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1207 Rising US car sales tide turns back to less thirsty cars
page 16 - 20

Exports slowing - Germany's carmakers step on the brakes
pages 14 - 15

Volvo's new V40 diesel emits just 94g/km CO₂
pages 15 - 16

China

Slowdown drags down China's car market

China's car market is sputtering, but leading foreign carmakers remain almost unscathed

COMPARED with the frenzy seen last year and the year before, China's illustrious love-affair with the car has hit a bumpy patch, thanks to the slowing economy, faltering exports and spiralling pump prices. While the slowing economy has tempted growing numbers of China's average income earners to put away their wallets, resulting in yet another setback for China's intrinsic smaller carmakers, China's nouveau riche are still out shopping, catapulting this year's Audi, BMW, Mercedes, Porsche and Bentley sales into new record orbit.

Uncertainty about a slowing economy, faltering exports and rising domestic fuel prices have slowed China's underlying car sales growth to a single-digit percentage compared with the dizzying double-digit car sales growth still seen in ten out of the past twelve years. While demand for inexpensive small cars like the ones made by intrinsic Chinese carmakers Geely and Chery has already lurched into reverse, for the time being at

China
Car Sales Movements for Last Four Quarters
% Change v. Year Ago



Countries

W-Europe	3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18
Austria	7
Belgium	7
Bulgaria	7
China	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14
Czech-Republic/Cyprus	7
Denmark	7
Eire	7
Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania	7
Finland	7
France	6, 7, 8, 10
Germany	5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 15
Greece	6, 7, 8
Hungary	7, 11
Iceland	7
Italy	6, 7
Japan	9, 18
Luxembourg	7
Mexico	12
Netherlands	7
Norway	7
Poland	7
Portugal	6, 7, 8
Slovakia/Slovenia	7
South Korea	3, 7, 10, 11, 18
Spain	7
Sweden	7, 15
Switzerland	7
UK	6, 7, 15, 16
USA	12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

In Depth & Other Topics:

Status Culture
More of China's new car buyers are turning into Premium-badge snobs..... 2
'Eye-popping' China goals
Mercedes appears to be gunning for 800,000 plus car sales in China.... 11 - 13
Low margin business
Life turns tough for China's automotive fringe players 4 - 5
Poor March, down 7.1%
Bargains and gleaming new metal fail to lift Europe's showroom gloom..... 6 - 8
Feast and famine
VW and Hyundai-Kia win battle for Europe's dwindling car buyers 10 - 11
Hybrid-type thirst
Volvo's new V40 - relief for fuel-price shocked consumers 15 - 16

Companies

Alfa Romeo	9
Aston Martin	18
Audi	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 18
Bentley	1, 4, 18
Bernstein Research	12, 13
BMW	1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 18, 20
Buick	2, 3, 18
BYD/Changan/Chery	3, 4
Chevrolet	2, 3, 8, 9, 18, 20
Chrysler	9, 12, 18
Citroën	3, 8, 9
Credit Suisse	11, 12
Dacia	8, 9, 10
Daimler	9, 11, 13, 18
Deutsche Bank	13
Dongfeng/Emgrand	3
FAW/Haima	3, 4
Ferrari	9, 18
Fiat	9, 18
Ford	2, 3, 9, 10, 18, 19
Geely	3, 4, 15
GM	3, 5, 6, 9, 18, 20
GM Opel/Vauxhall	9, 10
Great Wall	2, 3, 4
Honda	2, 3, 9, 18, 19
Hyundai-Kia	2, 3, 5, 6, 8-11, 18, 19, 20
JAC/Roewe	3, 4
Jaguar	9, 11, 18
Lancia	9
Land Rover	9, 11, 18
Lexus	9, 18
LiFan	13
Maybach	3
Mazda	3, 9, 18
Mercedes	1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 18
Mini	5, 9, 12, 18
Mitsubishi	9, 18
Morgan Stanley	13, 14
Nissan	3, 9, 11, 18, 20
Porsche	1, 4, 8, 18, 20
PSA Peugeot	2, 8, 9, 10
Renault	8, 9, 10
Rolls-Royce	18
SEAT	9, 14
Skoda	5, 8, 9, 11, 14
Smart	9, 12, 18
Subaru	9, 18
Suzuki	3, 9, 18
Tata	9, 11, 18
Toyota	2, 3, 9, 15, 16, 18, 20
UBS	12
Volvo	3, 4, 9, 15, 16, 18
VW	2, 5, 6, 8 - 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18
Xiali	3, 4



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