**SMMT USED CAR SALES** (data for Q4 and FY 2025)

Strictly embargoed until 00.01, Tuesday 10 February 2026

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**EVs power up used car market in three-year growth run**

* Used car sales rise 2.2% in 2025, marking three consecutive years of growth as 7,807,872 vehicles change hands.
* Used BEV transactions up 45.7% to record 274,815 units, as electrified car demand jumps by almost a third.
* Black remains UK’s favourite used car colour, while superminis still most popular body type.

**Tuesday 10 February, 2026** The UK’s used car market grew by 2.2% in 2025, reaching 7,807,872 transactions, according to the latest figures published today by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). The increase marks three consecutive years of growth, as the new car market’s ongoing recovery boosted supply to meet robust demand – particularly for electrified vehicles.

Demand for electrified vehicles accelerated significantly, driven by an ever-increasing choice of models and the potential for lower running costs. Sales of used battery electric cars (BEVs) surged 45.7% year-on-year to a record 274,815 transactions, whilst also achieving a record 3.5% market share, up from 2.5% in 2024. Plug-in hybrid (PHEV) sales rose by 6.3% to 88,032 units, while hybrids (HEVs) increased by 28.6% to 407,531 units.

Combined, used electrified car transactions rose 30.9% on 2024 to a record 770,378 units – accounting for almost one in 10 (9.9%) purchases. Petrol and diesel models, however, continued to dominate, comprising 91.8% of used transactions. Petrol remained the best-selling powertrain, rising 1.5% to represent 56.8% of the market, while diesel declined by -3.5%, to account for 33.1% of sales.

Colour preferences also remained consistent, with black retaining its position as the UK’s favourite used car colour, chosen by nearly 1.7 million buyers (21.5%). Grey followed with an 18.4% share, while white climbed 6.3% to overtake blue and secure third place with 16.0% of sales. Together, the top three accounted for more than half (55.4%) of all sales.

Among the least popular shades, 5,279 pink cars changed hands, while maroon slipped to last place with 4,697 transactions. Cream recorded the strongest growth, rising 10.6% to 5,152 units, and green delivered the top 10’s highest growth – up 9.1% to 136,742 units.

For the tenth year running,1 superminis led the market, accounting for almost one in three (32.1%) transactions. Lower medium models followed with a 26.9% share, while dual purpose cars held third place, delivering the strongest growth of all segments – up 7.6% to reach 16.8% of transactions. At the opposite end of the scale, luxury saloons represented just 0.5% of the market.

**Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive,** said, “A third year of used car sales growth underscores the market’s resilience, with recovering new car demand revitalising choice and affordability – especially for EVs – in the used market. The record number of buyers making the switch signals growing confidence in zero and ultra-low emission motoring. Maintaining this momentum, however, and driving the fleet renewal needed to decarbonise our roads at pace, must start with ensuring a strong and sustainable new car market.”

**Notes to editors**

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**About SMMT and the UK automotive industr****y**

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) is one of the largest and most influential trade associations, representing the automotive industry in the UK.

The automotive industry is a vital part of the UK economy, integral to growth, the delivery of net zero and the UK as a global trade hub. It contributes £92 billion turnover and £25 billion value added to the UK economy and invested £5 billion in R&D, with 183,000 people employed directly in manufacturing and some 796,000 in total across the wider automotive industry. Many of these automotive manufacturing jobs are outside London and the South-East, with wages that are 8% higher than the UK average. The sector accounts for 13.4% of total UK exports of goods with more than 140 countries importing UK produced vehicles, generating £108 billion of trade in total automotive imports and exports.

 The UK manufactures almost every type of vehicle, from cars, to vans, taxis, trucks, buses and coaches, as well as specialist and off-highway vehicles, supported by more than 2,500 component providers and some of the world's most skilled engineers. In addition, the sector has vibrant aftermarket and remanufacturing industries. The automotive industry also supports jobs in other key sectors – including advertising, chemicals, finance, logistics and steel.

 More detail on UK Automotive available in SMMT's Motor Industry Facts publication at [www.smmt.co.uk/reports/smmt-motor-industry-facts/](http://click.agilitypr.delivery/ls/click?upn=u001.HWzSVswrZNpvpa6B-2FHxTlVnLriSXQAFRwSAxvWPz4RV7l6V41S52I6cPIArMdn3SK4avRtWqFJEZSlwBKXRuJ6t6wDjbu5t8XJ0YbsEKzvj9rbEoRP-2BtHny-2FnwNHvgl2-2Frmg-2BvTKvXs6MgnTgEtpuQnppv7xx6G1h2kD6-2BdmkBz2alPEtmpTbmFh81gpACUb9nYZNjFBFbMCl8RfBcmS2crNmXuYx8ebB4zutMOvGlLj9gVlA7sLc9CTUw-2FHvnGzi2rnzY2qx57awHUbVyyGml6bYiCrMDc0GTqKFpw-2BxS-2Fh2A88GHJw487-2FQp6ZZVX331E7iWovlaA-2BLlm5HPMlEYg04PBCrXW5yogy-2B29zdMAMAxHPKkxZe2-2FJya6p8lYv9Ds-2F-2Fr1k6FxdtlXxaljfETLMJzcQKyJtcZgMZL8jiG-2FBw7uZnPteGfkZUtluNPInp9OzHmeqEN32n10dZRm8Qn6D7DCO1tjkwvx7PE2q2qNmpQ-2BUtoiMZKDWJLYYBpZ-2B6xD20fQHwrBBnqzaABwAMIBXLh8C4ZrIlBbFh96IhJ9t39E3JzXNhNTGFpkQqFricjI-2B08iaNA-2Byhplg2N4Vq9ZgiJUWjK2J-2FNiQY5kM9s-2FUkrFKJewMlrBFXtxnSq5-2BFnrXdyZTzjR2zoVD2hk45IqN9myCs4pwZ3-2BIt-2FVbAaS1Jrdcl-2B2l3Lx9YYVun90MB-2BpyIckFxlxRX7-2F0jGAhjjgt-2FBhNBijDqiXluGS96G6npyTbicpmIreiOkSVWRPSKNkCs7Clv-2FwpQp9SPm6Nuv1Iv0OAumoclaUyW8WFEl8hJn-2FqhF4qo6MECoz6XtlXvf6QzsTT0dWDxWLPMxgPlRSFUsBvFLEBbLdxbfraobWmPyV88vakG58i4NXY5ZZN3SJUUd7o3MMUWK1kjJ6c-2FeR9cMMwLOdna9PwejVPGimvZyrwD56Rbs0nsyVFC9HdCbAXmBfttXboeBuNKKOxofMQf6XQNB5DxIAOHYvRDg1cFLJS2g-2BwwmOuG3sZkof4KuOBgpel9ziQZoU9eBRrA0ofZ04LlDVHsPg2yGjh2YwMAmV6YuWN602Vdgj-2F-2FwU7JSS479UUPDwi3pGwoXUYm-2F1LmU02pIWTnOLL1zhOeCDDTpt2jnU6h-2FdkxozJfw7ejqiY8zEd-2FngVaorowIVa6Q-3D-3DlIjb_Az1wohSYOvTVI2yjdei0D96gARU31hOWsdIuR-2B4wHzd4oGQLja2qLUCHC4ZHULZQhUfOgSzSIGW3J-2FJ8l5qboUlZdgjNvYwiTAfqpQpbux2GRUpZaQwVPCFXGJ-2FAtuFib-2FM-2FSBkZps0B6ukCSuelRAN2jCMFLK9cEIGe4RknGtax0dt5vmzvKL5mIgZJfeOsSpDg7-2FadS-2BahJyhIKmMorY0xPZROrQcdz0u1ozqsv-2FzTToAwGMeCeRPKC29on8aqKEkIPmq-2BVp-2Bh98uLsUl4vMOIV0NPLCEBpf2tuVRZEshMqBc3KCSvObHHbnjZ5r9hnWQJehFvoA-2FeeDi0t0PSTTCictuUX1Fd9Lx9wil-2B-2FO8X9td0YQdvmXlVg7KJkGHSrmwnTmvgFV79QuZRzmTz0YIFPsWDDIZFfCyXUAcpX4kY9eWpONs8PM-2ByMofxuTGdCu-2BMOtTL25o4fgT1fjfTUR8AP3uw8Eh9wp-2FicZuRIhw-3D)

**SMMT media contacts**

Paul Mauerhoff                      07809 522181           [pmauerhoff@smmt.co.uk](mailto:pmauerhoff@smmt.co.uk)    
James Boley                         07927 668565           [jboley@smmt.co.uk](mailto:jboley@smmt.co.uk)   
Scott Clarke                          07912 799959           [sclarke@smmt.co.uk](mailto:sclarke@smmt.co.uk)          
Rebecca Gibbs                     07708 480 889         [rgibbs@smmt.co.uk](mailto:rgibbs@smmt.co.uk)         
Emma Butcher                       07880 191825           [ebutcher@smmt.co.uk](mailto:ebutcher@smmt.co.uk)   
Abigail Smythe 07708 480891 [amsythe@smmt.co.uk](mailto:amsythe@smmt.co.uk)