

German passenger car market shows strongest growth in 15 months



According to the Federal Motor Transport Authority, 224,800 new passenger cars were registered in Germany in September. This is 14 percent more than in the same month last year. In the first nine months of this year, the volume of new registrations fell by 7 percent to million units. International manufacturers achieved a market share of 39 percent in the first nine months of 2022.

Reinhard Zirpel, President of the Association of International Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (VDIK), said, “The double-digit growth in September is encouraging, but it is mainly based on an extremely weak month last year and a reduction of the purchase application backlog built up in the previous months. The level of new registrations in September remains well below the long-term average. The balance after three quarters of 2022 is sobering. For the first time ever, passenger car sales are below 2 million units after nine months. The market urgently needs positive stimulus from stable conditions and consumer support in the face of rising energy and living costs.”

In September, only 17 percent of all new cars were delivered with a diesel engine (same month last year: 16 percent). Sales of all-electric passenger cars rose by 32 percent in September to 44,4000 units. One in five new passenger cars was thus a

pure electric vehicle. In addition, there were 28,300 plug-in hybrids (up 24 percent). In the first three quarters, around 488,200 new pure electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids were registered. However, the year-on-year increase was only 2 percent.

Private new registrations increased by 16 percent in September. After 9 months, the private passenger car market remains down 1 percent at around 676,000. Its share of the total market was 36 percent.

The commercial vehicle market was just below the previous year's level at 25,300 new registrations. At 224,200 units, the market was down 16 percent after 9 months. As in the passenger car market, the market level remained well below the long-term average.

	September		Share of total car market (%)	January - September	
		+/- (%)			+/- (%)
Passenger car	224,800	14		1,867,900	-7
- VDIK-brands	87,100	1	39	737,600	-9
- german brands	122,100	22	54	1,069,700	-8
- other brands	15,600	53	7	60,600	45
Electric vehicles (total)	72,700	29	32	488,200	2
- purely battery-powered	44,400	32	20	272,500	15
- plug-in-hybrids	28,300	24	13	215,700	-11
Commercial vehicle	25,300	-3		224,200	-16

Source: KBA, VDIK