**PRESS RELEASE**

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**London, UK**

**EUROPE’S NEW-CAR MARKET CONTINUES TO GROW DURING JULY**

* **European new-car sales grew by 9.1% in July, 8.6% year-to-date**
* **Volkswagen continues to lead the market, as the Passat joins the Golf and Polo in the top five**
* **Ireland, Spain and Czech Republic post strongest growth in July**

*JATO Dynamics, the world’s leading provider of automotive intelligence, reports that the European new-car market grew by 9.1% in July compared to a year earlier, just above the 8.6% growth so far in 2015.*

*JATO’s headline market analysis:*

* *The total new-car market in Europe has now recorded 23 consecutive months of growth*
* *Ireland car registrations were up by 47.6% compared to July 2014, while growth in Spain and Czech Republic exceeded 20%*
* *All of the top ten models and top ten brands recorded higher year-to-date sales than the year before*

The European new-car market entered the second half of 2015 in good health, with total volume across the continent 9.1% higher in July than a year ago, marking 23 consecutive months of growth. Year-to-date, the market has grown by 8.6% compared to the same period a year earlier.

Ireland, Spain and the Czech Republic performed well in July, with Ireland recording a 47.6% increase in July registrations due to a strong economic recovery (registrations are up by 30.3% year-to-date) and the mid-year registration-plate change introduced in 2013 becoming more established, rivalling the longer-running January spike in purchases. Most European markets are performing well, with 25 of the 29 included in JATO’s registration data reporting sales growth compared to 2014. Of the remaining four markets, Luxembourg is the only country to see sales fall by more than 2%.

Brian Walters, Vice President of Data at JATO Dynamics, commented “The markets that suffered most at the height of the economic downturn a few years ago, such as Ireland, Spain and Portugal, are now among the fastest growing markets in Europe as consumer confidence has returned”.

**European Monthly Sales Volumes Year-on-Year Comparison**

*(Image file of graph also attached)*

The Volkswagen brand maintained its lead of the European car market, with a 7.7% increase in volume, during July, almost matching the overall market growth, and its 8.9% year-to-date growth beating the market average. Ford took second position in overall sales, ahead of Opel/Vauxhall, Renault and Peugeot. All of the top ten brands have increased sales year-to-date.

**Top Ten Brands**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Make** | **Jul\_15** | **Jul\_14** | **% change Jul** | **Jul YtD\_15** | **Jul YtD\_14** | **% change YtD** |
| VOLKSWAGEN | 152,160 | 141,297 | +7.7% | 1,052,218 | 965,865 | +8.9% |
| FORD | 84,450 | 78,919 | +7.0% | 633,845 | 594,148 | +6.7% |
| OPEL/VAUXHALL | 74,736 | 72,320 | +3.3% | 573,558 | 545,542 | +5.1% |
| RENAULT | 70,831 | 67,525 | +4.9% | 586,859 | 535,532 | +9.6% |
| PEUGEOT | 70,223 | 63,498 | +10.6% | 519,931 | 484,084 | +7.4% |
| AUDI | 69,567 | 63,976 | +8.7% | 469,595 | 447,457 | +4.9% |
| MERCEDES | 62,920 | 56,171 | +12.0% | 433,799 | 389,760 | +11.3% |
| BMW | 57,539 | 53,680 | +7.2% | 429,442 | 399,007 | +7.6% |
| FIAT | 56,535 | 50,508 | +11.9% | 410,433 | 374,775 | +9.5% |
| SKODA | 54,799 | 52,045 | +5.3% | 374,498 | 351,346 | +6.6% |

Outside the top ten, Toyota and Nissan saw their July sales increase by over 5,000 units. Toyota’s new-look Yaris, latest Aygo and RAV4 models each recorded strong sales, while Nissan’s new Pulsar continued to increase sales in the mainstream C-segment. Tesla’s July sales were more than triple compared to those registered a year ago, led by sales of its all-electric Model S in Scandinavian markets, Germany and the Netherlands.

Volkswagen continued its dominance within the top ten models, with the best-selling Volkswagen Golf being joined by the brand’s recently revised Polo in second place and new Passat in fifth. The Passat recorded sales 49.9% higher than in July 2014 to move from tenth place to fifth in one month. The Ford Fiesta and Renault Clio took third and fourth places respectively.

**Top Ten Models**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Make & Model** | **Jul\_15** | **Jul\_14** | **% change Jul** | **Jul YtD\_15** | **Jul YtD\_14** | **% change YtD** |
| VOLKSWAGEN GOLF | 46,567 | 41,623 | +11.9% | 322,517 | 311,682 | +3.5% |
| VOLKSWAGEN POLO | 25,960 | 22,650 | +14.6% | 184,963 | 163,171 | +13.4% |
| FORD FIESTA | 22,855 | 23,802 | -4.0% | 197,344 | 191,692 | +2.9% |
| RENAULT CLIO | 22,851 | 23,593 | -3.1% | 188,945 | 186,221 | +1.5% |
| VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT | 21,972 | 14,653 | +49.9% | 133,208 | 94,542 | +40.9% |
| SKODA OCTAVIA | 19,928 | 18,136 | +9.9% | 131,632 | 124,207 | +6.0% |
| FORD FOCUS | 19,902 | 17,731 | +12.2% | 148,111 | 139,223 | +6.4% |
| NISSAN QASHQAI | 19,797 | 18,505 | +7.0% | 144,898 | 128,880 | +12.4% |
| OPEL/VAUXHALL CORSA | 17,769 | 19,932 | -10.9% | 169,004 | 153,685 | +10.0% |
| PEUGEOT 208 | 17,644 | 16,676 | +5.8% | 138,877 | 135,874 | +2.2% |

Beyond the top ten, new and updated models such as the Skoda Fabia and Mercedes-Benz C-Class recorded significantly increased sales in July, along with more established models such as the Opel/Vauxhall Mokka (up 44.5%), Hyundai i10 (up 16.0%) and Volvo XC60 (up 34.9%).

Brian Walters concluded “Aided by high consumer confidence across much of the continent, the European new-car market continues to grow at a healthy pace, with both new and well established models performing well”.

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**About JATO**

JATO was founded in 1984 and provides the world’s most timely, accurate and up-to-date information on vehicle specifications and pricing, sales and registrations, news and incentives.

The company has representation in over 40 countries, providing unique local market expertise. The JATO client base includes all of the world’s volume vehicle manufacturers; giving them the ability to react to short-term market movements, plan for long-term developments and ultimately to meet consumers’ needs.

JATO’s intelligence has also been adapted for consumer use in motoring web portals where customers can see the advantages and disadvantages of a specified model against any other.

Major leasing companies use JATO’s intelligence to drive the vehicle quotation process.

Visit JATO at [www.jato.com](http://www.jato.com) for more information.

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**Notes to editors**

**Sales by Market**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Country** | **Jul\_15** | **Jul\_14** | **% change Jul** | **Jul YtD\_15** | **Jul YtD\_14** | **% change YtD** |
| Austria | 26,917 | 24,772 | +8.7% | 188,550 | 191,379 | -1.5% |
| Belgium | 36,121 | 35,275 | +2.4% | 324,543 | 323,099 | +0.4% |
| Croatia | 3,260 | 3,066 | +6.3% | 24,544 | 23,919 | +2.6% |
| Cyprus | 947 | 782 | +21.1% | 5,196 | 4,806 | +8.1% |
| Czech Republic | 21,415 | 17,700 | +21.0% | 134,676 | 111,155 | +21.2% |
| Denmark | 16,235 | 14,250 | +13.9% | 121,021 | 112,982 | +7.1% |
| Estonia | 1,944 | 1,942 | +0.1% | 12,706 | 12,611 | +0.8% |
| Finland | 8,729 | 8,026 | +8.8% | 65,785 | 67,116 | -2.0% |
| France | 147,014 | 143,667 | +2.3% | 1,164,249 | 1,101,363 | +5.7% |
| Germany | 290,196 | 270,249 | +7.4% | 1,909,145 | 1,808,517 | +5.6% |
| Great Britain | 178,420 | 172,907 | +3.2% | 1,555,309 | 1,460,172 | +6.5% |
| Greece | 5,215 | 7,540 | -30.8% | 48,327 | 44,779 | +7.9% |
| Hungary | 7,030 | 6,204 | +13.3% | 44,154 | 39,508 | +11.8% |
| Ireland | 27,633 | 18,721 | +47.6% | 109,970 | 84,401 | +30.3% |
| Italy | 132,256 | 115,406 | +14.6% | 1,008,656 | 876,938 | +15.0% |
| Latvia | 1,237 | 1,178 | +5.0% | 8,103 | 7,338 | +10.4% |
| Lithuania | 1,559 | 1,448 | +7.7% | 10,122 | 8,784 | +15.2% |
| Luxembourg | 4,334 | 4,476 | -3.2% | 30,015 | 31,621 | -5.1% |
| Norway | 12,716 | 11,919 | +6.7% | 88,288 | 85,409 | +3.4% |
| Poland | 29,652 | 25,567 | +16.0% | 207,400 | 178,565 | +16.1% |
| Portugal | 15,548 | 14,175 | +19.8% | 117,672 | 89,988 | +30.8% |
| Romania | 9,253 | 8,368 | +10.6% | 43,725 | 39,593 | +10.4% |
| Serbia | 1,679 | 1,759 | -4.5% | 11,380 | 11,437 | -0.5% |
| Slovakia\* | 6,858 | 6,656 | +0.9% | 43,895 | 42,648 | +2.9% |
| Slovenia | 5,079 | 4,601 | +10.4% | 36,929 | 32,839 | +12.5% |
| Spain | 104,360 | 84,345 | +23.7% | 665,032 | 544,311 | +22.2% |
| Sweden | 24,139 | 20,473 | +17.9% | 192,123 | 172,220 | +11.6% |
| Switzerland | 26,453 | 27,262 | -3.0% | 187,134 | 176,806 | +5.8% |
| The Netherlands | 33,879 | 30,208 | +12.2% | 236,879 | 232,205 | +2.0% |
| **Grand Total** | **1,180,078** | **1,082,942** | **+9.1%** | **8,595,528** | **7,916,509** | **+8.6%** |

*NOTE: \* denotes forecast data from LMC Automotive included for Jul\_15*