

July 2020 - SMMT UK New Car and LCV Registrations Outlook to 2021

Background and context to panel survey

The outlook is revised quarterly in January, April, July and October. The latest survey of participants' own views was conducted during July 2020.

Please note, results in July were collected amidst the tentative restart of the economy and the industry after more than two months of lockdown. Whilst the outlook looks very challenging, there remains considerable uncertainty over the economic setting (on-going and further C-19 impacts, leaving the EU, etc). The outlook is set without any stimulus package for the automotive sector in play, although such a measure could have a significant market uplift.

UK new car and light vehicle registrations (July 2020) outlook

<i>thousands</i>	All cars	Diesel cars	BEV cars	PHEV cars	HEV cars	LCVs
2007 – 2016[^]	2,260	1,061	-	-	-	288
2016	2,693	1,285	10	29	50	376
2017	2,541	1,066	14	36	68	362
2018	2,367	750	15	42	84	357
2019	2,311	616	38	35	98	366
2020(f)	1,603	352	78	54	100	269
2021(f)	2,035	417	131	87	147	318

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

Diesel include mild hybrids, BEV = Battery electric vehicle, PHEV = Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, HEV = Hybrid electric vehicles.

Note: there were 16 returns from a current panel of 16 – the survey is voluntary.

SMMT outlook for 2020 and 2021 – as at July 2020

2020

- Cars registrations at 1.603 million, down 30.6% on the 2019 total.
- Diesel car volume of 0.352 million, down 42.8% on 2019 and taking a 22.0% market share.
- BEV registrations to rise 107.0%, pushing market share up to 4.9%.
- PHEV registrations to rise 54.6%, taking market share of 3.3%.
- HEV registrations to increase by 2.5%, with market share of 6.3%.
- LCV registrations at 0.269 million, down 26.3% on the 2019 total.

2021

- Cars registrations at 2.035 million, up 26.9% on the 2020 outlook level.
- Diesel car volume of 0.417 million, up 18.3% on 2020 with a 20.5% market share.
- BEV registrations to rise 66.9% on 2020 outlook, increasing market share to 6.4%.
- PHEV registrations to rise 62.8% on 2020 outlook, pushing market share up to 4.3%.
- HEV registrations to increase 46.9% on 2020 outlook, with market share of 7.2%.
- LCV registrations at 0.318 million, up 17.9% 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 Oct 2020 and result will be posted by end of the month.

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