



CSM Automotive Production Barometer (APB)

CSM Worldwide, the leading provider of market intelligence and forecasting to the automotive industry, announces the June 2005 CSM Automotive Production Barometer™. Released in advance of existing sources of information, this service provides 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.”

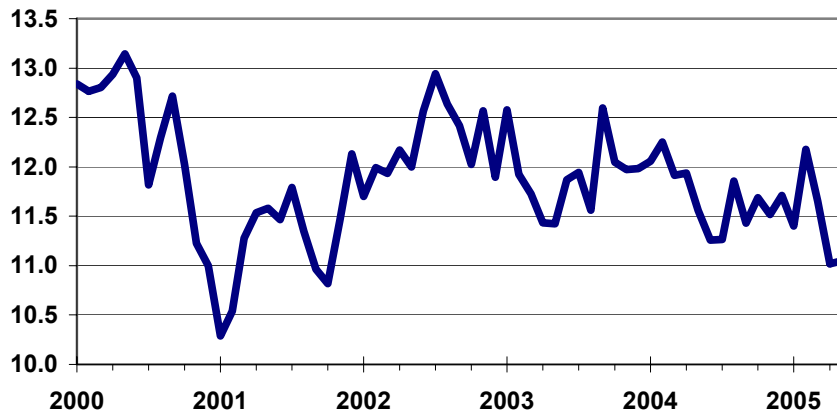
The CSM Automotive Production Barometer for June 2005 is currently available via the CSM Worldwide website: www.csmauto.com/auto-production-barometer. Subsequent reports will be posted to the same location on or near the 11th of each month, with a teleconference to discuss the report and other issues related to the light vehicle market. The teleconference is scheduled for June 13, 2005, at 10:00am EST and will begin with a brief review of U.S. production results followed by a question and answer session lasting approximately 15 minutes. To access the conference call, please dial 1-800-639-6218.

U.S. light vehicle production fell below 1.0M units in May to 991,000 units produced, up just 0.1% on a year-over-year basis. On a seasonally adjusted basis, production inched up slightly to 11.05M units in May over last month, but fell 4.4% year-over-year. The story continues to center on the weakness at the Traditional Big 3 automakers as they again instituted in excess of 170 days of downtime across their operations in May. The downtime over the past two months in addition to recent sales campaigns have finally made an impact on inventory levels as they have moderated with a few exceptions. U.S. production is expected to climb next month, but will be tempered by continued additional downtime.

Production through May in the U.S. is off 4.1% over the same time period as last year to a seasonally adjusted rate of 11.45M units. GM closed three plants in May, the Baltimore, Lansing M and Linden facilities that will contribute to lower volume for the remainder of the year. In addition, production of the full-size GMT800 SUVs will be scaled back as it prepares to launch the redesigned GMT900-based models later this year and through the first half of 2006. Year to date, North American production fell 3.2% to 15.38M units on a seasonally adjusted basis and down 3.3% to 6.69M units produced through May.

North American production fell 2.2% in May against last month but increased 0.8% over last year to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 15.09M units. On a seasonally adjusted basis, output at GM and Ford fell 9.2% and 4.7% respectively, while output at DaimlerChrysler grew 2.8%. On an equally adjusted basis, North American production at Toyota, Nissan and Honda plants continued to grow compared to a year ago, up 6.7%, 20.7% and 14.8% respectively for the month.

CSM Automotive Production Barometer (U.S. SAAR, Mil. Units)



- May U.S. light vehicle production increased to an 11.05M unit SAAR.
- May U.S. light vehicle production dropped 4.4% Y/Y on an adjusted basis.
- U.S. light vehicle production increased 0.1% Y/Y to a NSA 0.99M units in May.
- Year to date, U.S. light vehicle production is at an 11.45M unit SAAR, off 4.1% over last year.

Light Vehicle Production (Mil. Units)	Mar-05	Apr-05	May-05	2002	2003	2004
US Total (SAAR, Mil. Units)	11.65	11.02	11.05	12.21	11.92	11.71
Autos	4.33	4.06	4.04	5.01	4.45	4.18
Light Trucks	7.32	6.96	7.01	7.20	7.47	7.53
US (NSA, Mil. Units)	1.06	1.02	0.99	12.05	11.87	11.64
NA (SAAR, Mil. Units)	15.18	15.44	15.09	16.38	15.90	15.79

Light Vehicle Production (%)	Mar-05	Apr-05	May-05	2002	2003	2004
US Total (SAAR, Mil. Units) (M/M)	-4.30%	-5.50%	0.30%	8.70%	-2.40%	-1.70%
Autos (M/M)	-3.60%	-6.30%	-0.40%	2.60%	-11.20%	-6.00%
Light Trucks (M/M)	-4.70%	-4.90%	-4.90%	13.50%	3.60%	0.90%
US (NSA, Mil. Units) (Y/Y)	-10.70%	-3.10%	0.10%	7.40%	-1.60%	-1.90%
NA (SAAR, Mil. Units) (M/M)	5.17%	1.66%	-2.24%	5.45%	-2.92%	-0.72%

CSM Automotive Production Barometer Historical Accuracy vs Federal Reserve

