## January/February 2024 Kontos Kommentary

## Current Used Vehicle Market Conditions

## Summary

Average wholesale used vehicle prices rose in January and have continued to rise thus far in February. Despite this typical seasonal rise, prices remain down on a year-over-year basis, which is more reflective of weaker demand that was also evidenced by slow retail used vehicle sales.

## Wholesale Market Trends*

According to ADESA US Analytical Services' monthly analysis of auction industry used vehicle prices by vehicle model class, wholesale prices in January averaged $\$ 13,755$ - up $3.5 \%$ compared to December, down $9.5 \%$ relative to January 2023, and up $26.5 \%$ versus pre-pandemic/January 2019, as shown below.

Wholesale Used Vehicle Price Trends

|  | Average Prices (\$/Unit) |  |  |  | Latest Month Versus: |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Jan-24 | Dec-23 | Jan-23 | Jan-19 | Prior Month | Prior Year | Pre-pandemic |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total All Vehicles | $\$ 13,755$ | $\$ 13,290$ | $\$ 15,205$ | $\$ 10,870$ | $3.5 \%$ | $-9.5 \%$ | $\mathbf{2 6 . 5 \%}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Cars | $\$ 9,698$ | $\$ 9,291$ | $\$ 10,935$ | $\$ 8,506$ | $4.4 \%$ | $-\mathbf{- 1 1 . 3} \%$ | $\mathbf{1 4 . 0 \%}$ |
| Compact Car | $\$ 7,112$ | $\$ 6,833$ | $\$ 8,396$ | $\$ 6,555$ | $4.1 \%$ | $-15.3 \%$ | $8.5 \%$ |
| Midsize Car | $\$ 8,291$ | $\$ 7,773$ | $\$ 9,434$ | $\$ 7,518$ | $6.7 \%$ | $-12.1 \%$ | $10.3 \%$ |
| Fullsize Car | $\$ 8,629$ | $\$ 8,204$ | $\$ 9,879$ | $\$ 7,899$ | $5.2 \%$ | $-12.7 \%$ | $9.2 \%$ |
| Luxury Car | $\$ 14,721$ | $\$ 14,564$ | $\$ 16,090$ | $\$ 12,964$ | $1.1 \%$ | $-8.5 \%$ | $13.6 \%$ |
| Sporty Car | $\$ 18,127$ | $\$ 17,374$ | $\$ 19,867$ | $\$ 13,343$ | $4.3 \%$ | $-8.8 \%$ | $35.9 \%$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Trucks | $\$ 16,217$ | $\$ 15,796$ | $\$ 18,087$ | $\$ 12,979$ | $\mathbf{2 . 7 \%}$ | $-10.3 \%$ | $\mathbf{2 4 . 9 \%}$ |
| Mini Van | $\$ 9,949$ | $\$ 9,493$ | $\$ 11,467$ | $\$ 8,636$ | $4.8 \%$ | $-13.2 \%$ | $15.2 \%$ |
| Fullsize Van | $\$ 17,572$ | $\$ 17,071$ | $\$ 22,258$ | $\$ 13,196$ | $2.9 \%$ | $-21.1 \%$ | $33.2 \%$ |
| Compact SUV/CUV | $\$ 11,290$ | $\$ 10,970$ | $\$ 12,715$ | $\$ 10,658$ | $2.9 \%$ | $-11.2 \%$ | $5.9 \%$ |
| Midsize SUV/CUV | $\$ 14,627$ | $\$ 14,114$ | $\$ 16,046$ | $\$ 11,969$ | $3.6 \%$ | $-8.8 \%$ | $22.2 \%$ |
| Fullsize SUV/CUV | $\$ 20,324$ | $\$ 19,488$ | $\$ 21,643$ | $\$ 14,230$ | $4.3 \%$ | $-6.1 \%$ | $42.8 \%$ |
| Luxury SUV/CUV | $\$ 22,575$ | $\$ 22,515$ | $\$ 24,645$ | $\$ 18,180$ | $0.3 \%$ | $-8.4 \%$ | $24.2 \%$ |
| Compact Pickup | $\$ 18,845$ | $\$ 18,585$ | $\$ 19,197$ | $\$ 9,902$ | $1.4 \%$ | $-1.8 \%$ | $90.3 \%$ |
| Fullsize Pickup | $\$ 21,041$ | $\$ 20,544$ | $\$ 23,767$ | $\$ 15,762$ | $2.4 \%$ | $-11.5 \%$ | $33.5 \%$ |

All model class segments showed month-over-month increases, with the biggest gain registered by midsize cars. Average prices have continued to rise so far in February and stood at $\$ 14,254$ for the week ending February 11.

[^0]Further insights on wholesale price trends can be gained by holding constant for auction sale type, modelyear age and mileage (the upper line in the following graph, which represents "Late-Model" units), as well as price trends for all vehicles sold (the lower line in the graph below).


As the graph shows, average prices for "Late-Model" used vehicles as defined here rose even faster than overall prices in January. Average prices for these late-model vehicles have continued to rise in February and stood at $\$ 24,117$ for the week ending February 11.

A spreadsheet with historical data broken out by model class for the table and graph in this section has been provided with this report for your convenience in tracking these trends.

## Retail Market Trends

The following graph and table summarize ADESA US Analytical Services' analysis of NADA data on retail used vehicle and certified pre-owned (CPO) sales in January.


As the figures show, NADA's preliminary estimates of January retail used vehicle sales indicate that 2024 is off to a slower start than any of the previous five years.

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[^0]:    *Source: Analysis in this section is based on over six million annual sales transactions from over 250 of the largest U.S. wholesale auto auctions, including those of ADESA US as well as other auction companies. ADESA US Analytical Services segregates these transactions to study trends by vehicle model class, sale type, model year, etc.

