# UK CAR MANUFACTURING (data for May 2015)

# Embargoed to 00:01 on 25 June 2015

**Positive May for UK car manufacturing as Europe continues steady recovery and home market remains strong**

* Steady month for domestic market sees UK car production rise 2.3% in May to 119,338 units.
* Manufacturing for British buyers grows 13.3%, with export broadly level at -0.2%.
* Volumes set to ramp up in the coming years as fresh investments result in new models.

**25 June 2015** New figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) reveal a steady growth in UK car manufacturing in May, with 119,338 cars built – a rise of 2.3%. The strong domestic market once again played a significant part with a 13.3% increase outweighing a small dip in production for export.

Industry is gearing itself up for a more prolonged period of growth in the mid- to long-term, as multi-billion pound investments will see new models hitting the production line.

**Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive, said,** “We have seen a steady performance in UK car manufacturing this year with volumes bolstered by a strong home market, while recovery in key European markets is helping to restore export production levels.

“Long-term, the picture is promising: ‘Built in Britain’ is still in high demand all over the world, with buyers attracted not only by iconic British brands but also by the high quality of our engineering. With a significant number of new models due to start production in the coming months, we anticipate a strong, sustained upturn in output volumes in the years ahead.”

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| **Car manufacturing** | **May-14** | **May-15** | **% Change** | **YTD-14** | **YTD-15** | **% Change** |
| **Total** | 116,655 | 119,338 | 2.3% | 654,895 | 649,843 | -0.8% |
| **Home** | 21,888 | 24,792 | 13.3% | 135,323 | 160,237 | 18.4% |
| **Export** | 94,767 | 94,546 | -0.2% | 519,572 | 489,606 | -5.8% |
| **% export** | 81.2% | 79.2% |  | 79.3% | 75.3% |  |

**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 **£64 billion turnover** and **£12 billion value added**. With more than **160,000** people employed directly in manufacturing and in excess of **770,000 across** the wider automotive industry, it accounts for **11% of total UK export of goods** and invests **£1.9 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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