# Los Angeles Auto Outlook 

Comprehensive information on the LA County new vehicle market

## FORECAST

## County New Vehicle Market Increased Slightly in 1Q ‘24

Below is a review of key trends in the Los Angeles County new vehicle market.

## Results during 1Q 2024

County new light vehicle registrations increased by less than $2 \%$ during the first three months of 2024 vs. year-earlier levels. National retail market was up $6.9 \%$. As shown on page 2, equivalent U.S. SAAR levels remained at 14.7 million units in the First Quarter of this year.

## 2024 Forecast

According to Auto Outlook's forecast, registrations are expected to exceed 440,000 units this year and increase $3.7 \%$ from 2023. That projection is $15 \%$ higher than the total in 2022 when the market was significantly impacted by product shortages, but is still below the recent high of 555,996 units in 2016.

## Key determinants for the market

The shaded box on the right reviews the primary forecast determinants. Pent-up demand is still significant and the county labor market is strong. Vehicle affordability is still a concern, but should improve as the year progresses. As pointed out in the previous release of Auto Outlook, barring any
unforeseen negative shocks, we think the new vehicle market could be stronger than expected in 2024.

## Tracking alternative powertrain sales

County BEV registrations were up 19\% in the First Quarter of this year versus a year earlier, and market share increased to $22.9 \%$. Gains have levelled off during the past few quarters, however. Hybrid registrations exceeded 13,500 units in 1Q '24 and improved $50 \%$ versus year earlier. Plug in hybrid market was up $7 \%$ (see page 6).

## Brands that fared best in early 2024

Among the top 25 sellers in the county market, Audi, Lexus, Volvo, Infiniti, and Honda had the largest percentage gains in the First Quarter of this year. Toyota, Honda, Tesla, BMW, and Lexus were market share leaders.

## Top selling models in Los Angeles County

 Tesla Model Y, Toyota RAV4, Honda Civic, Toyota Camry, Tesla Model 3, Honda CR-V, Honda Accord, Honda HR-V, and Lexus NX were the top 10 sellers so far this year.

## Primary Factors Driving the County New Vehicle Market

» County unemployment rate was 5.0\% in February and total employment exceeded five million.
» Growth in personal income has largely kept pace with inflation. Household wealth is at record-high levels.
» Consumer confidence has fluctuated a bit over the past few months, but is well above the lows in 2022 when inflation concerns were paramount.
» High interest rates continue to put a squeeze on affordability, but the prospects for lower rates later this year, falling vehicle prices, and strong wage gains should lead to improvement in the second half of 2024.
» Pent up demand is the biggest positive for the county market. Auto Outlook estimates that nearly 220,000 new vehicle purchases have been postponed since the onset of the pandemic and ensuing supply chain issues.

Forecast for County New Retail Light Vehicle Registrations


The graph above shows annual new retail light vehicle registrations from 2021 through 2023 and Auto Outlook's projection for 2024.
Historical data sourced from Experian Automotive.

Market Summary

|  | YTD '23 <br> thru Mar. | YTD '24 <br> thru Mar. | 23 Chg. | Mkt. Share |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| TOTAL '24 | YTD '24 |  |  |  |

Domestics consist of vehicles sold by GM, Ford, Stellantis (excluding Alfa Romeo and FIAT), Tesla, Rivian, and Lucid.
Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

## KEY TRENDS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY NEW VEHICLE MARKET



## COUNTY MARKET VS. U.S.



## QUARTERLY RESULTS

Los Angeles County
Quarterly Registrations

Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate, Converted to Equivalent U.S. New Vehicle Market SAAR (millions of units)


The graph on the left provides an easily recognizable way to gauge the strength of the county market. It shows quarterly registrations based on a seasonally adjusted annual rate. These figures are then indexed to SAAR sales figures for the U.S. new vehicle market. So just like in the national market, when the quarterly SAAR is above 17 million units, the county market is strong, 15 million is about average, and below 13 million is weak. Equivalent SAAR levels in the county remained at 14.7 million units in the First Quarter of this year.

New retail light vehicle registrations in the county increased $1.8 \%$ during the first three months of this year vs. year earlier, below the 6.9\% improvement in the Nation.

Data sourced from Experian Automotive. SAAR estimates: Auto Outlook.

| \% Change in <br> registrations vs. <br> previous quarter | $D 0 W N$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $(1 Q$ ‘24 vs. 4Q ‘23) | $0.3 \%$ |

[^0]
## KEY TRENDS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY NEW VEHICLE MARKET



## PRIMARY MARKET SEGMENTS - COUNTY AND U.S.



The graph above shows market shares for nine primary segments in both the county and U.S. markets. County market share is represented by the blue bars. Orange shaded bars show U.S. Data sourced from Experian Automotive.


## COMPARISON OF METRO AREA MARKETS

COMPARE

BEV and PHEV Share in Selected Metro Area Markets - YTD 2024 thru March


Markets are shown from left (highest) to right (lowest) based on combined BEV and PHEV market share. Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

# BRANDS AND MODELS 

TOP SELLING BRANDS IN 7 PRIMARY SEGMENTS
Non Luxury Cars
The seven graphs on this page show brand market share in seven key segments during the first three months of 2024 in both the Los Angeles County and U.S. markets. County percent share is depicted by the red bars, U.S. share is light gray. Top ten brands in each segment are ranked from top to bottom based on Los Angeles County share.

Segments were defined based on model classifications instead of overall brand positioning. For instance, Chevrolet appears on the Luxury and Sports cars graph because of the Corvette. Small SUVs consists of both Sub Compact and Compact models.

## Legend for all graphs

Brand share of segment in Los Angeles county during YTD '24

Brand share of segment in U.S. market during YTD '24

Luxury and Sports Cars


Mid and Full Size Non Luxury SUVs


Pickups


Small Luxury SUVs


Small Non Luxury SUVs


Mid and Full Size Luxury SUVs


## BRANDS AND MODELS

## Qion, WINNERS AND LOSERS

The graph below shows both the percent and unit change in registrations during the First Quarter of this year versus year earlier. Comparing the percent change in registrations is helpful for establishing the relative change in results, but it can be misleading since it doesn't take into the account the absolute level of registrations. As shown below, Volvo posted a big percentage improvement in the First Quarter (up $22.1 \%$, blue bar) but the unit increase was relatively small (up by 175 units). Honda's percentage increase was smaller than Volvo (up 14.3\%), but the unit total improved by nearly 1,700 units.

Percent and Unit Change in New Retail Light Vehicle Registrations for Top 25 Selling Brands - YTD ‘24 thru Mar. vs. YTD ‘23


Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

## TOP SELLING MODELS

| Rank | Model | Area Share \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { \% chg. } \\ \text { '23 to '24 } \end{gathered}$ | Rank | Model | Area <br> Share \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { \% chg. } \\ \text { '23 to '24 } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Tesla Model Y | 8.2 | 10.8 | 11 | Lexus RX | 1.3 | 29.2 |
| 2 | Toyota RAV4 | 4.0 | 28.6 | 12 | Chevrolet Silverado | 1.2 | -3.0 |
| 3 | Honda Civic | 3.7 | 20.0 | 13 | Kia Forte | 1.1 | -47.0 |
| 4 | Toyota Camry | 3.6 | 10.9 | 14 | Subaru Crosstrek | 1.0 | -18.1 |
| 5 | Tesla Model 3 | 3.2 | -19.4 | 15 | Jeep Wrangler | 1.0 | -0.8 |
| 6 | Honda CR-V | 3.1 | 72.8 | 16 | Toyota Prius | 0.9 | 36.9 |
| 7 | Honda Accord | 2.6 | -7.2 | 17 | Ford F-Series | 0.9 | -19.6 |
| 8 | Toyota Corolla | 2.2 | -3.8 | 18 | Tesla Model X | 0.9 | -0.6 |
| 9 | Honda HR-V | 1.8 | -2.0 | 19 | Honda Pilot | 0.8 | 3.2 |
| 10 | Lexus NX | 1.5 | 43.2 | 20 | Toyota Corolla Cross | 0.8 | 35.3 |

Table on the left presents the top 20 selling models in the county during the first three months of this year. Share of industry registrations and the percent change versus the same period a year earlier is also shown. Models with the five largest percentage increase are shaded blue.

Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

## ALTERNATIVE POWERTRAIN MARKET

| FIVE <br> KEY <br> TRENDS | 1. | BEV share increased from $19.5 \%$ in 1Q '23 to $22.9 \%$ in 1 Q '24. | 2. | BEV registrations increased by less than $2 \%$ from 4 Q '23 to 1 Q '24. | 3. | Franchised dealer share of BEV market was $41.3 \%$ in 1Q '24 vs. $32.8 \%$ a year earlier. | 4. | Hybrid registrations increased 50\% so far this year. Plug ins were up 7\%. | 5. | Hybrid registrations increased for each of the top five selling brands. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |



## BEV, PHEV, AND HYBRID MARKET SHARE

Percent Share of Industry Registrations by Powertrain Type


## FRANCHISED DEALERSHIPS AND DIRECT SELLERS

## New Hybrid, BEV, and PHEV Registrations in Los Angeles County by Type of Selling Dealership



| BEV Registrations and Market Share |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | Franchised <br> Dealerships | Direct <br> Sellers |
|  | 6,441 | 13186 |
| YTD '23 thru Mar. | 9,693 | 13784 |
| YTD '24 thru Mar. | $50.5 \%$ | $4.5 \%$ |
| \% change | 32.8 | 67.2 |
| YTD '23 mkt. share \% | 41.3 | 58.7 |
| YTD '24 mkt. share \% | 8.5 | -8.5 |
| change | 10,169 | 13,013 |
| 4Q '23 registrations | 9,693 | 13,784 |
| 1Q '24 registrations | $-4.7 \%$ | $5.9 \%$ |
| \% change | 43.9 | 56.1 |
| 4Q '23 registrations | 41.3 | 58.7 |
| 1Q '24 registrations | -2.6 | 2.6 |
| change |  |  |

[^1]Data sourced from Experian Automotive. Hybrid registrations exclude mild hybrids.

## ALTERNATIVE POWERTRAIN MARKET

## MAKES AND MODELS



Brand Share of Los Angeles County BEV Market (\%) YTD '24 thru March
55.0\%


## Observations

» Audi had the largest \% increase in BEV registrations in the First Quarter of this year versus year earlier (up $342 \%$ ).
» BEV registrations declined from 4Q '23 to 1Q '24 for five of the top 10 selling brands.
» Tesla share of the BEV market was $55.0 \%$ in 1Q '24.

[^2]| Top Five Brands by type of Powertrain Registrations for YTD '23 and '24 thru March |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Rank | Brand | $\begin{array}{r} \text { YTD '23 } \\ \text { Regs. } \end{array}$ | YTD '24 Regs. | \% chg. | YTD '24 Share |
|  | 1 | Tesla | 12,771 | 12,918 | 1.2\% | 55.0\% |
| B | 2 | Mercedes | 758 | 1,834 | 142.0\% | 7.8\% |
| E | 3 | BMW | 586 | 1,501 | 156.1\% | 6.4\% |
| V | 4 | Audi | 272 | 1,201 | 341.5\% | 5.1\% |
|  | 5 | Hyundai | 575 | 946 | 64.5\% | 4.0\% |
|  | 1 | Jeep | 899 | 987 | 9.8\% | 26.1\% |
| P | 2 | Toyota | 628 | 832 | 32.5\% | 22.0\% |
| H | 3 | Volvo | 278 | 411 | 47.8\% | 10.9\% |
| V | 4 | Lexus | 126 | 306 | 142.9\% | 8.1\% |
|  | 5 | BMW | 857 | 227 | -73.5\% | 6.0\% |
| H | 1 | Toyota | 3,959 | 6,593 | 66.5\% | 48.6\% |
| Y | 2 | Honda | 1,463 | 3,086 | 110.9\% | 22.7\% |
| B | 3 | Lexus | 1,334 | 1,965 | 47.3\% | 14.5\% |
| I |  | Kia | 1,079 | 783 | -27.4\% | 5.8\% |
| D | 5 | Ford | 445 | 584 | 31.2\% | 4.3\% |

Market Share for Top 15 Selling
BEVs, PHEVs, and Hybrids - YTD '24 thru March
YTD '24

| Rank | Model | Type | Share |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | ---: |
| 1 | Tesla Model Y | BEV | $20.7 \%$ |
| 2 | Tesla Model 3 | BEV | $8.0 \%$ |
| 3 | Toyota RAV4 | Hybrid | $5.2 \%$ |
| 4 | Honda CR-V | Hybrid | $4.4 \%$ |
| 5 | Honda Accord | Hybrid | $3.2 \%$ |
| 6 | Toyota Corolla | Hybrid | $2.7 \%$ |
| 7 | Tesla Model X | BEV | $2.1 \%$ |
| 8 | Jeep Wrangler | PHEV | $2.0 \%$ |
| 9 | Lexus NX | Hybrid | $1.8 \%$ |
| 10 | Toyota Camry | Hybrid | $1.7 \%$ |
| 11 | Volkswagen ID.4 | BEV | $1.5 \%$ |
| 12 | Mercedes EQE SUV | BEV | $1.4 \%$ |
| 13 | Toyota Prius | Hybrid | $1.4 \%$ |
| 14 | Chevrolet Bolt | BEV | $1.4 \%$ |
| 15 | Mercedes EQB | BEV | $1.3 \%$ |


| Brand Registrations Report <br> Los Angeles County New Retail Car and Light Truck Registrations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | First Quarter |  |  |  |  |  | Annual Totals |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Registrations |  |  | Market Share (\%) |  |  | Registrations |  |  | Market Share (\%) |  |  |
|  | 1Q '23 | 1Q '24 | \% change | 1Q '23 | 1Q '24 | Change | 2022 | 2023 | \% change | 2022 | 2023 | Change |
| TOTAL | 100,783 | 102,635 | 1.8 |  |  |  | 383,933 | 424,294 | 10.5 |  |  |  |
| Cars | 34,675 | 32,314 | -6.8 | 34.4 | 31.5 | -2.9 | 136,550 | 145,587 | 6.6 | 35.6 | 34.3 | -1.3 |
| Light Trucks | 66,108 | 70,321 | 6.4 | 65.6 | 68.5 | 2.9 | 247,383 | 278,707 | 12.7 | 64.4 | 65.7 | 1.3 |
| Domestic Brands | 29,738 | 28,123 | -5.4 | 29.5 | 27.4 | -2.1 | 115,160 | 125,843 | 9.3 | 30.0 | 29.7 | -0.3 |
| European Brands | 19,356 | 20,858 | 7.8 | 19.2 | 20.3 | 1.1 | 72,854 | 80,729 | 10.8 | 19.0 | 19.0 | 0.0 |
| Japanese Brands | 41,886 | 44,679 | 6.7 | 41.6 | 43.5 | 1.9 | 156,054 | 177,157 | 13.5 | 40.6 | 41.8 | 1.2 |
| Korean Brands | 9,803 | 8,975 | -8.4 | 9.7 | 8.7 | -1.0 | 39,865 | 40,565 | 1.8 | 10.4 | 9.6 | -0.8 |
| Acura | 787 | 714 | -9.3 | 0.8 | 0.7 | -0.1 | 2,665 | 3,360 | 26.1 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.1 |
| Alfa Romeo | 123 | 188 | 52.8 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1,023 | 601 | -41.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Audi | 2,469 | 3,401 | 37.7 | 2.4 | 3.3 | 0.9 | 8,740 | 12,222 | 39.8 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 0.6 |
| Bmw | 5,282 | 5,513 | 4.4 | 5.2 | 5.4 | 0.2 | 19,208 | 20,951 | 9.1 | 5.0 | 4.9 | -0.1 |
| Buick | 161 | 158 | -1.9 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 500 | 707 | 41.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Cadillac | 677 | 756 | 11.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 2,545 | 2,808 | 10.3 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
| Chevrolet | 5,180 | 3,967 | -23.4 | 5.1 | 3.9 | -1.2 | 18,487 | 19,881 | 7.5 | 4.8 | 4.7 | -0.1 |
| Chrysler | 165 | 193 | 17.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 607 | 840 | 38.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Dodge | 647 | 685 | 5.9 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 3,623 | 2,776 | -23.4 | 0.9 | 0.7 | -0.2 |
| Ford | 5,121 | 4,582 | -10.5 | 5.1 | 4.5 | -0.6 | 19,721 | 19,796 | 0.4 | 5.1 | 4.7 | -0.4 |
| Genesis | 559 | 453 | -19.0 | 0.6 | 0.4 | -0.2 | 1,956 | 2,142 | 9.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| GMC | 1,098 | 1,088 | -0.9 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 4,262 | 4,530 | 6.3 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.0 |
| Honda | 11,526 | 13,177 | 14.3 | 11.4 | 12.8 | 1.4 | 35,595 | 50,490 | 41.8 | 9.3 | 11.9 | 2.6 |
| Hyundai | 3,603 | 3,670 | 1.9 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 0.0 | 14,057 | 15,990 | 13.8 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 0.1 |
| Infiniti | 442 | 531 | 20.1 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 1,537 | 1,911 | 24.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| Jaguar | 56 | 79 | 41.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 319 | 225 | -29.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Jeep | 2,285 | 1,904 | -16.7 | 2.3 | 1.9 | -0.4 | 11,094 | 9,722 | -12.4 | 2.9 | 2.3 | -0.6 |
| Kia | 5,641 | 4,753 | -15.7 | 5.6 | 4.6 | -1.0 | 23,852 | 22,383 | -6.2 | 6.2 | 5.3 | -0.9 |
| Land Rover | 1,183 | 1,233 | 4.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 3,414 | 3,884 | 13.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| Lexus | 3,916 | 5,308 | 35.5 | 3.9 | 5.2 | 1.3 | 16,145 | 18,643 | 15.5 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 0.2 |
| Lincoln | 263 | 270 | 2.7 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 900 | 980 | 8.9 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Maserati | 61 | 142 | 132.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 409 | 315 | -23.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Mazda | 2,020 | 2,085 | 3.2 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 7,812 | 8,024 | 2.7 | 2.0 | 1.9 | -0.1 |
| Mercedes | 5,222 | 5,149 | -1.4 | 5.2 | 5.0 | -0.2 | 20,396 | 21,518 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.1 | -0.2 |
| MINI | 402 | 435 | 8.2 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 1,683 | 1,568 | -6.8 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| Mitsubishi | 259 | 209 | -19.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 1,055 | 1,055 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| Nissan | 3,716 | 3,153 | -15.2 | 3.7 | 3.1 | -0.6 | 14,488 | 14,836 | 2.4 | 3.8 | 3.5 | -0.3 |
| Polestar | 80 | 108 | 35.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 729 | 286 | -60.8 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| Porsche | 1,192 | 1,095 | -8.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | -0.1 | 4,455 | 4,721 | 6.0 | 1.2 | 1.1 | -0.1 |
| Ram | 955 | 835 | -12.6 | 0.9 | 0.8 | -0.1 | 4,950 | 4,059 | -18.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | -0.3 |
| Rivian | 286 | 527 | 84.3 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 677 | 1,865 | 175.5 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 |
| Subaru | 3,553 | 3,079 | -13.3 | 3.5 | 3.0 | -0.5 | 13,457 | 13,444 | -0.1 | 3.5 | 3.2 | -0.3 |
| Tesla | 12,771 | 12,918 | 1.2 | 12.7 | 12.6 | -0.1 | 47,597 | 57,144 | 20.1 | 12.4 | 13.5 | 1.1 |
| Toyota | 15,667 | 16,423 | 4.8 | 15.5 | 16.0 | 0.5 | 63,300 | 65,394 | 3.3 | 16.5 | 15.4 | -1.1 |
| Volkswagen | 2,263 | 2,261 | -0.1 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 0.0 | 8,432 | 9,628 | 14.2 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 0.1 |
| Volvo | 793 | 968 | 22.1 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 2,994 | 3,911 | 30.6 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.1 |
| Other | 359 | 625 | 74.1 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 1,249 | 1,684 | 34.8 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.1 |

Data sourced from Experian Automotive. Top 10 in percent change are shaded yellow.

## Los Angeles Auto Outlook

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[^1]:    As illustrated on the graph, franchised dealerships accounted for $66 \%$ of the combined Hybrid, BEV, and PHEV market. Franchised dealer share of the BEV market increased from $32.8 \%$ in $1 Q$ ' 23 to $41.3 \%$ in 1Q ' 24.

[^2]:    Data sourced from Experian Automotive. Hybrid registrations exclude mild hybrids.

