# Hawaii Auto Outlook' 

Sponsored by: Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association

## NEW VEHICLE MARKET FORECAST

## State Market Predicted to Increase 8.5\% for Remainder of 2023

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

## Results during 1Q 2023

State new light vehicle registrations increased $0.7 \%$ 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 14.5 million units, an indicator that state new vehicle sales remained subdued.

## 2023 Forecast

According to the baseline forecast, registrations are expected to exceed 50,000 units this year, a 6.6\% improvement from 2022. See sidebar to right for alternative upside and downside projections. Registrations are predicted to increase 8.5 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 13.2\% in the First Quarter of 2023, up from 8.5\% a year earlier. Franchised dealership share of the BEV market improved by 9.6 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 $49.7 \%$ of the market in 2012, and increased to $77.6 \%$ last year. In the First Quarter of 2023, however, light truck share declined by 1.2 points versus year earlier.

## Brands that fared best in early 2023

Among the top 25 sellers in the state market, Hyundai, Tesla, Mazda, Toyota, and Subaru had the largest percentage gains in the First Quarter of this year. Toyota, Honda, Tesla, Subaru, and Nissan were market leaders.

## Top selling models in Hawaii

Toyota Tacoma, Toyota 4Runner, Tesla Model Y, Toyota Corolla, Toyota RAV4, Tesla Model 3, Toyota Camry, Honda CR-V, Subaru Crosstrek, and Subaru Forester were the top 10 sellers so far this year.

## State economic conditions

Total employment in Hawaii was 655,000, still below pre-pandemic levels. Unemployment rate was $3.5 \%$ in March (see page 3).

## Outlook for <br> Hawaii New Retail Light Vehicle Market

2023 Annual Forecast
Baseline scenario: 50,950 up 6.6\% vs. '22

Alternative upside: 53,800 up $12.6 \%$ vs. ' 22

Alternative downside: 48,200 up $0.9 \%$ vs. ' 22

Forecast for State New Retail Light Vehicle Registrations


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 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| March | YTD '23 |  |  |  |
| March | \% Chg. | Mkt. Share |  |  |
| TOTAL | 11,569 | 11,647 | $0.7 \%$ |  |
| Car | 2,708 | 2,869 | $5.9 \%$ | $24.6 \%$ |
| Light Truck | 8,861 | 8,778 | $-0.9 \%$ | $75.4 \%$ |
| Domestic | 2,793 | 2,693 | $-3.6 \%$ | $23.1 \%$ |
| European | 1,197 | 1,128 | $-5.8 \%$ | $9.7 \%$ |
| Japanese | 6,519 | 6,632 | $1.7 \%$ | $56.9 \%$ |
| Korean | 1,060 | 1,194 | $12.6 \%$ | $10.3 \%$ |

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

Hawaii<br>Quarterly Registrations<br>Seasonally Adjusted<br>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 13.9 million in the Fourth Quarter of last year to 14.3 million in the First Quarter of this year.

# \% Change In <br> New Retail Market YTD 2023 thru March vS. 

 YTD 2022New retail light vehicle registrations in the state improved by less than $1 \%$ in the First Quarter of this year, slightly better than the 1.0\% drop in the Nation.

Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

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## TRACKING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

| MARCH 2022 |
| :---: |
| $3.3 \%$ |


| Fegruary 2023 |
| :---: |
| $3.6 \%$ |


| MARCH 2023 |
| :---: |
| $3.5 \%$ |



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

## TOP TEN RANKINGS IN STATE MARKET

| Market Share for Top Ten Selling Brands in State Market YTD 2023 thru March | Market Share for Top Ten Selling Models in State Market YTD 2023 thru March |
| :---: | :---: |
| Toyota 28.6\% | Toyota Tacoma 9.1\% |
| Honda 10.4\% | Toyota 4Runner 4.6\% |
| Tesla 8.4\% | Tesla Model Y 4.5\% |
| - Subaru 6.4\% | Toyota Corolla 3.9\% |
| - Nissan 6.2\% | Toyota RAV4 3.9\% |
| Ford 5.8\% | Tesla Model 3 3.2\% |
| Kia 5.0\% | Toyota Camry 2.8\% |
| Hyundai 4.9\% | Honda CR-V 2.7\% |
| BMW 3.8\% | Subaru Crosstrek 2.2\% |
| Chevrolet 3.7\% | $\square$ Subaru Forester 2.1\% |

## Vehicle Powertrain Dashboard



Quarterly Alternative Powertrain Market Share (includes hybrid and electric vehicles)


YTD Share by Engine Type (2022 and 2023, thru March)

|  | YTD '22 | YTD '23 |
| :--- | ---: | :---: |
| Electric (BEV) | $8.5 \%$ | $13.2 \%$ |
| Hybrid | $6.7 \%$ | $6.7 \%$ FLAT |
| Plug In Hybrid (PHEV) | $1.8 \%$ | $1.6 \%$ |

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

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



YTD 2023 thru March


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


Observations: Franchised dealership share of the Hawaii BEV market increased from $26.7 \%$ during the First Quarter of 2022 to $36.3 \%$ this year. Franchised dealership brand registrations were up $113 \%$ vs. the $36 \%$ increase for direct sellers. Tesla BEV market share declined ten points, while registrations improved by $35 \%$. Nissan was the second best-selling BEV brand so far this year, followed by BMW. 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.

Electric (BEV) and Plug in Hybrid (PHEV) Market Share During 1Q ‘23


Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

## BRAND SCOREBOARD

## Hyundai, Tesla, Mazda, and Toyota Had Largest Gains in State

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



## LARGEST SEGMENTS

## Breakdown of Brand Registrations by Vehicle Type



The graph below shows new vehicle registrations in Hawaii 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.

## COUNTY SCOREBOARD

New Vehicle Registrations on Big Island Increased in 1Q ‘23

The table on the right provides a summary of each of Hawaii's four retail light vehicle markets. The table is divided into four sections. Market Summary shows total new retail light vehicle registrations during the first three months of 2022 and 2023 and the percent change. The second and third sections show Light Truck and Domestic Brand market share. The fourth section shows market share figures for the top 10 selling light vehicle brands in the state. The top rated county in each category is shaded.

Data sourced from Experian Automotive.

| New Vehlcle Markets Summary |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Hawall | Kaual | Maul | Oahu |
| Market Summary |  |  |  |  |
| YTD 2022 thru March | 1558 | 708 | 1410 | 7893 |
| YTD 2023 thru March | 1790 | 689 | 1383 | 7785 |
| Percent change | 14.9\% | -2.7\% | -1.9\% | -1.4\% |
| Light Truck Market Share |  |  |  |  |
| YTD 2022 thru March | 84.4\% | 85.7\% | 79.8\% | 73.7\% |
| YTD 2023 thru March | 81.6\% | 86.5\% | 80.8\% | 72.0\% |
| Change (share points) | -2.8 | 0.8 | 1.0 | -1.7 |
| Domestic Brand Market Share |  |  |  |  |
| YTD 2022 thru March | 25.7\% | 30.2\% | 25.7\% | 23.0\% |
| YTD 2023 thru March | 19.2\% | 25.0\% | 27.5\% | 23.1\% |
| Change (share points) | -6.6 | -5.3 | 1.8 | 0.1 |
| Market Share for Top 10 Sellling Brands In State - YTD '23 thru March |  |  |  |  |
| Toyota | 31.8\% | 35.7\% | 27.3\% | 27.4\% |
| Honda | 8.3\% | 6.1\% | 12.7\% | 10.8\% |
| Tesla | 4.1\% | 4.4\% | 6.4\% | 10.0\% |
| Subaru | 15.1\% | 11.5\% | 6.0\% | 4.1\% |
| Nissan | 5.7\% | 7.0\% | 5.1\% | 6.4\% |
| Ford | 6.0\% | 11.6\% | 8.2\% | 4.9\% |
| Kia | 9.2\% | 5.7\% | 5.3\% | 4.0\% |
| Hyundai | 4.5\% | 4.2\% | 3.1\% | 5.4\% |
| BMW | 3.7\% | 0.6\% | 2.7\% | 4.3\% |
| Chevrolet | 4.5\% | 5.4\% | 3.8\% | 3.4\% |


|  | Brand Registrations Report <br> Hawall New Retall 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 | 11,569 | 11,647 | 0.7 |  |  |  | 54,647 | 47,781 | -12.6 |  |  |  |
| Cars | 2,708 | 2,869 | 5.9 | 23.4 | 24.6 | 1.2 | 13,414 | 10,696 | -20.3 | 24.5 | 22.4 | -2.1 |
| Light Trucks | 8,861 | 8,778 | -0.9 | 76.6 | 75.4 | -1.2 | 41,233 | 37,085 | -10.1 | 75.5 | 77.6 | 2.1 |
| Domestic Brands | 2,793 | 2,693 | -3.6 | 24.1 | 23.1 | -1.0 | 12,998 | 10,956 | -15.7 | 23.8 | 22.9 | -0.9 |
| European Brands | 1,197 | 1,128 | -5.8 | 10.3 | 9.7 | -0.6 | 5,411 | 4,519 | -16.5 | 9.9 | 9.5 | -0.4 |
| Japanese Brands | 6,519 | 6,632 | 1.7 | 56.3 | 56.9 | 0.6 | 31,751 | 27,302 | -14.0 | 58.1 | 57.1 | -1.0 |
| Korean Brands | 1,060 | 1,194 | 12.6 | 9.2 | 10.3 | 1.1 | 4,487 | 5,004 | 11.5 | 8.2 | 10.5 | 2.3 |
| Acura | 97 | 82 | -15.5 | 0.8 | 0.7 | -0.1 | 630 | 365 | -42.1 | 1.2 | 0.8 | -0.4 |
| Audi | 81 | 90 | 11.1 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 462 | 338 | -26.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | -0.1 |
| BMW | 381 | 439 | 15.2 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 0.5 | 1,587 | 1,438 | -9.4 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 0.1 |
| Buick | 4 | 25 | 525.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 114 | 36 | -68.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| Cadillac | 28 | 27 | -3.6 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 131 | 113 | -13.7 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Chevrolet | 413 | 436 | 5.6 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 0.1 | 2,389 | 1,796 | -24.8 | 4.4 | 3.8 | -0.6 |
| CDJR Total | 642 | 426 | -33.6 | 5.5 | 3.7 | -1.8 | 3,447 | 2,552 | -26.0 | 6.3 | 5.3 | -1.0 |
| Chrysler | 15 | 18 | 20.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 171 | 92 | -46.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| Dodge | 54 | 44 | -18.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | -0.1 | 492 | 245 | -50.2 | 0.9 | 0.5 | -0.4 |
| Jeep | 398 | 257 | -35.4 | 3.4 | 2.2 | -1.2 | 1,903 | 1,535 | -19.3 | 3.5 | 3.2 | -0.3 |
| Ram | 175 | 107 | -38.9 | 1.5 | 0.9 | -0.6 | 881 | 680 | -22.8 | 1.6 | 1.4 | -0.2 |
| Ford | 869 | 680 | -21.7 | 7.5 | 5.8 | -1.7 | 3,357 | 3,402 | 1.3 | 6.1 | 7.1 | 1.0 |
| Genesis | 38 | 35 | -7.9 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 146 | 153 | 4.8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| GMC | 100 | 103 | 3.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 548 | 386 | -29.6 | 1.0 | 0.8 | -0.2 |
| Honda | 1,280 | 1,206 | -5.8 | 11.1 | 10.4 | -0.7 | 7,893 | 4,573 | -42.1 | 14.4 | 9.6 | -4.8 |
| Hyundai | 393 | 572 | 45.5 | 3.4 | 4.9 | 1.5 | 1,867 | 2,005 | 7.4 | 3.4 | 4.2 | 0.8 |
| Infiniti | 31 | 21 | -32.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 150 | 102 | -32.0 | 0.3 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| Jaguar | ""4"4's | 6 | 50.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 38 | 16 | -57.9 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Kia | 629 | 587 | -6.7 | 5.4 | 5.0 | -0.4 | 2,474 | 2,846 | 15.0 | 4.5 | 6.0 | 1.5 |
| Land Rover | 20 | 27 | 35.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 211 | 102 | -51.7 | 0.4 | 0.2 | -0.2 |
| Lexus | 450 | 388 | -13.8 | 3.9 | 3.3 | -0.6 | 1,709 | 1,908 | 11.6 | 3.1 | 4.0 | 0.9 |
| Lincoln | 16 | 18 | 12.5 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 81 | 62 | -23.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Maserati | 6 | 3 | -50.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 21 | 23 | 9.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Mazda | 109 | 131 | 20.2 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 1,108 | 415 | -62.5 | 2.0 | 0.9 | -1.1 |
| Mercedes | 251 | 259 | 3.2 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 0.0 | 1,042 | 1,031 | -1.1 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 0.3 |
| MINI | 94 | 65 | -30.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | -0.2 | 332 | 323 | -2.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.1 |
| Mitsubishi | 14 | 9 | -35.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 119 | 35 | -70.6 | 0.2 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| Nissan | 1,111 | 718 | -35.4 | 9.6 | 6.2 | -3.4 | 4,339 | 3,408 | -21.5 | 7.9 | 7.1 | -0.8 |
| Other | 8 | 9 | 12.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | " 0.0 | 38 | 27 | -28.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Polestar | 0 | 0 |  | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2 | 2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Porsche | 75 | 64 | -14.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | -0.1 | 290 | 255 | -12.1 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Rivian | 0 | 4 |  | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 2 |  | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Subaru | 644 | 749 | 16.3 | 5.6 | 6.4 | 0.8 | 2,588 | 2,743 | 6.0 | 4.7 | 5.7 | 1.0 |
| Tesla | 721 | 973 | 35.0 | 6.2 | 8.4 | 2.2 | 2"4"9"4"4" | 2"4"4"40" | -11.1 | 5.4 | 5.5 | 0.1 |
| Toyota | 2,783 | 3,328 | 19.6 | 24.1 | 28.6 | 4.5 | 13,215 | 13,753 | 4.1 | 24.2 | 28.8 | 4.6 |
| Volkswagen | 222 | 128 | -42.3 | 1.9 | 1.1 | -0.8 | 1,105 | 771 | -30.2 | 2.0 | 1.6 | -0.4 |
| Volvo | 55 | 39 | -29.1 | 0.5 | 0.3 | -0.2 | 283 | 194 | -31.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | -0.1 |
| Source: AutoCount data from Experian. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The table shows new retail light vehicle (car and light truck) registrations in the Hawaii 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.


[^0]:    At Auto Outlook, we strive to provide sound and accurate analyses and forecasts based upon the data available to us. However, our forecasts are derived from third-party data and contain a number of assumptions made by Auto Outlook and its management, including, without limitation, the accuracy of the data compiled. As a result, Auto Outlook can make no representation or warranty with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the data we provide or the forecasts or projections that we make based upon such data. Auto Outlook expressly disclaims any such warranties, and undue reliance should not be placed on any such data, forecasts, projections, or predictions. Auto Outlook undertakes no obligation to update or revise any predictions or forecasts, whether as a result of any new data, the occurrence of future events, or otherwise.

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