# UK CAR MANUFACTURING (data for July 2015)

# 20 August 2015

**UK car output slows in July as production pauses for annual summer shutdown**

* Production down 11.2% in July as seasonal upgrades and retooling recess kicks in.
* Year-to-date output remains strong at 911,307 units, with domestic demand up 8.0%.

**20 August 2015** Following its best half-year since 2008, the UK car manufacturing industry experienced a slower July, according to new figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). Production in the month fell 11.2% against July 2014, as changes to holiday patterns meant the traditional annual shutdown started earlier at some plants.

July’s performance reflects the normal cyclical falls in output during the summer months, when seasonal shutdown programmes occur across the majority of manufacturers, providing an essential period for plant maintenance, upgrades and retooling.

**Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive, said,** “Car production is traditionally subject to a degree of fluctuation during the quieter summer months with some manufacturers pausing production to invest in upgrades and prepare for new model launches, as well as to manage holiday leave. The industry remains in a strong position, with more than 911,000 cars produced so far this year and some significant new model introductions due in the autumn.”

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| **Car manufacturing** | **Jul-14** | **Jul-15** | **% Change** | **YTD-14** | **YTD-15** | **% Change** |
| **Total** | 132,570 | 117,665 | -11.2% | 923,884 | 911,307 | -1.4% |
| **Home** | 29,589 | 22,500 | -24.0% | 195,444 | 211,098 | 8.0% |
| **Export** | 102,981 | 95,165 | -7.6% | 728,440 | 700,209 | -3.9% |
| **% export** | 77.7% | 80.9% |  | 78.8% | 76.8% |  |

**Car output – rolling year totals UK vs. home**

**Notes to editors**

**About SMMT and the UK automotive industry**

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) is one of the largest and most influential trade associations in the UK. It supports the interests of the UK automotive industry at home and abroad, promoting a united position to government, stakeholders and the media.

The automotive industry is a vital part of the UK economy accounting for more than **£69.5 billion turnover** and **£15.5 billion value added**. With some **160,000** people employed directly in manufacturing and in excess of **799,000** acrossthe wider automotive industry, it accounts for **11.8% of total UK export of goods** and invests **£2.4 billion** each year in automotive R&D. More than **30 manufacturers** build in excess of **70 models** of vehicle in the UK supported by around **2,500 component providers** and some of the world's most **skilled engineers**.

More detail on UK automotive available in SMMT's Motor Industry Facts 2015 publication at [www.smmt.co.uk/facts15](http://www.smmt.co.uk/facts15).

**Broadcasters: SMMT has an ISDN studio and access to expert spokespeople, case studies and regional representatives.**

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