## Blue Book MARKET REPORT

# FOURTH QUARTER 2015 

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Weak Demand on Fuel from China Puts Additional Pressure on Oil Prices in Fourth Quarter


# THE EFFECT OF FUEL PRICES ON VEHICLES HAS DEFINITELY BEEN NOTICEABLE. WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE DAYS OF \$3 TO \$4 PER GALLON AVERAGES IN 2012. AS A RESULT, CONSUMERS HAVE BEEN MOVING BACK INTO LARGER VEHICLES, SUUS, AND TRUCKS, AND AWAY FROM SMALLER FUEL EFFICIENT AND HYBRID VEHICLES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. 

- In the fourth quarter of 2015 , the average price for a gallon of fuel fell 32 cents, or 14.2 percent.
- Fuel peaked in the fourth quarter at
$\$ 2.28$ per gallon in mid-October and closed out the month of December at its yearly low of $\$ 1.93$ per gallon.
- Fuel prices were expected to decline throughout the fourth quarter due to an increasing oil supply in the U.S. and the Middle East; however, reports of weaker than expected demand from China also increased the downward pressure of oil prices late in the fourth quarter.
- Average auction values for used 1- to 3-year-old vehicles declined 5.85 percent, or roughly $\$ 1,000$, in the fourth quarter of 2015. This is an increased drop of 1.83 percent, or $\$ 281$, compared to the third quarter of 2015.
- An accelerated decline in auction values due to an increase of supply, namely off-lease vehicles, drove auction values below where they finished in 2014. Kelley Blue Book Field Analysts have reported auctions that had reached capacity with inventory which can cause further pricing pressure on vehicles in the auction lanes.
- Auction values in the fourth quarter finished a mere $\$ 159$ below auction values for the same period last year and $\$ 88$ above 2013 values.


Nissan LEAF is Best Performing Vehicle Across All Segments in Fourth Quarter


- In the fourth quarter of 2015 , 1 - to 3 -year-old vehicles in the high-end luxury car and luxury car segments were the worst performers, dropping an average of 8.7 and 8.1 percent respectively.
- The mid-size truck and high performance car segments had the smallest declines during the fourth quarter, each falling 2.4 and 3.7 percent respectively.


# DESPITE THE CONTINUEE DROP IN FUEL PRICES, THE NISSAN LEAF WAS THE BEST PERFORMING VEHCLL ACROSS ALL SEMMENTS, APPRECLATING 3 PERCENT, OR ROUGHLY \$300. THS REBOUND COULD BE ATTRBUUTED TO CONSUMERS NOW FNDING THE CURRENT Value of electric vehlcles more atracitve at thelr current price point FOLLOWING MONTHS OF STEAOY DECLINES. 

## Top Five, Bottom Five Performing Brands in Fourth Quarter



- Honda, MINI, Toyota, Nissan and Scion rounded out the top five best performing brands in terms of average auction value percent change during the fourth quarter of 2015. The average change between the top five brands was a decline in value of 4.3 percent.
- The top performing vehicle from each brand includes the Honda Ridgeline (-1.9\%), MINI Countryman (-2.7\%), Toyota Tundra Double Cab (-1.0\%), Nissan LEAF (+3.0\%) and Scion xB (-1.6\%).
- Dodge, Suzuki, Volkswagen, Mitsubishi and Smart made up the bottom five brands for performance in the fourth quarter, averaging a decline of 9.5 percent.
- The worst performing vehicle from each brand includes the Dodge Dart (-11.0\%), Suzuki SX4 (-19.1\%), Volkswagen Beetle (-12.4\%), Mitsubishi i-MiEV (-14.1\%), and Smart fortwo (-12.0\%).


## Appendix

## Top 5 Performing Segments:

| SEGMENT | Fourth Quarter (\%) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Mid-size Pickup Truck | $-2.2 \%$ |
| High Performance Car | $-3.3 \%$ |
| Sporty Compact Car | $-4.1 \%$ |
| Hybrid/Alternative Energy Car | $-4.3 \%$ |
| Full-size Car | $-5.0 \%$ |

MY 2012-2014, Kelley Blue Book ${ }^{\circledR}$ Auction Value

## Bottom 5 Performing Segments:

| SEGMENT | Fourth Quarter (\%) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Electric Vehicle | $-6.9 \%$ |
| Compact Car | $-7.5 \%$ |
| Luxury Car | $-7.8 \%$ |
| Subcompact Car | $-8.1 \%$ |
| High-end Luxury Car | $-8.5 \%$ |

[^0]Appendix Continued
Top 10 Performing Models:

| MAKE | MODEL | Fourth Quarter (\%) |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Nissan | LEAF | $3.0 \%$ |
| Ford | Taurus | $0.8 \%$ |
| Chevrolet | Tahoe | $0.0 \%$ |
| Ford | E350 Super Duty Cargo | $0.0 \%$ |
| Honda | CR-Z | $0.0 \%$ |
| Suzuki | Equator Crew Cab | $-0.1 \%$ |
| Nissan | NV1500 Cargo | $-0.5 \%$ |
| Lexus | LFA | $-0.7 \%$ |
| Toyota | Tundra Double Cab | $-1.0 \%$ |
| Mercedes-Benz | SLS-Class | $-1.1 \%$ |
| MY 2012-2014, Kelley Blue Book $^{\circledR}$ Auction Value |  |  |

MY 2012-2014, Kelley Blue Book ${ }^{\circledR}$ Auction Value

Bottom 10 Performing Models:

| MAKE | MODEL | Fourth Quarter (\%) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| smart | fortwo | $-12.0 \%$ |
| Volkswagen | Beetle | $-12.4 \%$ |
| Mitsubishi | Galant | $-12.7 \%$ |
| Jaguar | XJ Series | $-12.8 \%$ |
| Ram | ProMaster 1500 Cargo | $-13.2 \%$ |
| Mitsubishi | Mirage | $-13.4 \%$ |
| Mitsubishi | i-MiEV | $-14.1 \%$ |
| Mercedes-Benz | SL-Class | $-14.4 \%$ |
| Infiniti | Q70 | $-14.7 \%$ |
| Suzuki | SX4 | $-19.1 \%$ |
| MY 2012-2014, Kelley Blue Book ${ }^{\circledR}$ Auction Value |  |  |

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Founded in 1926, Kelley Blue Book, The Trusted Resource $®$, is the only vehicle valuation and information source trusted and relied upon by both consumers and the automotive industry. Each week the company provides the most market-reflective values in the industry on its top-rated website KBB.com, including its famous Blue Book $®$ Trade-In Values and Fair Purchase Price, which reports what others are paying for new and used cars this week. The company also provides vehicle pricing and values through various products and services available to car dealers, auto manufacturers, finance and insurance companies, and governmental agencies. Kelley Blue Book's KBB.com ranked highest in its category for brand equity by the 2015 Harris Poll EquiTrend® study and has been named Online Auto Shopping Brand of the Year for four consecutive years. Kelley Blue Book Co., Inc. is a Cox Automotive company.


[^0]:    MY 2012-2014, Kelley Blue Book ${ }^{\circledR}$ Auction Value

