

Crossovers, Pickup Trucks Lift August Sales Nearly 14 Percent, According To Kelley Blue Book

Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate Still on Track to Hit 15.6 Million Units in 2013

IRVINE, Calif., Aug. 22, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- [New-vehicle sales](#) are expected improve 13.6 percent in August 2013 to a total of 1.46 million units, according to Kelley Blue Book www.kbb.com, the leading provider of new and used car information. While affordable financing and generous incentive offers continue to more than offset any downside risk associated with steadily rising average transaction prices, low supply continues to impede the growth of major automakers such as Ford, Subaru and Hyundai. Given current market conditions, Kelley Blue Book believes that sales will remain on track to hit 15.6 million units in 2013.

(Logo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20121108/LA08161LOGO>)

Key Highlights for Estimated August 2013 Sales Forecast:

- In August, new light-vehicle sales, including fleet, are expected to hit 1,460,000 units, up 13.6 percent from August 2012 and up 11.0 percent from July 2013.
- The seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) for August 2013 is estimated to be 15.6 million, up from 14.5 million in August 2012 and down from 15.8 million in July 2013.
- Retail sales are expected to account for 86 percent of total sales in August 2013.

Accord, Civic and CR-V Help Honda Lead the Way with 17.3 Percent Improvement in August

Honda has enjoyed tremendous growth so far this year, with sales up more than 8.4 percent year-to-date through July, thanks to the success of the redesigned Accord, Civic and CR-V. Meanwhile, although not expected to post double-digit gains this month, Ford has seen sales volume improve nearly 13 percent so far this year, benefitting from its own batch of well-received redesigns. The bar is raised to new heights with every passing model year and with so many fuel-efficient, stylish alternatives available today, it has never been a better time to buy a new car.

"Most automakers are seeing double-digit sales increases compared to last year as retail sales remain a bright spot, even with more new models entering the market," said Alec Gutierrez, senior analyst at Kelley Blue Book. "Subaru continues to shine, estimated to be up 30 percent this month even with capacity constraints, and Honda once again has one of the strongest year-over-year growths. On the other hand, Ford could have been up double digits, but has been hampered with production issues from both the Escape and Fusion."

Manufacturer	Sales Volume ¹			Market Share ²		
	Aug-13	Aug-12	YOY %	Aug-13	Aug-12	YOY %
General Motors (Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, GMC)	265,000	240,520	10.2%	18.2%	18.7%	-0.6%
Ford Motor Company (Ford, Lincoln)	216,000	196,749	9.8%	14.8%	15.3%	-0.5%
Toyota Motor Company (Lexus, Scion, Toyota)	214,000	188,520	13.5%	14.7%	14.7%	0.0%
Chrysler Group (Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, RAM)	168,000	148,472	13.2%	11.5%	11.6%	0.0%
American Honda (Acura, Honda)	154,000	131,321	17.3%	10.5%	10.2%	0.3%
Nissan North America (Infiniti, Nissan)	113,000	98,515	14.7%	7.7%	7.7%	0.1%
Hyundai-Kia	119,000	111,127	7.1%	8.2%	8.6%	-0.5%
Volkswagen Group (Audi, Volkswagen)	54,000	52,538	2.8%	3.7%	4.1%	-0.4%
Total ³	1,460,000	1,285,292	13.6%	-	-	-

¹ Historical data from OEM sales announcements

² Kelley Blue Book Automotive Insights

³ Includes brands not shown

Trucks, Crossovers Remain Atop Growth Segments, While Compacts Aren't

Far Behind

The growth in the truck segment appears to have no end in sight, thanks in large part to the rise in new home construction taking place across the United States. In addition to gains attributed to the housing market, the auto industry is heading into the time of year where truck sales tend to ramp up. With seasonal demand predicted to increase during the next few months, Kelley Blue Book expects growth in the full-size pickup truck segment to continue unabated.

"The mid-size car segment, which had many redesigned models introduced last year, is expected to be down nearly 2 percent in market share and is being challenged by compact cars for the top segment, while both the large truck and compact crossover segments are seeing the most improvement, up nearly 1 percent," said Tim Fleming, analyst at Kelley Blue Book. "The launch of the new Toyota Corolla next month could provide the necessary sales for compact cars to become the leading segment in the industry."

Segment	Sales Volume ¹			Market Share		
	Aug-13	Aug-12	YOY %	Aug-13	Aug-12	YOY %
Mid-Size Car	230,000	222,695	3.3%	15.8%	17.3%	-1.6%
Compact Car	225,000	190,338	18.2%	15.4%	14.8%	0.6%
Compact Crossover	185,000	151,480	22.1%	12.7%	11.8%	0.9%
Full-Size Pickup Truck	185,000	151,937	21.8%	12.7%	11.8%	0.9%
Subcompact Car	62,000	56,094	10.5%	4.2%	4.4%	-0.1%
Total ²	1,460,000	1,285,292	13.6%	-	-	-

¹ Kelley Blue Book Automotive Insights

² Includes segments not shown

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