



CSM Automotive Production Barometer (APB)

CSM Worldwide, the leading provider of market intelligence and forecasting to the automotive industry, announces the launch of the CSM Automotive Production Barometer™. Released in advance of existing sources of information, this new service will provide an accurate tally of light vehicle production for the previous month to assist automotive economists and financial analysts in their ongoing industry evaluations.

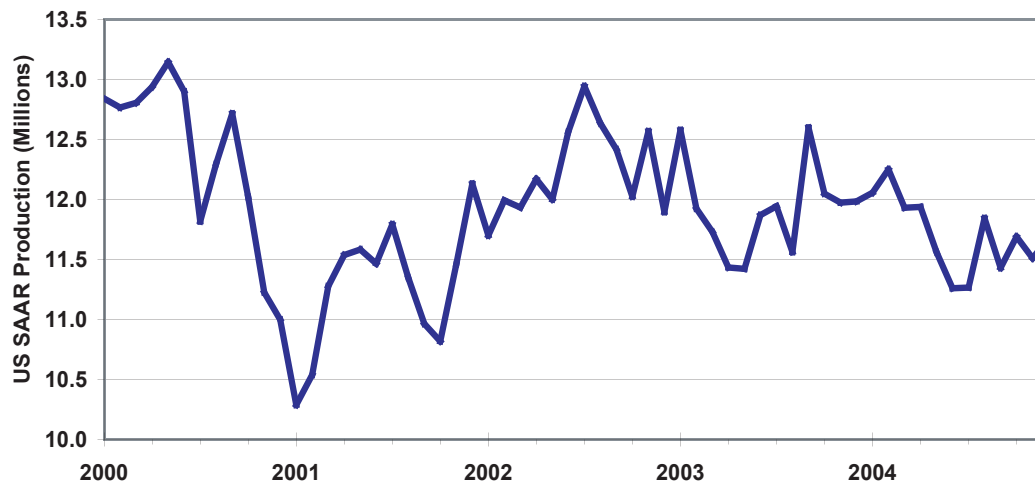
"Our Automotive Production Barometer is intended to mirror and expand on the Federal Reserve's estimate of U.S. light vehicle production," said Greg Mount, chief economist at CSM Worldwide. "With our industry knowledge, historical record-keeping and expertise in forecasting, we're able to provide an accurate count of U.S. and aggregate North American light vehicle production an average of three to four days in advance of the Federal Reserve's report. In an industry where minutes can matter, we see this as a significant advantage."

The CSM Automotive Production Barometer for January 2005 is currently available via the CSM Worldwide website: www.csmauto.com/auto-production-barometer. Beginning in February 2005, subsequent reports will be posted to the same location on or near the 11th of each month with a teleconference to discuss the report and other issues related to the light vehicle market.

Light vehicle production in the U.S. market rose 1.5% to a seasonally adjusted rate of 11.68 million units in December. On a non-seasonally adjusted basis, December was down 2.6% year-over-year at 0.86 million units. The decline was not unforeseen in the wake of announced incremental downtime by General Motors, Ford and DaimlerChrysler as they come to grips with mounting supply. The December seasonally adjusted rebound brings production back to levels near October's output after the 1.5% decline seen in November. Total U.S. light vehicle assembly for 2004 ended down 1.7% to a seasonally adjusted rate of 11.71 million units with total non-adjusted output coming in at 11.64 million units.

U.S. light truck production slipped to a 63.9% share of total build for the month on a seasonally adjusted basis compared to 65.3% in November. Light truck production declined 0.8% in December compared to a 5.7% increase for cars on an adjusted basis. For 2004, U.S. light truck production share increased to 64.3% on a seasonally adjusted basis, marking the seventh consecutive year of truck assemblies outpacing autos in total U.S. light vehicle production.

North American production increased 5.5% in December compared to last month but slipped 0.6% versus last year to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 16.64 million units. Total North American output in 2004 slipped 0.7% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 15.79 million units.



- Total U.S. output in 2004 dropped 1.71% to an 11.71M unit SAAR.

- U.S. light vehicle production fell 2.6% Y/Y to an NSA 0.86M units in December.

- December U.S. light vehicle production rebounded to an 11.68M unit SAAR.

- U.S. light truck output slipped to a 63.9% share of total build.

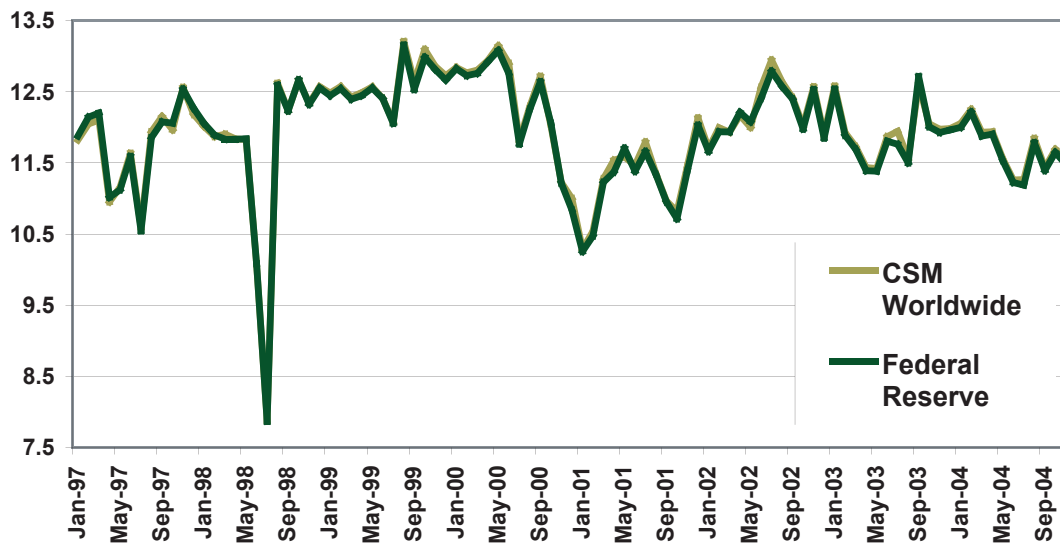


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Light Vehicle Production (Mil. Units)	Oct-04	Nov-04	Dec-04	2002	2003	2004
US Total (SAAR, Mil. Units)	11.69	11.51	11.68	12.21	11.92	11.71
Autos	3.99	3.99	4.22	5.01	4.45	4.18
Light Trucks	7.7	7.52	7.46	7.2	7.47	7.53
US (NSA, Mil. Units)	1.03	0.91	0.86	12.05	11.86	11.64
NA (SAAR, Mil. Units)	14.96	15.77	16.64	16.38	15.9	15.79

Light Vehicle Production (%)	Oct-04	Nov-04	Dec-04	2002	2003	2004
US Total (SAAR, Mil. Units) (M/M)	2.30%	-1.50%	1.50%	8.70%	-2.50%	-1.70%
Autos (M/M)	-6.00%	0.00%	5.70%	2.60%	-11.20%	-6.00%
Light Trucks (M/M)	7.20%	-2.30%	-0.80%	13.50%	3.60%	0.90%
US (NSA, Mil. Units) (Y/Y)	-11.80%	0.20%	-2.60%	7.40%	-1.60%	-1.90%
NA (SAAR, Mil. Units) (M/M)	-5.60%	5.40%	5.50%	5.40%	-2.90%	-0.70%

CSM Automotive Production Barometer Historical Accuracy vs Federal Reserve



CSM Automotive Production Barometer Release Dates

- Tuesday, 11 January 2005
- Friday, 11 February 2005
- Friday, 11 March 2005
- Tuesday, 12 April 2005
- Thursday, 12 May 2005
- Monday, 13 June 2005
- Tuesday, 12 July 2005
- Thursday, 11 August 2005
- Monday, 12 September 2005
- Tuesday, 11 October 2005
- Friday, 11 November 2005
- Monday, 12 December 2005