

UK Car Review - UK - February 2019

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“Falling new car sales since 2017 illustrate the difficulties that currently face the car sector with the impending departure from the EU in March 2019 not expected to improve prospects in the short-term. With the market suffering from depressed sales, car manufacturers increasingly need to focus on meeting consumer demands which are increasingly reflecting individual lifestyles.”
– Neil Mason, Retail Category Director

This report looks at the following areas:

- **What next for the car market?**
- **Interest in diesel collapses amongst new car buyers**
- **Overall interest in autonomous vehicles is low**

Mintel forecasts the total car market to suffer its second consecutive year of decline in 2018 with volumes for new and used sales set to fall back to 10.07 million units. The fall comes from a further softening in new car sales and a recent decline in used car volumes. Various factors have been proposed for the current lacklustre market conditions with a combination of increased buyer uncertainty in the wake of the EU referendum in 2016 and rising costs two of the most significant. Despite these conditions the sector continues to evolve. Older cars are increasingly a feature of the market with 24.9% of vehicles on the road in 2017 being 12 years or older. Second car ownership is also expanding with data for England recording 35% of households with two or more cars in 2017 compared to only 31% in 2012.

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DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market

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Table of Contents

Overview

What you need to know
 Products covered in this Report

Executive Summary

The market

Car sales fall for second consecutive year
 Figure 1: UK new and used car sales, by volume, 2013-23

New car sales have fallen more than those in the used sector since 2016
 Figure 2: New and used car market volumes, 2013-18

Mini/supermini segment suffers a dramatic fall in its profile
 Figure 3: New car registrations by broad segment (share), 2013 and 2018

Diesel cars account for a much reduced share of new sales
 Figure 4: Sales of new cars by fuel type, 2013 and 2018

Companies and brands

Mass market manufacturers lose out as buyers trade up
 Premium brands offer the best combination of trust and differentiation
 Figure 5: Attitudes towards and usage of selected brands, December 2018

Fall in advertising expenditure reflects wider difficulties for the car market

Automation dominates innovation

The consumer

Over 7 out of 10 adults own a car
 Figure 6: Car ownership, November 2018

The majority of cars in ownership are used
 Figure 7: Age of car owned, November 2018

Most without a car also don't possess a driving licence
 Figure 8: Other access to cars, November 2018

Nearly 6 out of 10 car owners have a small or medium-sized vehicle
 Figure 9: Type of car owned, November 2018

Environmental concerns are most likely to put off purchasing a diesel car
 Figure 10: Concerns about diesel, November 2018

Digital is the main source for information on cars
 Figure 11: Sources of information, November 2018

Less than 1 in 10 adults is interested in a fully autonomous car
 Figure 12: Autonomous driving, November 2018

What we think

Issues and Insights

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What next for the car market?

The facts

The implications

Interest in diesel collapses amongst new car buyers

The facts

The implications

Overall interest in autonomous vehicles is low

The facts

The implications

The Market – What You Need to Know

Car market is expected to see mixed fortunes going forward

Car ownership polarises between new and old vehicles

Car ownership varies by location and wealth

Franchised dealers are the most important route for car buyers

Cars dominate for trips over 1 mile

Market Size and Forecast

Car sales set to continue to decline in 2018

Figure 13: UK new and used car sales, by volume, 2013-23

Figure 14: Best- and worst-case forecasts for UK new and used sales, 2013-23

Forecast methodology

Market Segmentation

Car sales heading downward

Figure 15: New and used car market volumes, 2013-18

Nearly a quarter of cars are 12 years or older

Figure 16: Age structure of the UK car parc in years, 2013-17

Increase in second car ownership offers opportunities for the market

Figure 17: Percentage of households with car availability, England, 2007-17

Car ownership varies across the country

Figure 18: Household car ownership by region (England), 2006/07 and 2016/17

Wealthiest are more likely to own more than one car

Figure 19: Percentage of households with cars by income group (United Kingdom), 2016/17

Dual and multipurpose vehicles perform best in what is a declining market...

Figure 20: New car registrations, by broad segment, 2013-18

...as the mini/supermini segment suffers a fall in its profile

Figure 21: New car registrations by broad segment (share), 2013-18

Dual-purpose cars are now the third most important category in the market

Figure 22: New car registrations by category, 2015, 2016 and 2017

Diesel sales fall to less than a third of new vehicles ...

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Figure 23: Sales of new cars by fuel type, 2013-18

...but continue to challenge petrol in the overall car market

Figure 24: Number of licensed cars (Great Britain), million units, 2013-18

Channels to Market

Franchised dealers benefit from recent buoyant new car sales

Figure 25: Sales of new and used cars, by channel, 2013-17

Market Drivers

Older licence holders are more likely to be men

Figure 26: Full car driving licence holders by age and gender, England, 2017

Trips taken each year are down if walking is excluded

Figure 27: Trips, distance travelled and time taken, England, 2007-17

Cars dominate for trips over 1 mile

Figure 28: Mode share of trips by main mode (different trip lengths), England, 2017

Rising costs hit those owning and using a car

Figure 29: Consumer expenditure on car purchasing, servicing and repair and motoring expenses, seasonally adjusted at current prices, 2013-17

Over half of adults plan to buy a car in the next 3 years

Figure 30: Do you or someone else in your household plan to buy a car(s) within the next 3 years, November 2018

Buying new dominates although used is growing its share

Figure 31: Intention of purchasing a car/s in the next three years, by new or used/second-hand purchase, November 2018

London leads with growing restrictions on using vehicles in cities

Electric and hybrid cars are growing their share of the market

Figure 32: Hybrid and electric new car registrations (Great Britain), by volume, 2013-23

Companies and Brands – What You Need to Know

Mass market manufacturers suffer from fall in share

Automation is a focus of activity by car manufacturers

Advertising support falls back after peaking in 2016

Brands occupy distinct positions within the market

Market Share

Mass market manufacturers suffer a fall in market share

Mercedes-Benz is the best performing major brand

Figure 33: Manufacturer shares of new car registrations, 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018

Small cars dominate the new car market

Figure 34: Top 10 new car models, 2018

Ford Fiesta leads used car market

Figure 35: Top 10 used car models, 201

Launch Activity and Innovation

Hyundai explores holographic augmented reality

Figure 36: WayRay holographic augmented reality technology, January 2019

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Ford looks at the development of smarter systems for European cities ...

...as well as broadening activity outside of the automotive sector

Volvo pushes towards sustainability

Volkswagen partners with Microsoft to offer new IoT platform

Audi announces plans for 5G-connected cars

Advertising and Marketing Activity

Advertising support down since peaking in 2016

Figure 37: Recorded above-the-line, online display and direct mail total advertising expenditure by car manufacturers, 2014-18

4x4s and SUVs now dominate category expenditure

Figure 38: Recorded above-the-line, online display and direct mail total advertising expenditure, by type of car, 2014-18

Mass market manufacturers raise investment

Figure 39: Recorded above-the-line, online display and direct mail total advertising expenditure by leading car manufacturers, 2014-18

Television re-asserts its dominance

Figure 40: Percentage media type split of recorded above-the-line, online display and direct mail total advertising expenditure by car manufacturers, 2014-18

Nielsen Ad Intel coverage

Brand Research

Premium brands offer the best combination of trust and differentiation

Figure 41: Attitudes towards and usage of selected brands, December 2018

Key brand metrics

Figure 42: Key metrics for selected brands, December 2018

Brand attitudes: Tesla stands out as by far the most innovative brand in the market

Figure 43: Attitudes, by brand, December 2018

Brand personality: Volkswagen's unethical performance continues to affect the brand

Figure 44: Brand personality – Macro image, December 2018

Brand personality: Far Eastern brands are associated with being user-friendly

Figure 45: Brand personality – Micro image, January 2018

The Consumer – What You Need to Know

70% of adults own a car

Men and young adults are important car buyers in the last 2 years

Age, income and employment strongly affect non-car ownership

Small and medium-sized cars are the most important sectors

Environmental concerns are strongly associated with diesel

Digital is a key channel for information on cars

Less than 1 in 10 adults are interested in a car that can drive itself

Car Ownership

More than 7 out of 10 adults own a car

Figure 46: Car ownership, November 2018

Wealth plays a major factor in car ownership

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Car ownership is gradually increasing

Figure 47: Car ownership, 2014-18

Age of Car Owned

Cars purchased used represent a bigger market

Figure 48: Age of car owned, November 2018

Young and old adults focus on different market sectors

Men are likely to buy new while women are more likely to buy used

City residents favour buying new

Wealth impacts strongly on new and used choice

New car sales have benefitted most in recent years

Figure 49: Age of car owned, 2014-18

Other Access to Cars

The majority of those without a car don't possess a driving licence

Figure 50: Other access to cars, November 2018

Age is the most important factor for non-car ownership

Older adults have the potential to become car owners

Type of Vehicle Owned

Car owners prefer smaller cars

Figure 51: Type of car owned, November 2018

Women prefer smaller cars

Specialist categories popular with those in rural areas

Small and specialist cars popular with the most affluent

SUVs are the star performer in the market

Figure 52: Type of car owned, 2014, 2016, 2018

Concerns about Diesel

Environmental worries dominate diesel concerns

Figure 53: Concerns about diesel, November 2018

Environmental concerns are greatest amongst those in cities

Costs of owning a diesel high amongst wealthier socio-economic groups

Poor resale value is more important for older adults

Parents with children are more aware of alternatives

Repertoire analysis records interest of older adults, city dwellers and higher earners in having multiple concerns

Alternative technologies to diesel are of interest for new car buyers

Sources of Information

Digital is the main source for information on cars

Figure 54: Sources of information, November 2018

Young men access a wide range of channels for information on cars

City residents shun digital communication

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Wealthy and affluent adults use a variety of channels
Owners of new cars are most interested in information
Digital is helping broaden communication
Figure 55: Sources of information, 2017 and 2018

Autonomous Driving

Less than 1 in 10 adults is interested in a fully autonomous car
Figure 56: Autonomous driving, November 2018
Young men are most interested in automated cars
Affluent adults are another important market
Cities and rural environments illustrate strong contrasts
Owners of new cars are most interest in autonomous driving

Appendix – Data Sources, Abbreviations and Supporting Information

Data Sources
Exclusions
Market sizing and segment performance
Abbreviations
Consumer research methodology

Appendix – Market Size and Forecast

Forecast tables
Figure 57: New and used car market sales, by volume, 2013-23
Figure 58: Forecast of new and used car sales, by volume – Best- and worst-case scenarios, 2018-23

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