

Report Price: £3695 | \$4995 | €4400

e above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

This report looks at the following areas:

- The impact of COVID-19, inflation, supply chain constraints and other market factors on consumer behavior and the car purchasing process
- Consumers' research approach when shopping for a car
- Attitudes toward the car buying process
- How consumers view the future of car buying

Over a third (38%) of consumers indicate they are planning to conduct the majority of their pre-purchase research online, an increase from the previous year's Report. This indicates a shift in consumers' comfort and reliance on online as part of their car purchasing process and general shopping habits. Although consumers rely on online as part of their research, they are still in need of in-person research, such as test drives and visiting multiple dealerships. This shift in consumer behavior represents an opportunity for auto brands and retailers to utilize an omnichannel approach – similar to that of traditional retail segments. Furthermore, as economic influences and supply chain disruptions persist, brands and retailers will want to highlight special offers/promotions, discounts and overall availability across channels to best reach and appeal to consumers.



"Current economic influences and supply chain disruptions have increased barriers for consumers looking to purchase a new or used vehicle. Automotive brands and retailers must cater to consumers' changing needs and preferences, as well as focus on longer-term efforts for when consumers are ready to return to market."

– Gabe Sanchez, Automotive Analyst

Buy this report now		
Visit	store.mintel.com	
EMEA	+44 (0) 20 7606 4533	
Brazil	0800 095 9094	
Americas +1 (312) 943 5250		
China	+86 (21) 6032 7300	
APAC	+61 (0) 2 8284 8100	

Report Price: £3695 | \$4995 | €4400

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Table of Contents

OVERVIEW

- What you need to know
- This Report looks at the following areas
- Definition
- Market context

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Top takeaways
- Market overview
 Figure 1: Total US unit sales and fan chart forecast of new and used light vehicles, at current prices, 2016–26
 Figure 2: Automotive industry outlook, 2022–27
- Opportunities and challenges
- Wavering consumer confidence drives consumers to be more critical of their spending
- Changing consumer behavior highlights importance of taking an omnichannel approach
- Revisit the role of dealerships for younger consumers; expand into the virtual space
- Key consumer insights
- Consumers are most interested in purchasing new cars; used cars are most popular amongst younger consumers
- In-person elements remain important, but consumers increasingly gravitate to online research
- Consumer research of fuel/energy efficiency outpaces competitive pricing
- Supply chain disruptions and economic influences drive worry amongst consumers, especially older consumers
- Females indicate a discomfort in the car purchasing process
- Consumers, especially younger consumers, expect the car purchasing process to evolve

MARKET SIZE AND FORECAST

 Supply chain disruptions and economic influences drive down sales

Figure 3: Total US unit sales and fan chart forecast of new and used light vehicles, at current prices, 2016-26 Figure 4: Total US unit sales and fan chart forecast of new and used light vehicles, at current prices, 2016-26

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

Did you know?

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

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

Visit	store.mintel.com
emea	+44 (0) 20 7606 4533
Brazil	0800 095 9094
Americas	+1 (312) 943 5250
China	+86 (21) 6032 7300
APAC	+61 (0) 2 8284 8100



Report Price: £3695 | \$4995 | €4400

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

SEGMENT PERFORMANCE

• Used car sales make up the majority of sales in the US Figure 5: Total US unit sales of new and used light vehicles, by segment, at current prices, 2019 and 2021

MARKET FACTORS

 Wavering consumer confidence drives consumers away from large purchases

Figure 6: Consumer Sentiment Index, 2007-22

 Inflation, supply chain disruptions drive up the cost of new and used vehicles

Figure 7: Consumer Price Index, new vehicles and used vehicles, 2017-22

- US government aims to address chip shortage
- Gas prices raise concerns amongst consumers Figure 8: US gasoline and diesel retail prices, 2010-22

COMPETITIVE STRATEGIES AND MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

- CarMax aims to appeal to consumers' changing preferences and approach to car buying
- The opportunity: adapt and evolve Figure 9: CarMax leverages star athletes to highlight the conveniences of online car shopping
- Ford looks to educate consumers through their dealers
- The opportunity: focus on education efforts internally and externally

Figure 10: Ford plans to educate employees through Electric University

- Create experiences that go beyond traditional dealerships
- The opportunity: leverage technology to drive engagement and interest

Figure 11: McLaren F1 team partners with Roblox to unveil race car, 2022

- Further the ownership experience
- The opportunity: provide consumers with opportunity to experience and enjoy their vehicles
 Figure 12: Bronco Off-Roadeo offers unique experience

THE CAR CONSUMER – FAST FACTS PURCHASE TIME FRAME

• Consumers may delay purchasing a vehicle in the short term despite optimism

Figure 13: Volvo highlights a commitment to their employees Figure 14: Purchase intent, by generation, 2022

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

Did you know?

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

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

Visit	store.mintel.com
emea	+44 (0) 20 7606 4533
Brazil	0800 095 9094
Americas	+1 (312) 943 5250
China	+86 (21) 6032 7300
APAC	+61 (0) 2 8284 8100



Report Price: £3695 | \$4995 | €4400

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

• Parents indicate a sense of urgency in their purchase intent Figure 15: Purchase intent, by expected life changes; parental status, 2022

Figure 16: The Car Mom reviews the Hyundai Palisade

 Black consumers are most interested in purchasing in the short term

Figure 17: Purchase intent, by race and Hispanic origin, 2022

CONSIDERATION OF VEHICLE TYPE

 Consumers looking to purchase in the short term are more likely to look to used vehicles

Figure 18: Consideration of vehicle type, by car purchase intent, 2022

 Younger consumers show interest in used cars, but new cars are most sought after

Figure 19: Consideration of vehicle type, by generation, 2022

 Black, Hispanic consumers demonstrate interest in used vehicles; Asian consumers interested in new vehicles
 Figure 20: Consideration of vehicle type, by race and Hispanic origin, 2022

RESEARCH APPROACH

- Gen Z consumers spend a bit more time researching Figure 21: Time spent researching, by generation, 2022
- Consumers steadily shift to online research and away from dealerships

Figure 22: Pre-purchase research approach, 2022

• Consumers leverage a variety of resources in their research Figure 23: Carvana engages consumers with social road trip adventure

Figure 24: Research approach for next vehicle, by generation, 2022

• A blend of in-person and online research provides the greatest reach

Figure 25: TURF Analysis – Research behaviors, 2022

 Social media, auto shows are important to those buying in the short term

Figure 26: Bob Rohrman Kia Lafayette features positive dealership review

Figure 27: Research approach for next vehicle, by car purchase intent, 2022

 Hispanic, Black consumers take less encompassing approach

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

Did you know?

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

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

Visit	store.mintel.com
emea	+44 (0) 20 7606 4533
Brazil	0800 095 9094
Americas	+1 (312) 943 5250
China	+86 (21) 6032 7300
APAC	+61 (0) 2 8284 8100



Report Price: £3695 | \$4995 | €4400

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

MINTEL

Figure 28: Gabrielle Union features a Ford Maverick Figure 29: Research approach for next vehicle, by race and Hispanic origin, 2022

TYPES OF INFORMATION RESEARCHED

- Younger consumers research less; older consumers lean on past experience in pursuit of value
 Figure 30: CarMax offers 24-hour test drives
 Figure 31: TURF Analysis – Vehicle research, 2022
 Figure 32: Types of information researched, by generation, 2022
- Female consumers look to get the most out of their purchase; safety is a priority

Figure 33: Subaru ambassador features the Subaru Ascent Figure 34: Types of information researched, by gender, 2022

• Black, Hispanic consumers research car features the least Figure 35: Types of information researched, by race and Hispanic origin, 2022

ATTITUDES TOWARD AUTO INDUSTRY

- Current conditions spur worry, stress amongst consumers
 Figure 36: Capital One Auto Navigator aims to address
 consumer concerns
 Figure 37: Attitudes toward auto industry purchasing, by
 generation, 2022
- Females have concerns when shopping for a car; industry must evolve to better cater to this consumer group
 Figure 38: Nissan partners with Brie Larson to promote new vehicle offerings
 Figure 39: Attitudes toward auto industry experience, by gender, 2022

FUTURE OF CAR BUYING

- **Consumers expect the car buying process to evolve** Figure 40: Future of car buying, by generation, 2022
- Black, Hispanic consumers look to elements of convenience Figure 41: Future of car buying, by race and Hispanic origin, 2022

APPENDIX – DATA SOURCES AND ABBREVIATIONS

- Data sources
- Sales data
- Forecast
- Consumer survey data

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

Did you know?

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

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

Visit	store.mintel.com
emea	+44 (0) 20 7606 4533
Brazil	0800 095 9094
Americas	+1 (312) 943 5250
China	+86 (21) 6032 7300
APAC	+61 (0) 2 8284 8100

Report Price: £3695 | \$4995 | €4400

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

- Consumer qualitative research
- Marketing creative
- Abbreviations and terms
- Abbreviations
- Terms

APPENDIX – THE MARKET

Figure 42: Total US unit sales and fan chart forecast of new light vehicles, at current prices, 2016-26 Figure 43: Total US unit sales and fan chart forecast of used light vehicles, at current prices, 2016-26

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

Did you know?

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

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

Visit	store.mintel.com
EMEA	+44 (0) 20 7606 4533
Brazil	0800 095 9094
Americas	+1 (312) 943 5250
China	+86 (21) 6032 7300
APAC	+61 (0) 2 8284 8100





About Mintel

Mintel is the **expert in what consumers want and why.** As the world's leading market intelligence agency, our analysis of consumers, markets, product innovation and competitive landscapes provides a unique perspective on global and local economies. Since 1972, our predictive analytics and expert recommendations have enabled our clients to make better business decisions faster

Our purpose is to help businesses and people grow. To find out how we do that, visit **mintel.com.**