SMMT forecasts: UK new car and LCV registrations 2018 and 2019

Background and context to panel survey

Forecasts are revised on a quarterly basis in January, April, July and October. The latest survey of participants’ own views was conducted during April 2018. SMMT’s forecast is an average of data received from participating market analysts (panel). Each forecast received is given equal weight and is anonymised.

2017:

New car registrations: 2.541m units, down 5.7% on 2016’s 2.693m and up 24.3% on 2012’s 2.045m

Diesel registrations at 1.066m and a 42% share of all cars, it was 50.8% in 2012 on a level of 1.039m.

Light commercial vehicles (LCV, to 3.5t gvw) at 0.362m and the level was 0.240 in 2012.

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| UK new light vehicle registrations

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| *thousands* | All cars | Diesel cars | LCVs |
| 2007 – 2016^ | 2,260 | 1,061 | 288 |
| 2016 | 2,693 | 1,285 | 376 |
| 2017 | 2,541 | 1,066 | 362 |
| 2018F | 2,411 |  822 | 359 |
| 2019F | 2,374 |  770 | 360 |

*^ = annual average for 2007 to 2016. LCVs = light commercial vehicles to 3.5t gvw**Note: there were 14 returns from a current Panel of 18 – the survey is voluntary* |

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| SMMT forecasts for 2018 and 2019 – as at January 20182018* Car registrations at 2.411m units, 5.1% down on 2017’s level of 2.541.
* Diesel cars at 0.822m, a 34.1% share of total car registrations; down 36% on the 2016 level.
* LCV registrations at 0.359m, down 0.9% on the 2017 level and 4.5% on 2016’s 0.376m peak.

2019* Cars registrations at 2.374m, down 1.6% on the 2018 forecast level and 11.9% on 2016’s peak.
* Diesel car volume of 0.770m 32.5% of total car registrations; down 6.3% on 2018’s forecast.
* LCV registrations at 0.360m units, up 0.4% down on the 2018 forecast level.

2010 – 2019F: ten year period, annual averages* Annual average car registrations at 2.341m, trough of 1.941 in 2011 and peak at 2.693 in 2016
* Annual average diesel car total at 1.088m, peaked at 1.285m in 2016, seen as <0.8m by 2019
* Annual average LCV registrations at 0.314m, trough of 0.223 in 2010 peak at 0.376m in 2016

*Notes: car forecasts rounded to nearest 10,000 and LCV to 1,000 unit.**Reasonable care has been taken in preparing this information. It is not an exclusive aid for market analysis, other sources and market intelligence should be reviewed.* |

**Next revision and contact -** *refreshed page at 01/05/2018 for w/e 4th May 2018.*

The forecasts are scheduled to be next revised in July 2018; results will be posted in the w/e 3rd August.

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