# Orange County Auto Outlook" 

## County New Vehicle Market Predicted to Move Higher in 2014

## New retail registrations reached pre-recession levels in 2013; '14 total predicted to hit 175,500 units

Forecasting automotive sales is a delicate balancing act. There are frequently conflicting indicators that can provide mixed signals on future market conditions. The trick is identifying these trends, separating the meaningful from the meaningless, and forming a consensus on where the market is headed. Below, we identify the key positive and negative forces that are likely to impact the market in 2014.

## Forces leading the market higher

- Low interest rates and strong affordability. Low interest rates and mild inflation, combined with decent personal income growth have kept new vehicle affordabilliy at historically strong levels.
- Improving economic growth. Most economists expect GDP growth to accelerate in 2014, which should give a boost to the job market.
- Pent up demand and benefits to "upgrade." The average age of vehicles on the road exceeds 10 years. This will continue to prompt many consumers to purchase a new vehicle based on need (present vehicles are wearing out) and desire (new vehicles offer many advantages over the average 10 year old vehicle).


## Forces holding the market back

- Consumer sentiment. Although consumer attitudes have improved somewhat, there is still a pervading sense of concern about the

Annual Trend in Orange County New Vehicle Market


The graph above shows annual new retail light vehicle registrations in the county from 2008 thru 2013 and Auto Outlook's projection for 2014.
future, a lingering consequence of the 2008 financial crisis, and ensuing economic recession.

- Household balance sheets. Consumers have made considerable headway in reducing debt, but are largely hesitant to fund increases in spending by adding on more debt.

Wrap up: Positive factors will lead the market higher in 2014, but we believe that for at least the next two years, the negative factors will place a ceiling on how high new vehicle sales will go, and we could approach that ceiling by 2015 .

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亿 Orange County new retail light vehicle registrations increased $10.6 \%$ from 2012 to 2013, higher than the $7.5 \%$ improvement in the Nation.
2. Light truck market share increased to $37.7 \%$ in 2013, up 0.5 points from 2012.

ת. Detroit Three county registrations were up $15.6 \%$ in '13, higher than the $10.6 \%$ increase for the industry. County Detroit Three market share still trailed U.S. (19.7\% in county vs. $40.6 \%$ in Nation).

## Market Summary

|  | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | $\begin{array}{r} \% \\ \text { \% ch. } \\ \text { '12 to '13 } \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TOTAL | 120,800 | 149,630 | 165,478 | 10.6\% |
| Car | 72,811 | 93,958 | 103,125 | 9.8\% |
| Light Truck | 47,989 | 55,672 | 62,353 | 12.0\% |
| Detroit Three | 24,130 | 28,192 | 32,601 | 15.6\% |
| European | 26,760 | 31,785 | 33,311 | 4.8\% |
| Japanese | 56,846 | 72,901 | 82,186 | 12.7\% |
| Korean | 13,064 | 16,752 | 17,380 | 3.7\% |

Detroit Three consists of vehicles sold by GM, Ford, and Chrysler.
Data Source: AutoCount data from Experian Automotive.

## MARKET TRACKER: MONTHLY MOVING AVERAGE

## New Vehicle Market Winning Streak Continues

Percent change in three month moving average has improved for $\mathbf{2 5}$ straight months!

The graph to the right provides a clear picture of the general trending direction of the Orange Country new retail light vehicle market. And as highlighted in the graph, the trend over the past two years is decidedly positive. The graph shows the year-over-year percent change in the three month moving average of new retail light vehicle registrations. The three month moving average provides a clearer picture of the trending direction than individual monthly registrations, which can fluctuate due to such factors as the timing of manufacturer incentive programs, weather, and vehicle title processing delays by governmental agencies.

New vehicle registrations have continued their upward trend during the past several years, with the three month moving average increasing from year earlier levels in 47 of the past 49 months!

Percent Change in Orange County New Retail Light Vehicle Registrations Three Month Moving Average versus Year Earlier


## MARKET TRACKER: QUARTERLY PERSPECTIVE

## Market Has Big Gain in 4Q ' 13

## Fourth Quarter '13 registrations increase again

QUARTERLY PERSPECTIVE
Five Years of Fourth Quarter Results in Orange County Market


Fourth quarter registrations during past five years

WHAT Nen hio siso CARS SELL WELL IN MY MARKETS?
WHO ARE MY TOP competitois? -by market area?

## ANSWERS DRIVE RESULTS.

You need insights into your marketplace to make the best decisions to maximize profits. The AutoCount ${ }^{\circledR}$ Dealer Report analyzes full details on new and used competitive dealer market share, down to specific areas you define. You bring the questions. We'll bring the answers.

:!: Experian"

Automotive

## Details on Data

Data presented measures new vehicles registered to purchasers (or lessees) residing in Orange County. Monthly recording of registrations occurs when vehicle title is processed.

Data Source: AutoCount Data from Experian Automotive.

MARKET TRACKER: BRAND MARKET SHARE

## European Brands Fall

Change in County Market Share 2013 vs. 2012


The graph above shows the change in annual market share for four primary brand segments.
Data Source: AutoCount data from Experian Automotive.

MARKET TRACKER: HYBRID AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES

## Green Vehicle Share Holds at 9\%

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


The graph above shows hybrid powertrain and electric vehicle quarterly market share in the county. The line shows market share trend over the past 12 quarters.

Data Source: AutoCount data from Experian Automotive.

## MARKET TRACKER - SEGMENTS

## Luxury and Sports Car Market Shares Moves Higher

## Change in Segment Market Share 2013 <br> vs. <br> 2012

## Orange County Market

Typical models in segments:

Small Car: Hyundai Elantra
Mid Size \& Large Car: Toyota Camry Luxury \& Sports Car: BMW 3-Series

Pickup: Ford F-Series
Van: Honda Odyssey
Compact SUV: Jeep Liberty
Mid Size SUV: Jeep Grand Cherokee
Full Size SUV: Chevrolet Tahoe Luxury SUV: Lexus RX

Data Source: AutoCount data from Experian Automotive.

Luxury and Sports Car

Compact SUV

Pickup

Luxury SUV

Mid Size SUV

Full Size SUV

Van

Mid Size and Large Car

Small Car


## BRAND SCOREBOARD - PART ONE

## Mazda and Subaru Post Largest Gains in 2013

## Mercedes, Subaru, Infiniti and Mazda registrations increase from Third to Fourth Quarter of '13

The graph below provides a quick snapshot of brand sales performance in the county market. For the top 20 selling brands, it shows the percent change in new retail light vehicle registrations 2012 to 2013, and the change from the Third Quarter of 2013 to the Fourth Quarter. Brands are shown from top to bottom based on the annual percent change.

Percent Change in Orange County New Retail Light Vehicle Registrations (Top 20 Selling Brands) 2013 vs. 2012 (annual totals), and Fourth Quarter 2013 vs. Third Quarter 2013


## BRAND SCOREBOARD - PART TWO

## Toyota is Most Popular Brand in County

Mercedes, BMW, Honda, Lexus, and Hyundai also rank high

The graph below provides an indicator of brands that are popular in Orange County (relative to the National standard), and those that are not.

Here's how it works: For the top 30 selling brands in the county, each brand's share of the U.S. market is multiplied by retail registrations
in the county during 2013. This yields a "target" for the county market. Target registrations are subtracted from actual registrations to derive the measurement of sales performance.

Brands at the top of the graph (i.e., Toyota, Mercedes, BMW, Honda, Lexus, and Hyundai) are relatively strong sellers in the county, with
actual registrations exceeding calculated targets by large margins. For instance, Toyota registrations exceeded the target by 7,720 units.

Data Source: AutoCount data from Experian Automotive.

Orange County Retail Market Performance based on registrations for 2013 Actual registrations minus target (county industry registrations times U.S. market share)


## LONG TERM TRENDS

## Cyclical Recovery Predicted to Continue in 2014

## Market predicted to increase for fifth consecutive year

The two graphs below provide a long term perspective of trends in the Orange County new retail light vehicle market. The first graph shows historical registrations from 2007 thru 2013, along with Auto Outlook's forecast for 2014. The second graph shows light truck share of the overall light vehicle market. Source: AutoCount data from Experian Automotive.

County New Retail Light Vehicle Registrations - 2007 thru 2013, 2014 Forecast


County New Retail Light Truck Market Share - 2007 thru 2013


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Between 2009 (the low point during the market downturn) and 2013, county new retail light vehicle registrations have increased by nearly 70,000 units an increase of $72 \%$ !

The market was up $10.6 \%$ last year versus 2012, and Auto Outlook is predicting a $6 \%$ increase this year.

Following a wild roller-coaster ride during the seven year period, county registrations exceeded 2007 levels in 2013, and should do so again this year.

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Light truck share of the Orange County light vehicle market declined by 5.9 market share points between 2007 and 2009.

After declining from 2011 to 2012, light truck share increased to $37.7 \%$ in 2013 , but was still down compared to 2009.

## Orange County Market Increases 10.6\% in 2013

## Los Angeles County market was up 13.9\%

\(\left.\begin{array}{|l|c|c|c|}\hline \& Orange County Retail Market \& Los Angeles County Retail Market \& U.S. Market* <br>
\hline \begin{array}{l}Market Growth <br>
\% change in registrations <br>

\mathbf{2 0 1 3} vs. 2012\end{array} \& 10.6 \% \& 13.9 \%\end{array}\right]\)| $7.5 \%$ |
| :--- |
| Car Market Share <br> Car share of industry retail light vehicle <br> $\mathbf{2 0 1 3}$ |
| Domestic Brand Market Share <br> Domestic brand share of industry retail light vehicle <br> registrations -2013 |


| Brand | New Retail Registrations - Annual Totals |  |  |  |  |  | Market Share (2013) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Orange County |  | Los Angeles County |  | U.S.* |  | Orange County | $\begin{array}{r} \text { L.A. } \\ \text { County } \end{array}$ | U.S. |
|  | Regs. | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \% \text { ch. } \\ \text { from '12 } \end{array}$ | Regs. | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \% \text { ch. } \\ \text { from '12 } \end{array}$ | Regs. | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \% \mathrm{ch} \\ \text { from '12 } \end{array}$ |  |  |  |
| Acura | 2,676 | 18.5\% | 5,588 | 6.6\% | 165,436 | 5.9\% | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.1 |
| Audi | 3,249 | 3.4\% | 10,560 | 11.2\% | 158,061 | 13.5\% | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.0 |
| BMW | 8,110 | 16.4\% | 23,172 | 19.3\% | 309,280 | 9.9\% | 4.9 | 5.5 | 2.0 |
| Buick | 745 | 27.4\% | 1,489 | 20.3\% | 205,509 | 13.9\% | 0.5 | 0.4 | 1.3 |
| Cadillac | 1,414 | 9.7\% | 3,791 | 12.9\% | 182,543 | 21.9\% | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.2 |
| Chevrolet | 6,683 | 11.8\% | 20,754 | 20.2\% | 1,947,125 | 5.2\% | 4.0 | 4.9 | 12.5 |
| Chry Dodge Jeep Ram | 7,331 | 8.3\% | 17,320 | 22.6\% | 1,757,132 | 9.3\% | 4.4 | 4.1 | 11.3 |
| Chrysler | 740 | -11.4\% | 1,761 | -2.3\% | 302,492 | -1.8\% | 0.4 | 0.4 | 1.9 |
| Dodge | 2,044 | 24.8\% | 6,323 | 42.9\% | 596,343 | 13.6\% | 1.2 | 1.5 | 3.8 |
| Jeep | 3,513 | 0.5\% | 6,928 | 10.8\% | 490,454 | 3.4\% | 2.1 | 1.6 | 3.1 |
| Ram | 1,034 | 29.3\% | 2,308 | 40.3\% | 367,843 | 22.2\% | 0.6 | 0.5 | 2.4 |
| Fiat | 532 | -7.5\% | 2,617 | 0.3\% | 43,236 | -1.2\% | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Ford | 13,581 | 17.2\% | 28,488 | 15.9\% | 2,403,542 | 11.2\% | 8.2 | 6.7 | 15.4 |
| GMC | 1,802 | 8.8\% | 3,377 | 8.2\% | 450,901 | 8.9\% | 1.1 | 0.8 | 2.9 |
| Honda | 21,507 | 14.1\% | 59,705 | 10.2\% | 1,359,876 | 7.4\% | 13.0 | 14.1 | 8.7 |
| Hyundai | 10,564 | 0.6\% | 15,910 | 1.4\% | 720,783 | 2.5\% | 6.4 | 3.7 | 4.6 |
| Infiniti | 2,017 | 2.8\% | 5,317 | -3.7\% | 116,455 | -2.9\% | 1.2 | 1.3 | 0.7 |
| Jaguar | 367 | 19.5\% | 953 | -2.0\% | 16,952 | 41.1\% | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Kia | 6,816 | 9.0\% | 17,932 | 14.1\% | 535,179 | -4.0\% | 4.1 | 4.2 | 3.4 |
| Land Rover | 1,198 | 11.5\% | 3,002 | 13.1\% | 50,010 | 14.5\% | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.3 |
| Lexus | 6,924 | 16.9\% | 18,816 | 28.6\% | 273,847 | 12.2\% | 4.2 | 4.4 | 1.8 |
| Lincoln | 350 | 6.1\% | 1,180 | 14.6\% | 81,694 | -0.6\% | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Mazda | 5,000 | 41.4\% | 6,661 | 28.0\% | 283,946 | 2.5\% | 3.0 | 1.6 | 1.8 |
| Mercedes | 10,354 | 5.9\% | 28,825 | 11.1\% | 334,324 | 13.3\% | 6.3 | 6.8 | 2.1 |
| MINI | 1,541 | -6.3\% | 4,738 | -0.8\% | 66,502 | 0.6\% | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.4 |
| Mitsubishi | 1,096 | 12.4\% | 1,523 | 20.4\% | 62,227 | 7.7\% | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Nissan | 10,113 | 17.3\% | 30,140 | 20.4\% | 1,131,965 | 10.8\% | 6.1 | 7.1 | 7.3 |
| Porsche | 1,126 | 12.7\% | 3,579 | 23.7\% | 42,324 | 20.8\% | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| smart | 198 | -6.2\% | 461 | 12.2\% | 9,264 | -7.4\% | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Subaru | 2,794 | 38.6\% | 6,981 | 53.3\% | 424,683 | 26.2\% | 1.7 | 1.6 | 2.7 |
| Toyota/Scion | 30,035 | 5.3\% | 80,781 | 11.1\% | 1,962,195 | 6.7\% | 18.2 | 19.0 | 12.6 |
| Volkswagen | 5,731 | -7.9\% | 16,411 | -0.6\% | 407,704 | -6.9\% | 3.5 | 3.9 | 2.6 |
| Volvo | 519 | 1.8\% | 1,820 | 2.0\% | 61,233 | -10.1\% | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Other | 1,105 | 88.2\% | 2,512 | 215.2\% | 17,591 | -48.5\% | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.1 |

The two tables above provide a comparison of the Orange County, Los Angeles County, and U.S. new light vehicle markets.
*U.S. figures include fleets

Data Source for Orange and Los Angeles counties: AutoCount data from Experian Automotive. Source for U.S. figures: Automotive News.

| Orange County New Retail Car and Light Truck Registrations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | December |  |  | Three Month Period Oct '13 thru Dec '13 |  |  | Annual Total |  |  | AnnualMarket Share (\%) |  |  |
|  | Orange County |  |  | Orange County |  |  | Orange County |  |  | Orange County |  |  |
|  | 2012 | 2013 | \% chg. | Prev. | Curr. | \% chg. | 2012 | 2013 | \% chg. | 2012 | 2013 | Chg. |
| MARKET SUMMARY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL | 14,811 | 15,332 | 3.5\% | 37,117 | 39,621 | 6.7\% | 149,630 | 165,478 | 10.6\% | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Cars | 9,170 | 9,482 | 3.4\% | 23,386 | 24,884 | 6.4\% | 93,958 | 103,125 | 9.8\% | 62.8 | 62.3 | -0.5 |
| Light Trucks | 5,641 | 5,850 | 3.7\% | 13,731 | 14,737 | 7.3\% | 55,672 | 62,353 | 12.0\% | 37.2 | 37.7 | 0.5 |
| Domestic | 2,593 | 3,000 | 15.7\% | 6,574 | 7,694 | 17.0\% | 28,192 | 32,601 | 15.6\% | 18.8 | 19.7 | 0.9 |
| European | 3,748 | 3,352 | -10.6\% | 8,734 | 8,432 | -3.5\% | 31,785 | 33,311 | 4.8\% | 21.2 | 20.1 | -1.1 |
| Japanese | 7,003 | 7,401 | 5.7\% | 17,863 | 19,500 | 9.2\% | 72,901 | 82,186 | 12.7\% | 48.7 | 49.7 | 0.9 |
| Korean | 1,467 | 1,579 | 7.6\% | 3,946 | 3,995 | 1.2\% | 16,752 | 17,380 | 3.7\% | 11.2 | 10.5 | -0.7 |
| BRAND REGISTRATIONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Acura | 200 | 251 | 25.5\% | 614 | 630 | 2.6\% | 2,259 | 2,676 | 18.5\% | 1.5 | 1.6 | 0.1 |
| Audi | 342 | 304 | -11.1\% | 868 | 739 | -14.9\% | 3,142 | 3,249 | 3.4\% | 2.1 | 2.0 | -0.1 |
| BMW | 1,000 | 773 | -22.7\% | 2,175 | 1,916 |  |  |  | 16.4\% | 4.7 | 4.9 | 0.2 |
| Buick | 48 | 57 | 18.8\% | 136 | 172 | 26.5\% | 585 | 745 | 27.4\% | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| Cadillac | 133 | 135 | 1.5\% | 300 | 341 | 13.7\% | 1,289 | 1,414 | 9.7\% | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| Chevrolet | 521 | 674 | 29.4\% | 1,405 | 1,686 | 20.0\% | 5,976 | 6,683 | 11.8\% | 4.0 | 4.0 | 0.0 |
| C/D/J/R | 560 | 611 | 9.1\% | 1,460 | 1,556 | 6.6\% | 6,769 | 7,331 | 8.3\% | 4.5 | 4.4 | -0.1 |
| Chrysler | 86 | 52 | -39.5\% | 185 | 143 | -22.7\% | 835 | 740 | -11.4\% | 0.6 | 0.4 | -0.1 |
| Dodge | 159 | 139 | -12.6\% | 381 | 393 | 3.1\% | 1,638 | 2,044 | 24.8\% | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0.1 |
| Jeep | 249 | 309 | 24.1\% | 696 | 764 | 9.8\% | 3,496 | 3,513 | 0.5\% | 2.3 | 2.1 | -0.2 |
| Ram | 66 | 111 | 68.2\% | 198 | 256 | 29.3\% | 800 | 1,034 | 29.3\% | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Fiat | 76 | 49 | -35.5\% | 141 | 141 | 0.0\% | 575 | 532 | -7.5\% | 0.4 | 0.3 | -0.1 |
| Ford | 1,138 | 1,243 | 9.2\% | 2,822 | 3,165 | 12.2\% | 11,586 | 13,581 | 17.2\% | 7.7 | 8.2 | 0.5 |
| GMC | 165 | 146 | -11.5\% | 370 | 431 | 16.5\% | 1,657 | 1,802 | 8.8\% | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.0 |
| Honda | 1,761 | 1,847 | 4.9\% | 4,475 | 5,053 | 12.9\% | 18,852 | 21,507 | 14.1\% | 12.6 | 13.0 | 0.4 |
| Hyundai | 1,023 | 1,027 | 0.4\% | 2,577 | 2,571 | -0.2\% | 10,498 | 10,564 | 0.6\% | 7.0 | 6.4 | -0.6 |
| Infiniti | 206 | 229 | 11.2\% | 460 | 566 | 23.0\% | 1,962 | 2,017 | 2.8\% | 1.3 | 1.2 | -0.1 |
| Jaguar | 22 | 42 | 90.9\% | 64 | 101 | 57.8\% | 307 | 367 | 19.5\% | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Kia | 444 | 552 | 24.3\% | 1,369 | 1,424 | 4.0\% | 6,254 | 6,816 | 9.0\% | 4.2 | 4.1 | -0.1 |
| Land Rover | 121 | 106 | -12.4\% | 277 | 258 | -6.9\% | 1,074 | 1,198 | 11.5\% | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
| Lexus | 742 | 753 | 1.5\% | 1,687 | 1,820 | 7.9\% | 5,925 | 6,924 | 16.9\% | 4.0 | 4.2 | 0.2 |
| Lincoln | 28 | 34 | 21.4\% | 81 | 101 | 24.7\% | 330 | 350 | 6.1\% | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Mazda | 366 | 543 | 48.4\% | 933 | 1,279 | 37.1\% | 3,537 | 5,000 | 41.4\% | 2.4 | 3.0 | 0.7 |
| Mercedes | 1,253 | 1,295 | 3.4\% | 2,841 | 3,208 | 12.9\% | 9,780 | 10,354 | 5.9\% | 6.5 | 6.3 | -0.3 |
| MINI | 150 | 104 | -30.7\% | 401 | 279 | -30.4\% | 1,645 | 1,541 | -6.3\% | 1.1 | 0.9 | -0.2 |
| Mitsubishi | 105 | 100 | -4.8\% | 241 | 230 | -4.6\% | 975 | 1,096 | 12.4\% | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
| Nissan | 761 | 923 | 21.3\% | 2,006 | 2,500 | 24.6\% | 8,621 | 10,113 | 17.3\% | 5.8 | 6.1 | 0.3 |
| Porsche | 126 | 125 | -0.8\% | 292 | 302 | 3.4\% | 999 | 1,126 | 12.7\% | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
| smart | 18 |  | -50.0\% | 64 | 45 | -29.7\% | 211 | 198 | -6.2\% | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Subaru | 217 | 288 | 32.7\% | 580 | 758 | 30.7\% | 2,016 | 2,794 | 38.6\% | 1.3 | 1.7 | 0.3 |
| Toyota/Scion | 2,601 | 2,467 | -5.2\% | 6,792 | 6,664 | -1.9\% | 28,516 | 30,035 | 5.3\% | 19.1 | 18.2 | -0.9 |
| Volkswagen | 571 | 448 | -21.5\% | 1,421 | 1,208 | -15.0\% | 6,225 | 5,731 | -7.9\% | 4.2 | 3.5 | -0.7 |
| Volvo | 31 | 47 | 51.6\% | 103 | 118 | 14.6\% | 510 | 519 | 1.8\% | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Other | 82 | 150 | 82.9\% | 162 | 359 | 121.6\% | 587 | 1,105 | 88.2\% | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.3 |

## Orange County Auto Outlook

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## Explanation of Data

Data presented in Auto Outlook measures new vehicle registrations in Orange County. Monthly recording of registrations occurs when vehicle title information is processed

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Data Source: AutoCount data from Experian Automotive.

