

SMMT Forecasts new car and LCV registrations for the UK to 2012.

The forecasts are prepared by the SMMT's Economics Team - e-mail econoweb@smmt.co.uk.
Forecasts are revised on a quarterly basis (Jan/Apr/July/Oct).

Latest views on UK new car and light commercial vehicles (LCV) registration trends at January 2011

2010 actual

New car registrations: 2.031 million units, up 1.8% on 2009.
Diesel penetration: 46.1%, up from 41.7% in 2009.

New LCVs registrations: 222,915 units, up 19.6% on 2009.

New registrations were aided by the scrappage scheme in 2010 – with over 100,000 cars and almost 3,000 LCVs registered during the year.

2011 forecast

New car registrations: 1.930 million units, down 5.0% on the 2010 forecast.
Diesel penetration is forecast to rise to 47.9%.
New LCVs registrations: 240,300 units, up 7.8% on the 2010 forecast.

2012 forecast

New car registrations: 2.021 million units, up 4.7% on the 2011 forecast.
Diesel penetration is forecast to ease to 45.9%.
New LCVs registrations: 246,600 units, up 2.6% on the 2011 forecast.

The forecasts are next scheduled to be revised at the end of April 2011.

New registration volumes for all vehicle types in 2010:

- New cars up 1.8% at 2,030,846 units, on 2009 total of 1,994,999 units
- LCVs up 19.6% at 222,915 units, on 2009 total of 186,386 units
- Trucks over 3.5t gvw down 0.8% at 34,458 units, on 2009 total of 34,746 units
- Trucks 6t and over gvw down 1.3% at 27,588 units, on 2009 total of 27,938 units
- Buses and coaches over 3.5t gvw down 25.4% at 3,226 units, on 2009 total of 4,323 units