**UK BUS & COACH REGISTRATIONS**  
16 August 2022 (data for Q2 & HY 2022)

**Hi-res charts available via Dropbox:  
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tnva7yyewsv583q/AAAdE2ek\_r0bGEKgrJBn0bAsa?dl=0**

**Bus and coach demand struggles to recover from pandemic**

* 1,066 new buses and coaches registered in Britain from April to June, up 0.6% on the same period last year.
* Q2 performance puts first half of 2022 up 17.9% year-on-year, with 2,040 vehicles registered – but market remains down -46.4% on the pre-pandemic five-year average.
* Ongoing weak ridership levels acting as discouragement to investment.

**Tuesday 16 August, 2022** The UK new bus and coach market grew by 0.6% to 1,066 units in the second quarter, according to figures released today by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). Bus and coach sales so far this year stand at 2,040 units, up 17.9% on last year thanks to the recovery in Q1, but still down -46.4% on the pre-pandemic five-year average.1

The slight growth in Q2 saw single-deck buses up 65.3%, while minibuses weighing up to six tonnes and with up to 17 seats – the largest segment by volume – fell by -9.7%. Registrations of double-deck buses, meanwhile, declined by -52.3%. In the year to date, the overall sector is up 17.9%, with minibus registrations increasing by 8.9% and single-deck buses by 84.8%, while double-deck buses fell by -24.9%.

While ridership levels have gradually been improving since the end of lockdowns, they remain below pre-pandemic levels, reducing operator confidence to invest in their fleets.Although around £270 million of Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) funding has been announced since October 2021, this has yet to be reflected in registrations. Delivering bus fleet renewal is essential for achieving decarbonisation goals, given the sector already currently exceeds the car sector in its embrace of zero emission technology, and plays a vital role in affordable mass mobility.2

**Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive, said,** “The bus and coach sector is key to ensuring everyone in British society can be on the move, with a critical role to play in the UK’s Net Zero targets. Growth is therefore essential to get the cleanest and greenest buses and coaches on Britain’s roads. However, ridership levels are struggling to recover to pre-pandemic levels, to the detriment of operators’ confidence in renewing their fleets.”

**Notes to editors**

1 First-half pre-pandemic five-year average: 3,806 units.

2 SMMT motorparc data 2021: BEVs comprise 1.3% of buses on the road, 1.1% of cars

**About SMMT and the UK automotive industry**

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) is one of the largest and most influential trade associations in the UK. It supports the interests of the UK automotive industry at home and abroad, promoting the industry to government, stakeholders and the media.

The automotive industry is a vital part of the UK economy and integral to supporting the delivery of the agendas for levelling up, net zero, advancing global Britain, and the plan for growth. Automotive-related manufacturing contributes £67 billion turnover and £14 billion value added to the UK economy, and typically invest around £3 billion each year in R&D. With more than 182,000 people employed in manufacturing and some 780,000 in total across the wider automotive industry, we account for 10% of total UK goods exports with more than 150 countries importing UK produced vehicles, generating £77 billion of trade.

More than 25 manufacturers build over 70 models of vehicles in the UK, plus an array of specialist small volume manufacturers, supported by some 5,000 supply chain businesses and some of the world's most skilled engineers. Many of these jobs are outside London and the Southeast, with wages that are around 14% higher than the UK average. The automotive sector also supports jobs in other key sectors – including advertising, finance and logistics

More detail on UK Automotive available in SMMT's Motor Industry Facts publication at [www.smmt.co.uk/reports/smmt-motor-industry-facts/](http://www.smmt.co.uk/reports/smmt-motor-industry-facts/)

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