

SMMT UK new car and LCV registrations outlook to 2021 – October 2019

Background and context to panel survey

The outlook is revised on a quarterly basis in January, April, July and October. The latest survey of participants' own views was conducted during October 2019. Please note that results in October were collected during a period of considerable political uncertainty, being ahead of the EU granting an Article 50 extension to the date that the UK leaves the EU (31 January 2020) and before the date of the next UK general election was agreed (at the time of writing, this is 12 December 2019, subject to approval by the House of Lords).

2018:

New car registrations: 2.367 million units, -6.8% on 2017's 2.541 million and -12.1% on 2016's peak.

Diesel registrations at 0.751 million, down 16.9% on 2017 and over 0.5 million from 2016. Share down to 31.7%.

Light commercial vehicles (LCV, to 3.5t gwv) at 0.357 million was modest 1.3% down on 2017.

UK new light vehicle registrations and (October 2019) outlook

<i>thousands</i>	All cars	Diesel cars	BEV cars	PHEV cars	LCVs
2007 – 2016 [^]	2,260	1,061	-	-	288
2016	2,693	1,285	10	27	376
2017	2,541	1,066	14	33	362
2018	2,367	751	15	42	357
2019F	2,302	613	33	29	354
2020F	2,200	547	63	49	317
2021F	2,245	515	94	82	335

[^] = annual average for 2007 to 2016. LCVs = light commercial vehicles to 3.5t gwv

AFV = alternatively fuelled vehicles, BEV = battery electric vehicle, PHEV = plug-in hybrid electric vehicles

Note: there were 17 returns from a current panel of 17 – the survey is voluntary

SMMT outlook for 2019, 2020 and 2021 – as at October 2019

2019

- Cars registrations at 2.302 million, down 2.8% on the 2018 level.
- Diesel car volume of 0.613 million, down 18.3% on 2018 and reducing market share to 26.6%.
- BEV registrations to rise 114.1%, taking market share to 1.4%, from 0.7% in 2018.
- PHEV registrations to fall by 32.1%, taking market share from 1.8% in 2018 to 1.2%.
- LCV registrations at 0.354 million, down 1.0% on the 2018 level.

2020

- Cars registrations at 2.2 million, down 4.4% on the 2019 outlook level.
- Diesel car volume of 0.547 million, down 10.7% on 2019 and taking 24.9% market share.
- BEV registrations to rise 89.3%, pushing market share up to 2.9%.
- PHEV registrations to rise 69.5%, pushing market share up to 2.2%.
- LCV registrations at 0.317 million, down 10.3% on the outlook for 2019.

2021

- Cars registrations at 2.245 million, up 2.0% on the 2020 outlook level.
- Diesel car volume of 0.515 million, down 5.9% on 2020 and taking 22.9% market share.
- BEV registrations to rise 49.1%, increasing market share to 4.2%.
- PHEV registrations to rise 68.4%, pushing market share up to 3.6%.

- LCV registrations at 0.335 million, up 5.4% on the outlook for 2020.

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

The outlook is scheduled to be next revised in January 2020 and result will be posted by end of the month.

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