

New-Car Transaction Prices Up More Than 4 Percent On Truck, SUV Demand, According To Kelley Blue Book

Domestic Brands Profit Most from Truck, Utility Lineups; Interest Rate Hikes Could Disrupt Sales and Average Transaction Prices

IRVINE, Calif., June 2, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- The analysts at Kelley Blue Book www.kbb.com, the only vehicle valuation and information source trusted and relied upon by both consumers and the automotive industry, today report the estimated average transaction price (ATP) for light vehicles in the United States was \$33,363 in May 2015. [New-car prices](#) have increased by \$1,363 (up 4.3 percent) from May 2014, while dropping \$130 (down 0.4 percent) from last month.



"With the national average price of gasoline down nearly a dollar per gallon on average from one year ago, truck and SUV demand remains strong, elevating average transaction prices, especially for domestic automakers, in May," said Karl Brauer, senior analyst for Kelley Blue Book. "We also saw incentives spending remain nearly flat in May, which shows the strength of the overall new-car market."

Manufacturer	May 2015 Transaction Price (Avg.*	April 2015 Transaction Price (Avg.*	May 2014 Transaction Price (Avg.*	Percent Change April 2015 to May 2015*	Percent Change May 2014 to May 2015*
American Honda (Acura, Honda)	\$27,323	\$27,405	\$26,555	-0.3%	2.9%
Fiat Chrysler (Alfa Romeo, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Jeep, RAM)	\$34,164	\$33,875	\$32,924	0.9%	3.8%
Ford Motor Company (Ford, Lincoln)	\$35,517	\$35,351	\$34,059	0.5%	4.3%
General Motors (Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, GMC)	\$37,131	\$37,127	\$35,621	0.0%	4.2%
Hyundai-Kia	\$25,099	\$25,169	\$24,125	-0.3%	4.0%
Nissan North America (Nissan, Infiniti)	\$27,802	\$27,906	\$26,806	-0.4%	3.7%
Toyota Motor Company (Lexus, Scion, Toyota)	\$30,187	\$30,529	\$29,511	-1.1%	2.3%
Volkswagen Group (Audi, Volkswagen, Porsche)	\$40,288	\$40,796	\$39,071	-1.2%	3.1%
Industry	\$33,363	\$33,493	\$32,000	-0.4%	4.3%

**Kelley Blue Book Average Transaction Prices do not include applied consumer incentives*

Major truck and utility manufacturers, like the domestic brands, are profiting most from this trend, as cars make up only 1-in-3 units sold for the Detroit Three. General Motors, for example, is up 4.2 percent year-over-year on the strength of its newer products, including Cadillac Escalade, GMC Sierra and Chevrolet Corvette. The rise in SUV sales has continued to help GM, which is one of the strongest SUV manufacturers in the world. Not only do SUV sales lift average transaction prices, but SUVs also tend to drive increased profit compared to sedans. With several additional all-new GM products coming this year, particularly from Chevrolet, General Motors looks to continue its strong run throughout 2015.

"Relatively easy credit availability is helping drive transaction prices up, but it will be interesting to see if this trend continues if the long anticipated interest rate hikes materialize," said Brauer.

To discuss this topic, or any other automotive-related information, with a Kelley Blue Book analyst on-camera via the company's on-site studio, please contact a member of the Public Relations team to book an interview.

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