."

(Source: BIS)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/get-in-and-go-far-with-new-apprenticeships>



## Government provides £8.3 million to boost West Midlands transport links

The Department for Transport has agreed to fund the new A45 South Bridge in Solihull which will improve transport links in the West Midlands. The new bridge will significantly improve a transport link that carries 50,000 vehicles a day. The structure will directly serve Birmingham International Airport, the National Exhibition Centre, Jaguar Land Rover and other businesses which generate over £2.5 billion per year and support over 80,000 jobs. The main works are due to start in January 2015 with completion in August 2016. The department will provide up to £8.3 million towards the full project cost of £12 million.

(Source: DfT)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/83-million-to-boost-west-midlands-transport-links>

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## Week ahead

**The House of Commons is in recess until Monday 1 September.**

**The House of Lords is in recess until Monday October 13.**