



## CSM Automotive Production Barometer (APB)

CSM Worldwide, the leading provider of market intelligence and forecasting to the automotive industry, announces the December 2006 CSM Automotive Production Barometer™. Released in advance of existing sources of information, this service provides an accurate record of light vehicle production for the previous month to assist automotive economists and financial analysts in their ongoing industry evaluations.

The CSM Automotive Production Barometer for December 2006 and release schedule is currently available via the CSM Worldwide website: [www.csmauto.com/auto-production-barometer](http://www.csmauto.com/auto-production-barometer).

US light vehicle production in November rebounded from last months' low, with 10.59M units produced on a seasonally adjusted annual rate. Despite this, production remains down 6.70% from year ago levels. Passenger car output fell 6.20% in November to 4.10M units on an adjusted basis while light trucks production declined 7.00% to 6.50M units, both much less severe than recent months' results. Non-seasonally adjusted production declined 7.00% to 840,000 produced in November versus last year.

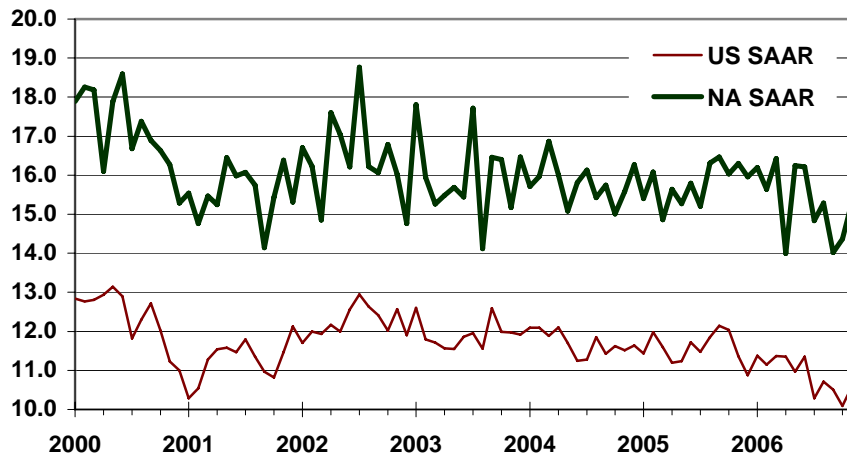
Total North American output declined 6.00% to a seasonally adjusted 15.32M units in November versus year ago levels. Though still a decline, production rates increased versus the past two months as production of several high volume new and redesigned vehicles reach full line speed. GM continues to ramp up production of its redesigned full-size pickups with DaimlerChrysler picking up speed with the redesigned Jeep Wrangler, Chrysler Sebring and Dodge Nitro models.

The "New 6" North American manufacturers were once again divided in November with GM, Ford and Toyota posting declines and DaimlerChrysler, Honda and Nissan recording increased output from year ago levels. Weakness at GM, down 16.40% from a year ago, is the result of more rationalized production rates to reduce inventory and incentive levels in addition to the continued ramp up of the full-size GMT900 pickups. Ford's 10.60% decline reflects vehicle weakness, several production transitions and previously scheduled downtime. Production at Toyota declined 4.90% as the result of the all-new Tundra full-size pickup being in the earliest launch stages that will take several months to reach full-speed.

Nissan continues to rebound, recording a 5.20% increase in output on an adjusted basis, as incremental production of the Versa small car increases in Mexico. Additional drivers fueling Nissan's increasing output are the redesigned Altima and Sentra models, though truck production remains a weakness at Nissan with several down days planned for this month and next. DaimlerChrysler's 8.80% increase in output versus year ago levels may surprise, but reflect strong output of new models in addition to a weak comparison due to the lack of production at the Belvidere plant in the last three months of 2006. Honda continues its steady, measured growth, posting an increase in output of 1.30% over last year.

Despite a rebound versus the past two months, the North American production environment for 2007 remains precarious for the Traditional Big 3 manufacturers of GM, Ford and DaimlerChrysler. New models and redesigns in addition to incremental new vehicle production in the region will further drive increasing share for the Japanese manufacturers.

## CSM Automotive Production Barometer (US and NA SAAR, units in millions)



- US light vehicle production fell 6.70% in November versus last year to a 10.59M unit SAAR.
- Year-to-date US light vehicle output is down 6.40% on an adjusted basis.
- US light vehicle production declined 7.00% compared to a year ago to a NSA 0.84M units in November.
- NA light vehicle output fell 6.00% from a year ago to 15.32M units on a SAAR basis.

Light Vehicle Production (units in millions)	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	YTD	2005	2004
US Total (SAAR)	10.51	10.09	10.59	10.90	11.59	11.71
Autos	4.20	4.19	4.10	4.16	4.26	4.18
Light Trucks	6.30	5.90	6.50	6.74	7.33	7.53
US (NSA)	0.89	0.95	0.84	10.12	11.57	11.64
North America (SAAR)	14.01	14.31	15.32	15.34	15.79	15.78

Light Vehicle Production (Y/Y %)	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	YTD	2005	2004
US Total (SAAR)	-13.10%	-15.70%	-6.70%	-6.40%	-1.10%	-1.70%
Autos	-2.10%	-3.30%	-6.20%	-2.40%	1.70%	-6.00%
Light Trucks	-19.20%	-22.70%	-7.00%	-8.80%	-2.70%	0.90%
US (NSA)	-16.80%	-10.80%	-7.00%	-6.10%	-0.60%	-1.90%
North America (SAAR)	-14.60%	-10.30%	-6.00%	-2.80%	0.00%	-0.70%

### North American Light Vehicle Production by Manufacturer

Light Vehicle Production (units in millions)	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	YTD	2005	2004
GM (SAAR, inc. HUMMER, CAMI) - GM	4.20	4.34	4.15	4.56	4.72	5.11
Ford (SAAR, inc. Mazda) - F	2.80	2.40	2.99	3.10	3.38	3.61
DaimlerChrysler (SAAR, inc. M-B) - DCX	2.11	2.39	3.02	2.62	2.79	2.67
Toyota (SAAR, inc. NUMMI) - TM	1.56	1.65	1.56	1.61	1.62	1.51
Honda (SAAR) - HMC	1.40	1.43	1.42	1.39	1.35	1.22
Nissan (SAAR, inc. Renault) - NSANY	1.02	1.27	1.27	1.16	1.20	1.07

Light Vehicle Production (Y/Y %)	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	YTD	2005	2004
GM (SAAR, inc. HUMMER, CAMI) - GM	-13.30%	-12.20%	-16.40%	-3.60%	-7.50%	-4.10%
Ford (SAAR, inc. Mazda) - F	-20.10%	-25.50%	-10.60%	-7.70%	-6.30%	-5.00%
DaimlerChrysler (SAAR, inc. M-B) - DCX	-30.70%	-18.20%	8.80%	-6.60%	4.50%	3.90%
Toyota (SAAR, inc. NUMMI) - TM	-4.70%	2.70%	-4.90%	-0.50%	7.10%	12.10%
Honda (SAAR) - HMC	3.70%	4.20%	1.30%	3.40%	10.80%	-3.30%
Nissan (SAAR, inc. Renault) - NSANY	-15.50%	15.20%	5.20%	-3.60%	11.50%	29.60%