



CARS

WHAT ARE PASSENGER CARS?

- The European classification system defines passenger cars as “vehicles designed and constructed for the carriage of passengers and comprising no more than eight seats in addition to the driver’s seat, and having a maximum mass not exceeding 3.5 tonnes”.
→ They are classified as the ‘M1’ category.
- There are many different kinds of cars: including sports, luxury, family-oriented, small cars and sports utility vehicles (SUVs).

WHY ARE CARS IMPORTANT?

- For over a hundred years, the private car has transformed modern society by providing independence and freedom of mobility.
- Cars are our number one source of mobility, taking the average European almost 12,000 kilometres a year.
- Over 70% of journeys are made by car – be it private car, taxi or carsharing.
- Without individual mobility, adequate participation in social and economic life would not be possible in many cases, particularly for people living in remote areas, the elderly and those with disabilities.
- People living in urban areas may rely on taxis, carsharing or on-demand services instead of, or as a complement to, their own private car.
- Passenger car travel enables home care and medical assistance, as well as a range of other emergency services.
- Job-related mobility is of particular importance, with about a half of all vehicle kilometres travelled in the EU being related to employment.
- The budgets of the EU member states receive €398.4 billion per year from the sale and use of passenger cars.

CARS

IN FIGURES



22 new cars were registered per 1,000 inhabitants in the EU in 2020

243
MILLION

passenger cars are on the road in the EU today.

10.8 MILLION

passenger cars were made in the European Union in 2020.

9.9
MILLION

passenger cars were registered in the EU in 2020, a decrease of 23.7% compared to the previous year.

11.5

The average age of cars in the EU is 11.5 years now.

135

There are 135 passenger car assembly plants in Europe.

24.5%

of new cars sold in the EU are alternatively-powered vehicles (battery electric, plug-in hybrid, hybrid and alternative fuels), but they only account for 4.6% of all cars on the road today.

-22.4%

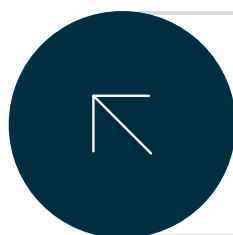
In 2020, average new car emissions were 108.2g CO₂/km, a 22.4% decrease since 2010.

5,189,538

European cars were exported worldwide in 2020, worth over €121 billion.

47.5%

Almost half of new cars sold are powered by petrol.



25%

of all cars produced around the world are built in Europe.