Pickup Trucks, Compact Cars And Crossovers Drive July New-Car Sales Up 16 Percent

Kelley Blue Book Raises Sales Forecast to 15.6 Million Units for 2013

IRVINE, Calif., July 25, 2013 <u>PRNewswire</u>/– <u>New-car sales</u> are expected to improve 16.1 percent in July 2013 to a total of 1.34 million units, with strength among <u>pickup trucks</u>, <u>compact cars</u> and <u>crossovers</u>, according to Kelley Blue Book <u>www.kbb.com</u>, the leading provider of new and used car information.

(Logo: http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20121108/LA08161LOGO)

While the overall economy continues to improve at a slow pace, demand for new vehicles is rapidly approaching pre-recession levels. Due to economic improvement during the first half of the year, Kelley Blue Book is raising its sales forecast from 15.3 million to 15.6 million for 2013.

Key Highlights for Estimated July 2013 Sales Forecast:

- In July 2013, new light-vehicle sales, including fleet, are expected to be 1,340,000 units, up 16.1 percent from July 2012 and down 4.4 percent from June 2013.
- The seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) for July 2013 is estimated to be 15.8 million, up from 14.0 million in July 2012 and down from 15.9 million in June 2013.
- Retail sales are expected to account for 86 percent of all sales in July 2013.

"As new-car demand continues to improve with leases accounting for nearly 25 percent of all new-car sales, along with continued solid truck sales, we've improved our forecast for 2013 to 15.6 million units," said Alec Gutierrez, senior market analyst at Kelley Blue Book. "Consumer confidence has a played a key role in the ongoing recovery and currently is at the highest levels seen since January 2008. With modest improvements in unemployment and housing expected to continue through the rest of the year, confidence likely will follow suit, driving new-car demand along with it."

GM Leads the Way for the Industry in July

	Sales Volume ¹			Market Share ²			
Manufacturer	Jul-13	Jul-12	YOY %	Jul-13	Jul-12	YOY %	
General Motors	240,000	201,237	19.3%	17.9%	17.4%	0.5%	
Ford Motor Company	201,000	173,482	15.9%	15.0%	15.0%	0.0%	
Toyota Motor Company	193,000	164,898	17.0%	14.4%	14.3%	0.1%	
Chrysler Group	148,000	126,089	17.4%	11.0%	10.9%	0.1%	
American Honda	133,000	116,944	13.7%	9.9%	10.1%	-0.2%	
Nissan North America	113,000	98,341	14.9%	8.4%	8.5%	-0.1%	
Hyundai-Kia	118,000	110,095	7.2%	8.8%	9.5%	-0.7%	
Volkswagen	52,300	48,721	7.3%	3.9%	4.2%	-0.3%	
Total ³	1,340,000	1,153,759	16.1%	-	-	-	

¹ Historical data from OEM sales announcements

Kelley Blue Book's Gutierrez continues, "Detroit manufacturers are seeing some double-digit increases in July, due to strong truck sales and redesigned vehicles, with GM seeing improved increases from the Chevrolet Cruze, Cadillac ATS and XTS."

Trucks, Compact Cars and Crossovers Gain as Midsize Cars Lose Market Share

	Sales Volume ¹			Market Share		
Segment	Jul-13	Jul-12	YOY %	Jul-13	Jul-12	YOY %

² Kelley Blue Book Automotive Insights

³ Includes brands not shown

Mid-Size Car	216,000	199,381	8.3%	16.1%	17.3%	-1.2%
Compact Car	197,000	166,538	18.3%	14.7%	14.4%	0.3%
Compact Crossover	173,500	140,808	23.2%	12.9%	12.2%	0.7%
Full-Size Pickup Truck	166,500	126,405	31.7%	12.4%	11.0%	1.5%
Subcompact Car	57,500	49,387	16.4%	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%
Total ²	1,340,000	1,153,759	16.1%	-	-	-

¹ Kelley Blue Book Automotive Insights

"The full-size truck segment is expected to be up more than 30 percent in July 2013 and likely will see continued interest in the second half of the year, when sales typically are the strongest," said Tim Fleming, market analyst at Kelley Blue Book. "We also are seeing strength in the compact car and crossover segments, with expected increases of 18.3 percent and 23.2 percent, respectively."

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² Includes segments not shown