## NEW VEHICLE MARKET FORECAST

## State Market Predicted to Increase 7.2\% for Remainder of 2023

Below is a review of key trends in the Colorado new vehicle market.

## Results during 1Q 2023

State new light vehicle registrations declined $3.4 \%$ during the first three months of 2023 vs. weak year-earlier levels. National retail market fell 1.0\%. As shown on page 2, equivalent U.S. SAAR levels stayed below 14.2 million units, an indicator that state new vehicle sales remained subdued.

## 2023 Forecast

According to the baseline forecast, registrations are expected to exceed 200,000 units this year, a $4.6 \%$ improvement from 2022. See sidebar to right for alternative upside and downside projections. Registrations are predicted to increase $7.2 \%$ from April thru December of this year versus the same period in 2022.

## Key determinants for the market

During the past three years, the new vehicle market has been impacted by a series of speed bumps that have put the brakes on sales. The pandemic, supply chain issues, depleted inventories, rising interest rates, weakening consumer affordability, and concern over the banking system have pushed sales below trend levels. Despite this lengthy list, primary factors driving the market during 2023 are fairly evident. Fol-
lowing three years of below average sales, pent-up demand is at elevated levels as the volume of postponed purchases continues to grow. Weakening consumer affordability will hold back the release of pent-up demand, but improving vehicle inventories should be sufficient to push sales above current levels.

## Battery Electric Vehicle sales gains

BEV market share in the state increased to 10.2\% in the First Quarter of 2023, up from 7.1\% a year earlier. Franchised dealership share of the BEV market improved by five share points so far this year (see page 4).

## Light truck sales

There are signs that the climb in light truck market share could be reaching its peak. Light trucks (consisting of SUVs, pickups, and vans) accounted for $61.2 \%$ of the market in 2012, and increased to $86.9 \%$ last year. In the First Quarter of 2023, however, light truck share increased by just 1.2 points versus year earlier.

## Brands that fared best in early 2023

Among the top 25 sellers in the state market, Buick, Kia, Mazda, Lexus, and Audi had the largest percentage gains in the First Quarter of this year. Toyota, Ford, Subaru Chevrolet, and Kia were market leaders.

Top selling models in Colorado State
Ford F-Series, Tesla Model Y, Toyota RAV4, Subaru Crosstrek, Ram Pickup, Toyota Tacoma, Chevrolet Silverado, GMC Sierra, Subaru Outback, and Subaru Forester were the top 10 sellers so far this year.

## State economic conditions

Total employment in Colorado was 3.12 million, higher than pre-pandemic levels. Unemployment rate was just 2.9\% (see page 3).

Outlook for
Colorado New Retail
Light Vehicle Market

2023 Annual Forecast
Baseline scenario: 203,100
up $4.6 \%$ vs. '22
Alternative upside: 214,600 up $10.5 \%$ vs. ' 22
Alternative downside: 193,600 down $0.3 \%$ vs. ' 22


The graph above shows annual new retail light vehicle registrations from 2020 through 2022 and Auto Outlook's baseline projection for 2023. Historical data sourced from Experian Automotive.

## Market Summary

|  | YTD '22 <br> March | YTD '23 <br> March | \% Chg. |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 48,357 | 46,730 | $-3.4 \%$ | Mkt. Share |
| YTD '23 |  |  |  |  |

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


## MARKET PERFORMANCE DURING PAST TWO YEARS

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



Data sourced from Experian Automotive. SAAR estimates: Auto Outlook.
The graph on the left provides an easily recognizable way to gauge the strength of the state 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 state market is strong, 15 million is about average, and below 13 million is weak. Equivalent SAAR levels in the state increased from 13.5 million in the Fourth Quarter of last year to 14.1 million in the First Quarter of this year.

# \% Change In <br> New Retail Market YTD 2023 thru March <br> vs. <br> DOWN 3.4\% <br> U.S. <br> DOWN 1.0\% <br> New retail light vehicle registrations in the state declined $3.4 \%$ in the First Quarter of this year, slightly higher than the $1.0 \%$ drop in the Nation. 

Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

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## Colorado New Vehicle Market Dashboard



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, University of Michigan, and U.S. Bureau of Econ. Analysis.

## TOP TEN RANKINGS IN STATE MARKET



## Vehicle Powertrain Dashboard




Data sourced from Experian Automotive. Hybrid vehicle market share excludes mild hybrids.

## Share of State BEV Market for Franchised Dealerships and Direct Sellers

YTD 2022 thru March


YTD 2023 thru March


Brand Share of Colorado BEV Market YTD 2022 and YTD 2023 thru March


Observations: Franchised dealership share of the Colorado BEV market increased from 40\% during the first quarter of 2022 to $45 \%$ this year. Franchised dealership brand registrations were up $56 \%$ vs. the $26 \%$ increase for direct sellers. Tesla BEV market share declined 12.3 points, while registrations improved by less than $10 \%$. Rivian was the second best-selling BEV brand so far this year. Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

| Brand Registrations Report Colorado New Retail Gar and Light Truck Registrations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | First Quarter |  |  |  |  |  | Annual Totals |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Registrations |  |  | Market Share (\%) |  |  | Registrations |  |  | Market Share (\%) |  |  |
|  | 1Q '22 | 1Q '23 | \% change | 1Q '22 | 1Q '23 | Change | 2021 | 2022 | \% change | 2021 | 2022 | Change |
| TOTAL | 48,357 | 46,730 | -3.4 |  |  |  | 223,991 | 194,202 | -13.3 |  |  |  |
| Cars | 6,308 | 5,518 | -12.5 | 13.0 | 11.8 | -1.2 | 30,736 | 25,435 | -17.2 | 13.7 | 13.1 | -0.6 |
| Light Trucks | 42,049 | 41,212 | -2.0 | 87.0 | 88.2 | 1.2 | 193,255 | 168,767 | -12.7 | 86.3 | 86.9 | 0.6 |
| Domestic Brands | 18,437 | 17,955 | -2.6 | 38.1 | 38.4 | 0.3 | 85,800 | 74,314 | -13.4 | 38.3 | 38.3 | 0.0 |
| European Brands | 5,896 | 5,402 | -8.4 | 12.2 | 11.6 | -0.6 | 27,420 | 23,323 | -14.9 | 12.2 | 12.0 | -0.2 |
| Japanese Brands | 18,989 | 18,047 | -5.0 | 39.3 | 38.6 | -0.7 | 89,823 | 74,785 | -16.7 | 40.1 | 38.5 | -1.6 |
| Korean Brands | 5,035 | 5,326 | 5.8 | 10.4 | 11.4 | 1.0 | 20,948 | 21,780 | 4.0 | 9.4 | 11.2 | 1.8 |
| Acura | 287 | 305 | 6.3 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 1,781 | 1,061 | -40.4 | 0.8 | 0.5 | -0.3 |
| Alfa Romeo | 34 | 26 | -23.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 133 | 109 | -18.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Audi | 823 | 930 | 13.0 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 0.3 | 4,224 | 3,324 | -21.3 | 1.9 | 1.7 | -0.2 |
| BMW | 1,053 | 1,144 | 8.6 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 0.2 | 5,003 | 4,448 | -11.1 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 0.1 |
| Buick | 218 | 413 | 89.4 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 2,070 | 1,042 | -49.7 | 0.9 | 0.5 | -0.4 |
| Cadillac | 254 | 281 | 10.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1,391 | 1,109 | -20.3 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.0 |
| Chevrolet | 2,743 | 2,996 | 9.2 | 5.7 | 6.4 | 0.7 | 15,203 | 12,507 | -17.7 | 6.8 | 6.4 | -0.4 |
| Chrysler | 93 | 86 | -7.5 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 484 | 360 | -25.6 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Dodge | 312 | 220 | -29.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | -0.1 | 1,597 | 1,117 | -30.1 | 0.7 | 0.6 | -0.1 |
| Ford | 5,483 | 5,776 | 5.3 | 11.3 | 12.4 | 1.1 | 25,071 | 21,959 | -12.4 | 11.2 | 11.3 | 0.1 |
| Genesis | 126 | 152 | 20.6 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 622 | 637 | 2.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| GMC | 1,843 | 1,846 | 0.2 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 0.2 | 8,563 | 7,793 | -9.0 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 0.2 |
| Honda | 2,874 | 2,431 | -15.4 | 5.9 | 5.2 | -0.7 | 17,313 | 10,594 | -38.8 | 7.7 | 5.5 | -2.2 |
| Hyundai | 2,910 | 2,437 | -16.3 | 6.0 | 5.2 | -0.8 | 11,021 | 10,957 | -0.6 | 4.9 | 5.6 | 0.7 |
| Infiniti | 120 | 176 | 46.7 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 792 | 570 | $-28.0$ | 0.4 | 0.3 | $-0.1$ |
| Jaguar | 40 | 33 | -17.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 254 | 153 | -39.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Jeep | 3,012 | 2,037 | -32.4 | 6.2 | 4.4 | -1.8 | 12,773 | 10,722 | -16.1 | 5.7 | 5.5 | -0.2 |
| Kia | 1,999 | 2,737 | 36.9 | 4.1 | 5.9 | 1.8 | 9,305 | 10,186 | 9.5 | 4.2 | 5.2 | 1.0 |
| Land Rover | 245 | 265 | 8.2 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1,444 | 865 | -40.1 | 0.6 | 0.4 | -0.2 |
| Lexus | 825 | 938 | 13.7 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 0.3 | 3,722 | 3,222 | -13.4 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.0 |
| Lincoln | 209 | 253 | 21.1 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 1,479 | 941 | -36.4 | 0.7 | 0.5 | -0.2 |
| Maserati | 18 | 14 | -22.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 69 | 78 | 13.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Mazda | 1,483 | 1,716 | 15.7 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 0.6 | 6,079 | 5,372 | -11.6 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 0.1 |
| Mercedes | 894 | 759 | -15.1 | 1.8 | 1.6 | -0.2 | 4,768 | 3,801 | -20.3 | 2.1 | 2.0 | -0.1 |
| MINI | 182 | 129 | -29.1 | 0.4 | 0.3 | -0.1 | 570 | 604 | 6.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Mitsubishi | 159 | 157 | -1.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 518 | 574 | 10.8 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Nissan | 1,826 | 1,879 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 0.2 | 9,517 | 7,188 | -24.5 | 4.2 | 3.7 | -0.5 |
| Other | 39 | 45 | 15.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 196 | 169 | -13.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Polestar | 103 | 32 | -68.9 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -0.1 | 74 | 363 | 390.5 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Porsche | 196 | 285 | 45.4 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 1,187 | 1,003 | -15.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Ram | 2,200 | 1,430 | -35.0 | 4.5 | 3.1 | -1.4 | 10,637 | 7,735 | -27.3 | 4.7 | 4.0 | -0.7 |
| Rivian | 9 | 351 |  | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0 | 785 |  | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Subaru | 4,489 | 4,234 | -5.7 | 9.3 | 9.1 | -0.2 | 21,260 | 18,161 | -14.6 | 9.5 | 9.4 | -0.1 |
| Tesla | 2,059 | 2,255 | 9.5 | 4.3 | 4.8 | 0.5 | 6,532 | 8,222 | 25.9 | 2.9 | 4.2 | 1.3 |
| Toyota | 6,926 | 6,211 | -10.3 | 14.3 | 13.3 | -1.0 | 28,841 | 28,043 | -2.8 | 12.9 | 14.4 | 1.5 |
| Volkswagen | 1,705 | 1,280 | -24.9 | 3.5 | 2.7 | -0.8 | 6,846 | 6,388 | -6.7 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 0.2 |
| Volvo | 566 | 471 | -16.8 | 1.2 | 1.0 | -0.2 | 2,652 | 2,040 | -23.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | -0.1 |
| Ford Bronco | 1,193 | 1,387 | 16.3 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 0.5 | 2,508 | 4,790 | 91.0 | 1.1 | 2.5 | 1.4 |
| Data sourced from Experian Automotive. Ford Bronco total above includes Bronco Sport and Bronco registrations. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The table shows new retail light vehicle (car and light truck) registrations in the Colorado market. Figures are shown for the 1 st Quarters of ' 22 and ' 23 , and annual totals for 2021 and 2022. The top ten ranked brands in each change category are shaded yellow.

## BRAND SCOREBOARD

## Buick, Kia, and Mazda Had Largest Gains in State Market

The graph below shows the percent change in new retail light vehicle registrations during the first three months of this year versus the same period a year earlier in both the state (solid blue bars) and U.S. (blue outlined bars). Brands are shown from top to bottom based on the change in state registrations Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

Percent Change in Colorado and U.S. New Retail Light Vehicle Registrations (Top 20 Selling Brands in State) YTD 2023 thru March vs. YTD 2022


## BRAND SEGMENT MARKET SHARES

## Top Selling Brands in 7 Primary Segments



The seven graphs on this page show brand market share in seven key segments in the First Quarter 2023 in both the Colorado and U.S. markets. State 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 Colorado market 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 Colorado during YTD ‘23

Brand share of segment in U.S. market during YTD ‘23


Luxury and Sports Cars

Mid and Full Size Non Luxury SUVs


Small Luxury SUVs



Small Non Luxury SUVs


Mid and Full Size Luxury SUVs


## LARGEST SEGMENTS

## Breakdown of Brand Registrations by Vehicle Type



The graph below shows new vehicle registrations in Colorado for each primary market segment. The green shaded section in each bar represents BEV (battery electric vehicle) and PHEV (plug-in hybrid electric vehicle) registrations. Yellow shading consists of all other powertrain types (gasoline, diesel, hybrid, mild hybrid, and alternative fuels). Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

New Vehicle Registrations by Segment and Powertrain Type - YTD 2023 thru March


Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

## CHANGE IN SEGMENT MARKET SHARE

## Luxury Compact SUV Segment Had Largest Gain in 1Q 2023

Change in Segment Market Share - YTD 2023 thru March vs. YTD 2022


Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

## Comparison of Selected State Markets



The graph above provides a comparison of how state new vehicle markets performed last year and in the First Quarter of this year. The blue dots on the graph represent the percent change in new vehicle registrations from 2021 to 2022, and the orange dots show the change from the First Quarter of 2022 to the First Quarter of this year. Orange dots are higher for all markets, reflecting relative improvement in sales early this year compared to results last year. Data sourced from Experian Automotive.


Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

## CHANGE IN MODEL RANKINGS

Kia Sportage Moved Up in Rankings

The graph below shows the change in rankings during the first three months of 2022 to the same period this year for the top 25 selling models in the Colorado market. Models are positioned on the graph from top to bottom based on the change in rankings. The biggest gainers were the Kia Sportage, Mazda CX-30, and Jeep Grand Cherokee. Models moving up in the rankings most likely had some improvement in inventories so far this year versus year earlier.

## Change in Rankings for Top 25 Selling Models - YTD ‘22 thru March to YTD ‘23



## Review of Regional New Vehicle Markets in Colorado

| New Retail Light Vehicle Registrations in Regional Markets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Year to date thru March |  |  | Light truck market share (\%) |  |  | Market share for top 5 selling brands in state |  |  |  |  |
|  | YTD '22 | YTD '23 | \% change | YTD '22 | YTD '23 | change | Toyota | Ford | Subaru | Chevrolet | Kia |
| Denver Metro | 28,488 | 27,163 | -4.7\% | 86.4 | 87.8 | 1.3 | 13.3 | 10.2 | 9.1 | 5.3 | 5.9 |
| Northern Colorado | 6,092 | 5,975 | -1.9\% | 87.5 | 88.8 | 1.3 | 12.6 | 14.3 | 8.8 | 6.8 | 7.3 |
| Southern Colorado | 6,446 | 6,178 | -4.2\% | 84.3 | 84.8 | 0.5 | 11.5 | 12.6 | 9.1 | 6.0 | 6.9 |
| Western Slope | 4,793 | 4,819 | 0.5\% | 91.2 | 92.1 | 0.9 | 16.4 | 18.0 | 10.5 | 9.2 | 3.2 |

Data sourced from Experian Automotive.


Data sourced from Experian Automotive.
Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

Regional Market Share for Top 5 Selling Brands in State - YTD 2023 thru March



COLORADO USED VEHICLE MARKET
Colorado Used Vehicle Market Declined by 5.2\% in 1Q ‘23

Percent Change in New and Used Vehicle Registrations YTD 2023 thru March V. YTD 2022


-10.0\%
New vehicles All used vehicles 3 year old or newer 4 to 6 year old 7 to 10 year old used vehicles used vehicles used vehicles

FOUR KEY TRENDS IN USED VEHICLE MARKET

The Colorado used vehicle market de01. clined by $5.2 \%$ in the First Quarter of this year versus a year earlier, steeper than the $3.4 \%$ drop in the new vehicle market.

Used vehicle market should continue to
02. under-perform the new vehicle market for the remainder of the year.

As shown on the graph to the left, the three year old or newer market held up
03. relatively well early this year. Used registrations of three year old or newer vehicles increased $2.2 \%$ while registrations for older vehicles moved lower.

Ford F-Series and Ram Pickup are top sellers in the state used vehicle market (see
04. graphs below). Toyota RAV4 and 4Runner rank third and fourth for 4 year old or newer vehicles.

Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

TOP SELLING MODELS IN USED VEHICLE MARKET

## F-Series and Ram Pickup are Top Sellers in Used Vehicle Market

The two graphs below show the top 15 selling models in Colorado for two age classifications: vehicles four years old or newer, and 5 to 8 year old vehicles. Ford F-Series and Ram Pickup ranked first and second in each category.

Top 15 Selling Models for Vehicles 4 years Old or Newer YTD 2023 Registrations thru March


Top 15 Selling Models for 5 to 8 Year Old Vehicles YTD 2023 Registrations thru March


Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

