





## Wards Intelligence North America Barometer

Current Trends and 5-Year Outlook May 18, 2023

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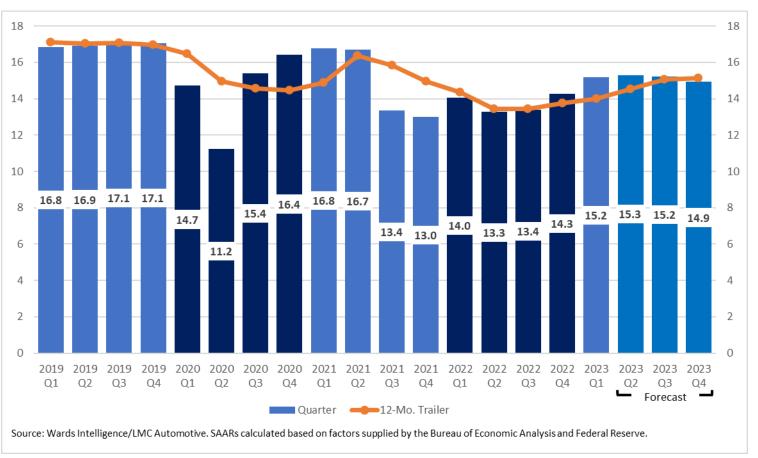


## **U.S. Market Outlook**





# **Short-Term U.S. Sales Outlook Thru 2023** (Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rates – in millions)



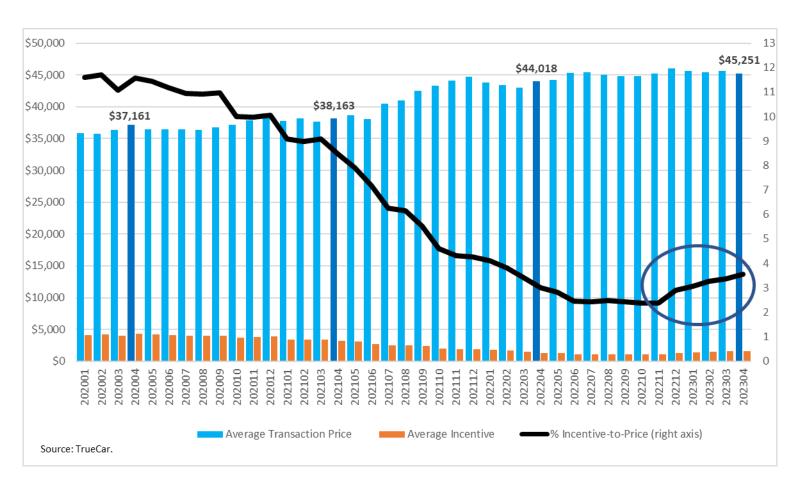
2023 Sales by Quarter								
	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4							
Volume (millions)	3.6	4.0	3.9	3.7				
/r./Yr. Change 7.8% 15.1% 15.2% 2.4%								

- Growth expected to weaken sometime in the second half under the assumption of a mild recession
- Pent-up demand, combined with rising product availability, so far offsetting most of the pushback from economic and political headwinds, and puts upside to the second-half outlook
- However, still a lot of potential for a weaker second half





### **Average Retail Transaction Prices and Incentives**



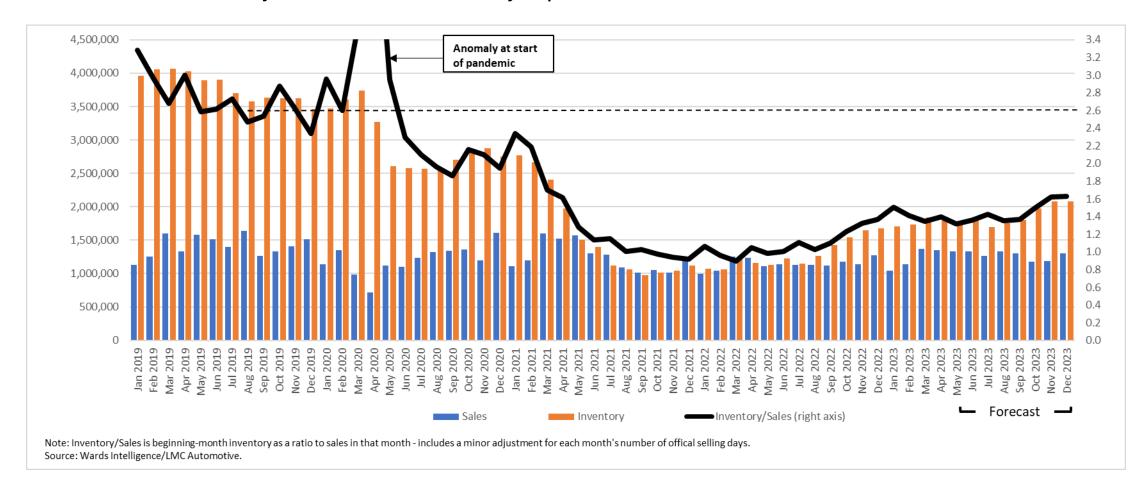
- Average prices still rising but increases have slowed
- Incentive activity month-to-month has been rising faster than prices since November
- Incentive activity likely continues
   rising as inventory increases how
   much depends on the level of
   inventory automakers ultimately
   choose to carry in current market
   conditions





### **U.S. Light-Vehicle Sales vs. Inventory**

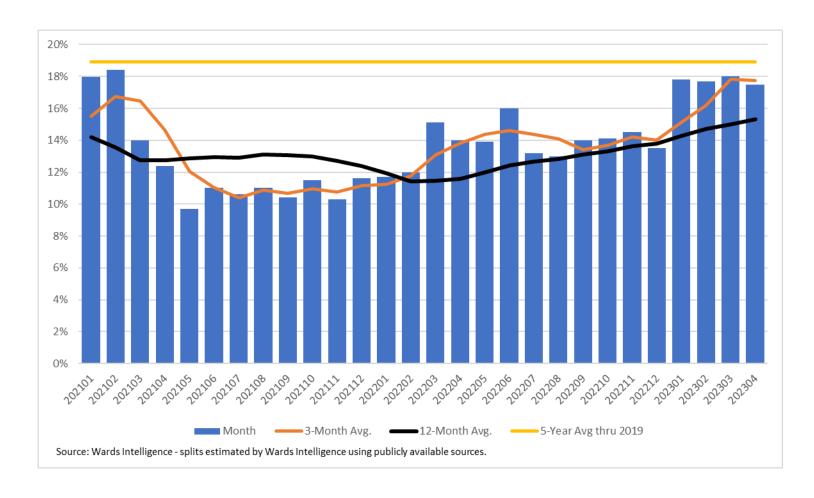
 Historically, monthly inventory as a ratio to sales averaged 2.6. Ratio still well below that level, even at the end of the year when raw inventory tops 2 million units for first time since Q1-2021







### **Fleet Share of Light Vehicle Sales**

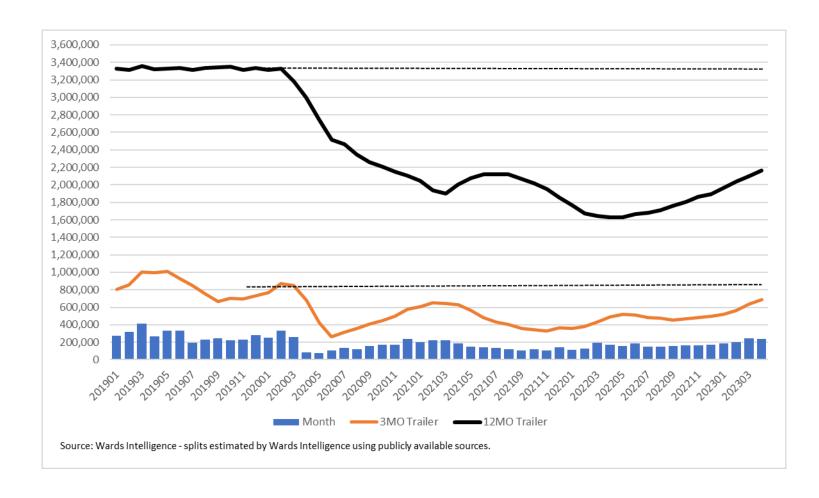


 Fleet penetration is getting back to historical norms of 19% averaged close to 18% past four months





### Fleet Volume - Light Vehicle

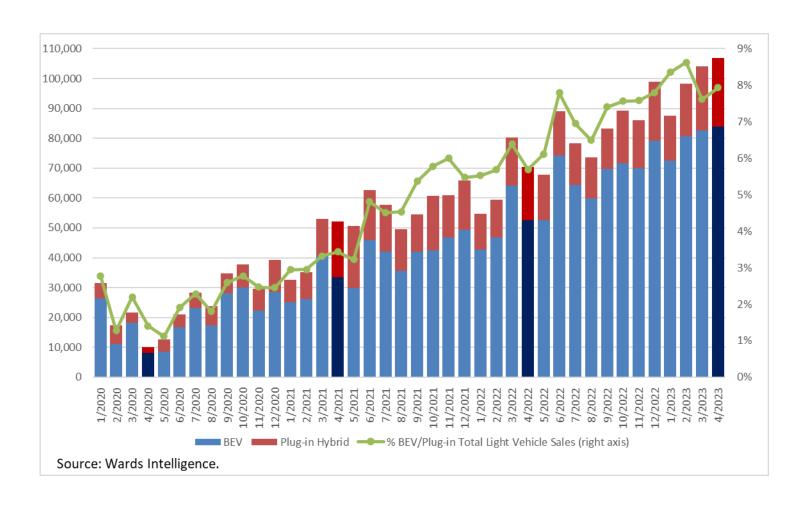


- Fleet volume still well below typical annual totals of 3million-plus typical in the prepandemic era
- A lot of pent-up demand
- Fleet deliveries in 2023 projected to total 2.7 million





### U.S. Battery-Electric and Plug-in Hybrid Light-Vehicle Sales

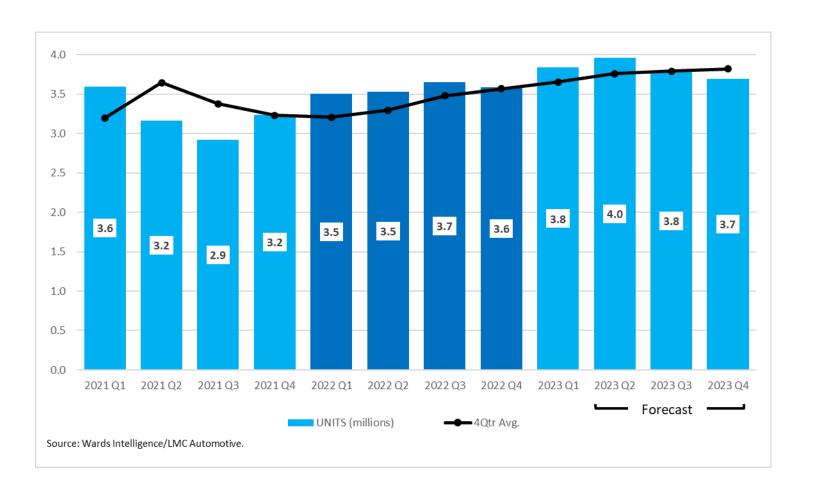


- Final IRA rules for earning buyer credits, as well as a lease end-run, kicked-in mid-April
- Both BEV and PHEV volumes in April were records, and continued the 3-year upward trend





### North America Light-Vehicle Production Outlook by Quarter



Year/Year % Change									
2023 Q1 2023 Q2 2023 Q3 2023 Q4									
9.6	9.6 12.2 3.7 2.9								

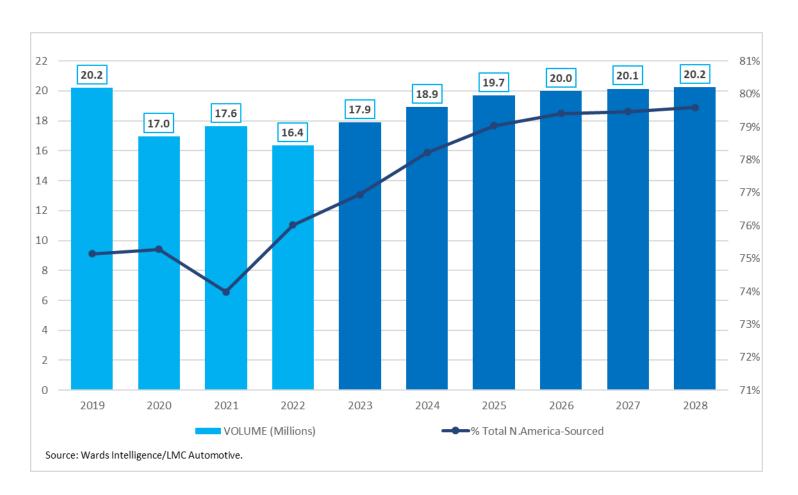
- Although production still constrained, much of the volatility is gone
- However, one million units are forecast to be unavailable in 2023 due to ongoing supplychain problems
- Also possible in a mild recession production not significantly reduced due to the unusual situation of huge pent-up demand

## North America Long-Term Overview





### North America Light-Vehicle Sales - Forecast



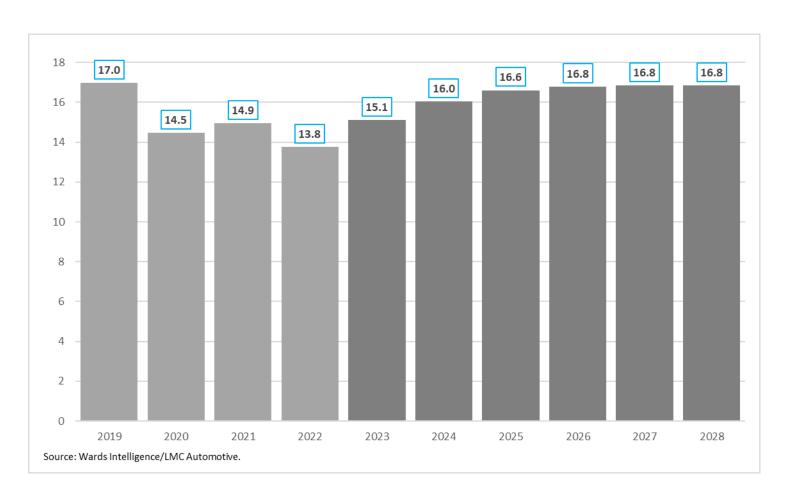
Year/Year % Change								
2022	2027	2028						
-7.2	9.4	5.8	4.1	1.5	0.8	0.5		

- Strong growth in 2023-25 leveling off quickly
- Outlook assumes sluggish economic growth over next five years (Oxford Economics)
- Also limiting top-level volume will be lower inventory and continued weighting of the product mix to pricier vehicles (including focus on transitioning to electrified vehicles)





### **U.S. Light-Vehicle Sales Forecast (millions)**



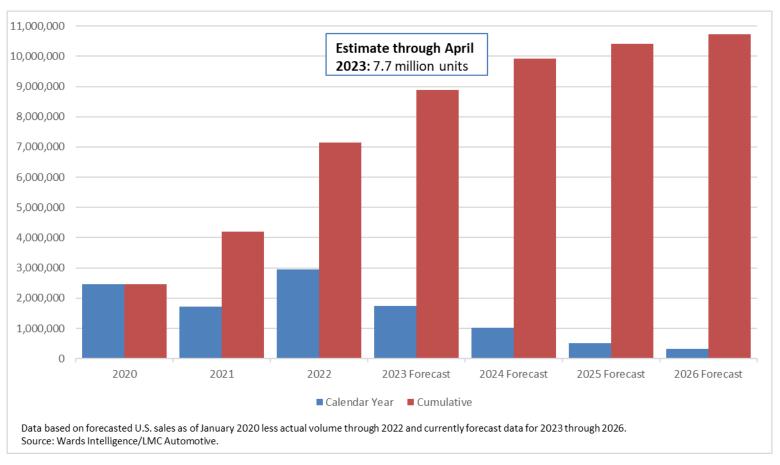
	Year/Year % Change								
2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028									
-8.0	9.8	6.2	3.6	1.1	0.3	0.0			

- There is more upside than downside to the 5-year outlook
- Pent-up demand built up over past three years could continue to have more impact than economic and price headwinds
- Also, automakers could increase the inventory mix for lower-cost vehicles or raise incentives higher than expected
- Major disruptor is the depth of a recession





### Nominal Pent-up Demand in U.S. Light-Vehicle Market

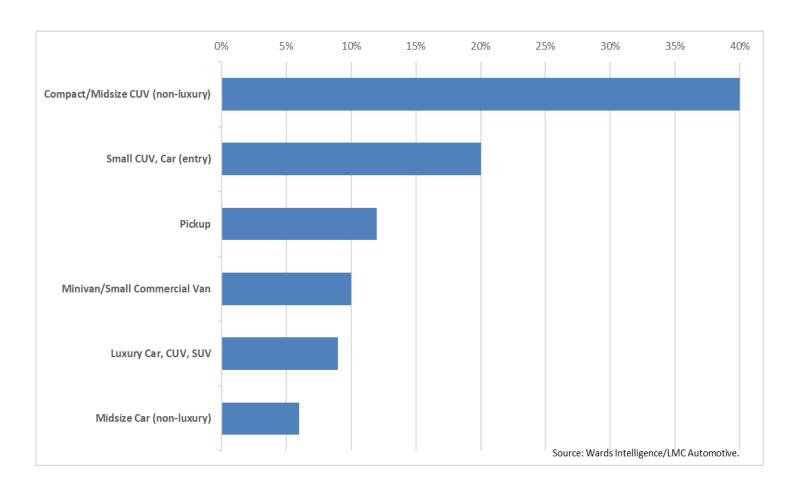


- Cumulative nominal replacement demand since the pandemic first impacted the market in March 2020 currently at 7.7 million units and still rising
- Excluding the possible impact of a recession, pricing power for at least the next three years remains on the seller side
- However, during periods of economic growth, there always will be opportunity (or temptation) to build and sell more at lower prices
- Not shown in the graph: Nearly half of the pent-up demand through 2022 was in the fleet sector





### % Share of Pent-up Demand by Selected Groupings Through 2022

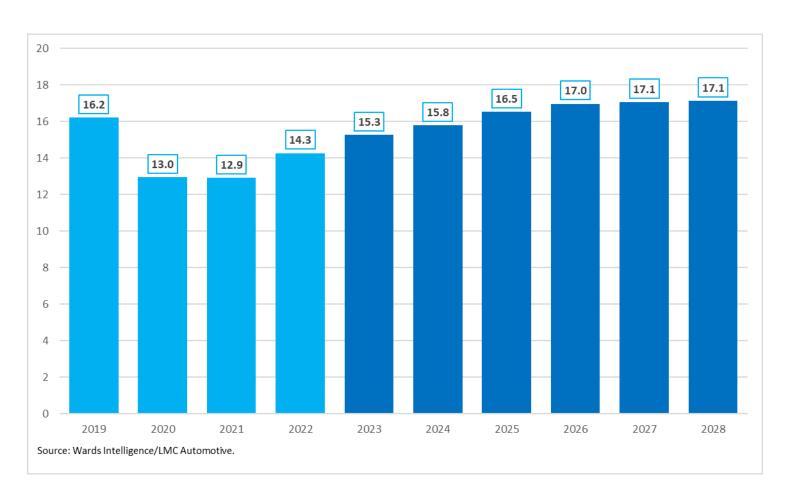


- Compact/Midsize CUVs, which account for 21% of the U.S. market, equal roughly 40% of pent-up demand
- Low-cost, or entry-price, vehicles one-fifth the total
- Pre-pandemic, the average base price of "entry" '20-model vehicles was \$21,000; for '23, the average is \$24,500 (with fewer entries)
- Long-term, there is potential for an automaker(s) to attempt filling the lower-price void – right now, no indications of a significant movement to do that





### North America Light-Vehicle Production Forecast (millions)



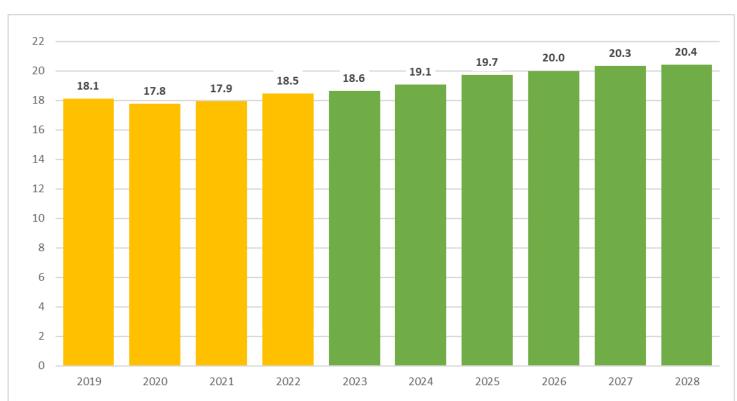
Year/Year % Change									
2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028									
10.4									

- Supply-chain issues, including semiconductor shortages, lessen but continue in 2023 and 2024
- Production helped by increased local sourcing for the North America market
- Overall capacity also increasing
- Constrained sales volumes push back on the positives for the outlook





### North America Light-Vehicle Straight-Time Production Capacity (millions)



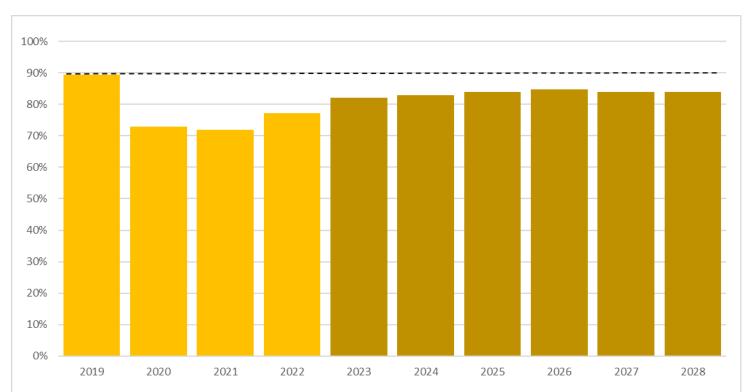
Totals based on an estimate of what each vehicle assembly plant can produce on two 8-hour daily shifts, five days per week, 52 weeks per year. Source: Wards Intelligence.

- Annual capacity forecast to rise nearly another 2 million units in 2028 from 2022
- About 300,000 of the increase attributed to Lucid and Rivian





### **North America Production Capacity Utilization**



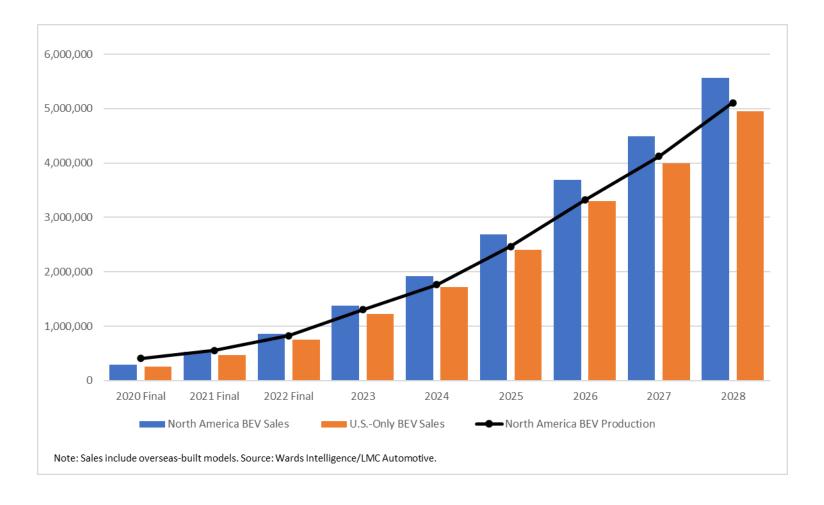
Utilization is production as a percent of straight-time capacity, which is based on an estimate of what each vehicle assembly plant can produce on two 8-hour daily shifts, five days per week, 52 weeks per year. Source: Wards Intelligence/LMC Automotive.

 Capacity utilization remains relatively weak in comparison to prepandemic years





### **North America BEV Light-Vehicle Forecast**

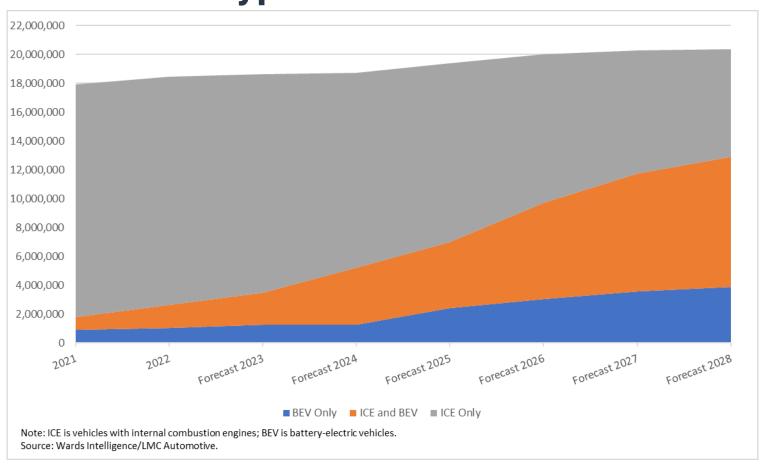


- North America sales rise to 27% of total lightvehicle volume by 2028
- Not included in the graph: PHEVs forecast to total 700,000 North America sales in 2028





# North America Light-Vehicle Straight-Time Capacity by Powertrain Type

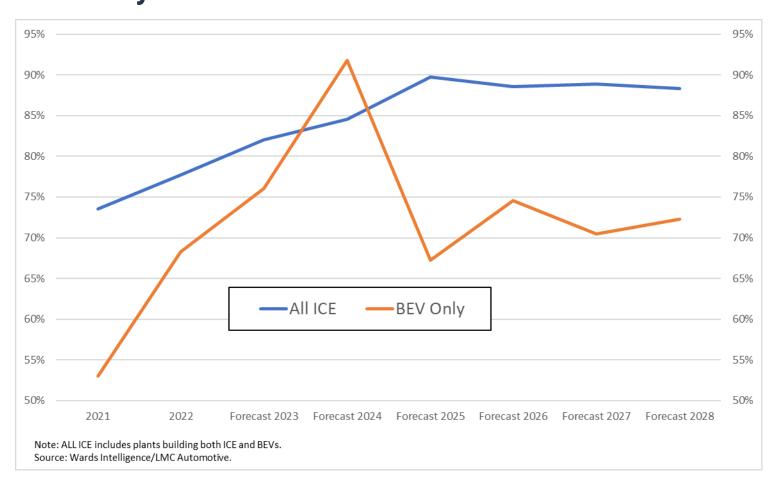


- By 2028, plants building only BEVs will have annual capacity of 4.3 million units
- Potential capacity from plants building both ICEs and BEVs adds 10 million to potential BEV capacity
- The flexibility also means there will be additional potential capacity of 10 million units for ICE vehicles on top of the 6 million from plants only building those types





# North America Light-Vehicle Capacity Utilization: BEV-Only vs. ICE Plants



- Capacity utilization from BEV-only plants drops after capacity starts ramping up in 2025
- Combined utilization from ICE-only and BEV/ICE plants remains relatively steady





#### **Summary/Long-Term Trends to Track**

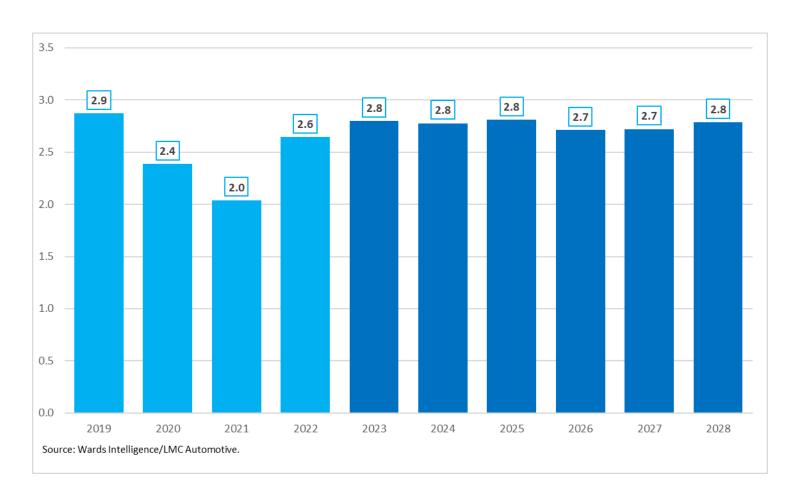
- Sales volumes and inventory levels will be constrained as automakers continue emphasis on higher margin vehicles, including BEVs.
  - Based on current sales and production forecasts, inventory can't get back to pre-pandemic levels even in five years.
  - How much inventory automakers want to carry depends on a combination of how far down the new-vehicle price chain they want to build to and how far up they are willing to raise incentives.
  - Used-vehicles will continue in short supply for some years and at elevated prices do they siphon sales from the higher-priced new-market or help new-vehicle sales because of higher trade-in values? (Forecast assumes the latter.)
  - The biggest case for an upside-bias scenario is that the force of pent-up demand is underestimated.
  - Huge pent-up demand also means opportunity, or strong temptation, to build more to increase sales volumes, which will lower the average cost to buy a new vehicle.
  - High levels of pent-up demand probably good for future BEV sales.
- Pricing power remains more in the hands of the seller than buyer.
- Production will be limited because of lean-inventory strategy.
- Plant capacity utilization remains sub-par, giving more inducement to accelerate consolidation of factories currently building ICE vehicles.
  - A ramification to transitioning capacity to BEVs is it could cannibalize overall available production to a detrimental extent, depending on the pace BEV demand grows.

## Manufacturers





### **General Motors Light-Vehicle Production (millions)**



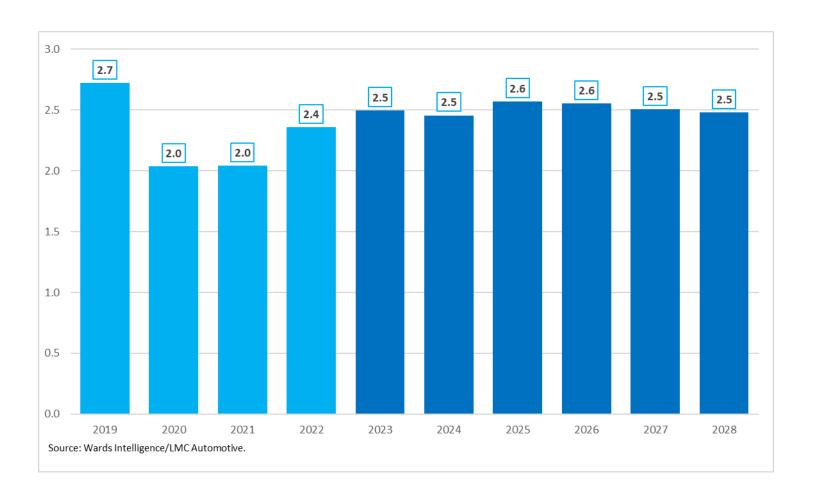
Year/Year % Change									
2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028									
29.8									

- Production largely remains flat from 2023
- Output by 2028 forecast to be roughly one-third BEVs
- Transitioning plants to BEVs will dent capacity utilization
- Demand for BEVs it is rolling out in place of ICEs will limit overall sales





### Ford Light-Vehicle Production (millions)



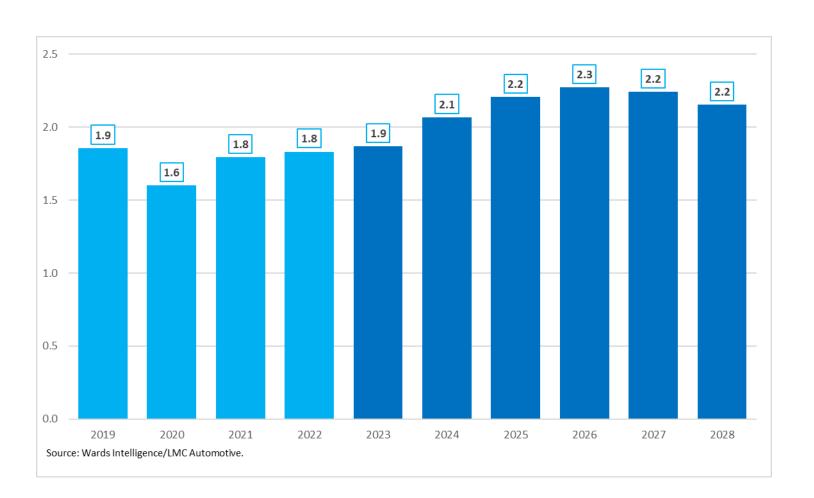
Year/Year % Change								
2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028								
15.4	6.0	-1.7	4.7	-0.8	-1.8	-1.0		

- Market share forecast to remain relatively flat in North America, curtailing production gains
- Not moving as fast as GM, but transition to BEV products will limit long-term volumes
- A lot of new ICE products coming in the next couple years puts upside to market share and production





### **Toyota Light-Vehicle Production (millions)**



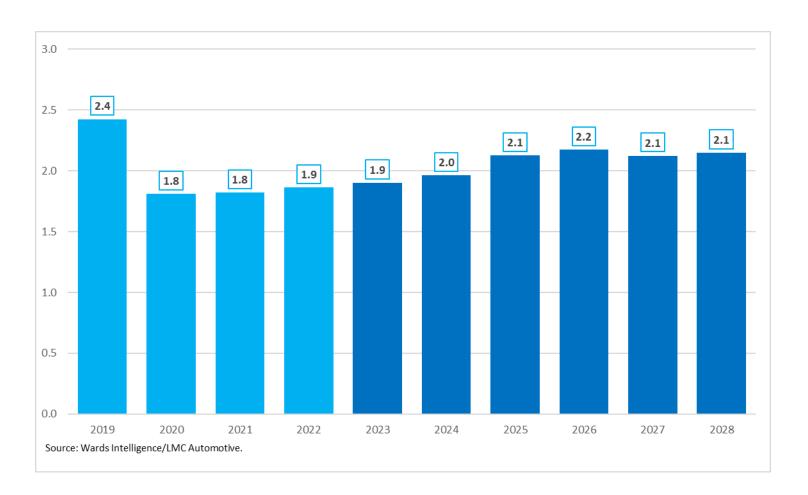
Year/Year % Change								
2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 202								
2.1	2.0	10.8	6.7	3.0	-1.3	-4.0		

- Increasing capacity and forecast for bump in market share over next three years
- BEV production starts ramping up at end of decade





### **Stellantis Light-Vehicle Production (millions)**



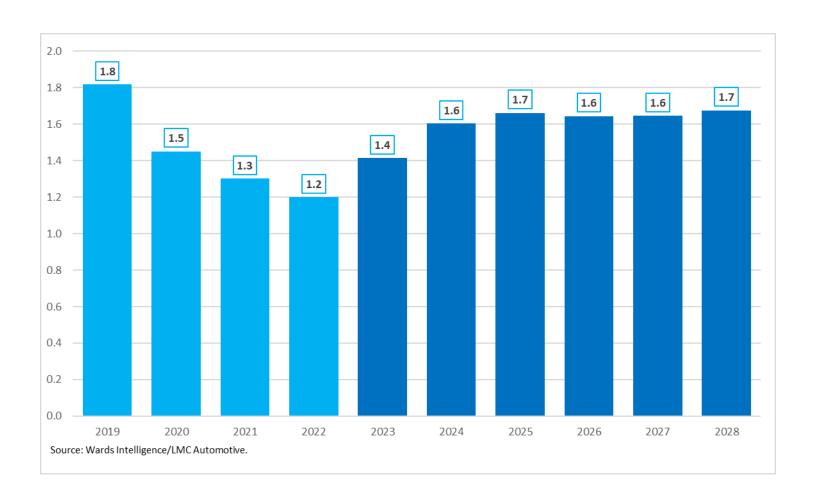
Year/Year % Change								
2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 20								
2.4	2.0	3.2	8.3	2.2	-2.2	1.2		

- Market share starts to rise next year as fresh product enters the pipeline, helping production
- Production gains limited as more volume sourced from overseas





### **Honda Light-Vehicle Production (millions)**



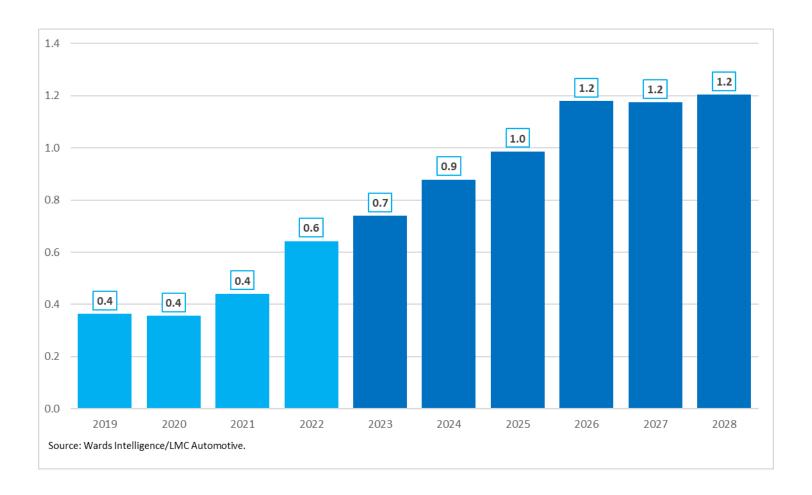
	Year/Year % Change									
2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028				
-7.8	17.9	13.4	3.7	-1.0	0.1	1.8				

 Production bouncing back after chip shortage slashed output in 2022





### **Tesla Light-Vehicle Production (millions)**



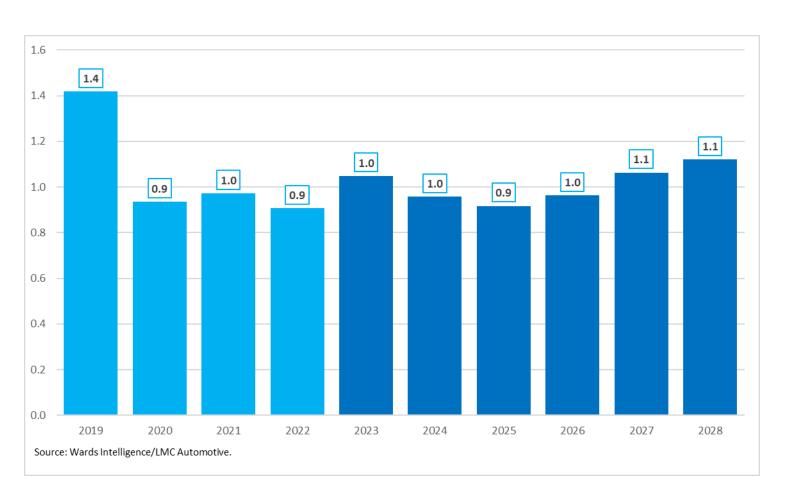
Year/Year % Change									
2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028			
45.7	15.0	18.8	12.3	19.5	-0.4	2.4			

 Increased capacity, combined with stronger sales post-2024, take production to a new level





### **Nissan Light-Vehicle Production (millions)**



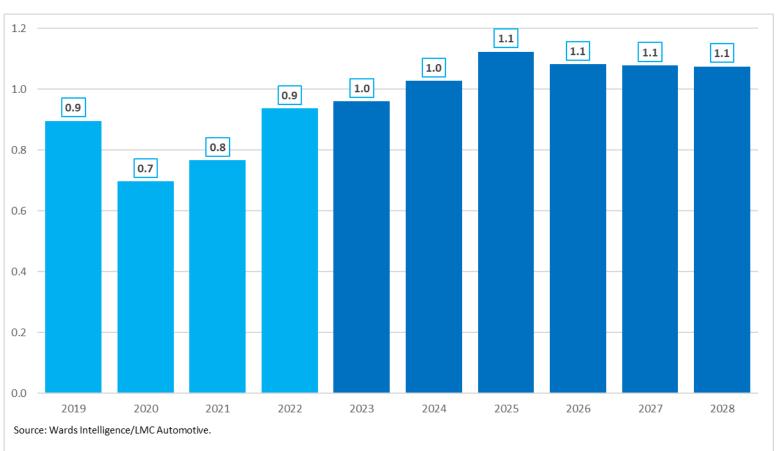
Year/Year % Change								
2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028		
-6.8	15.6	-8.7	-4.3	5.0	10.4	5.5		

 Market share expected to decline slightly from 2023 over next five years, crimping production





### Hyundai/Kia Light-Vehicle Production (millions)



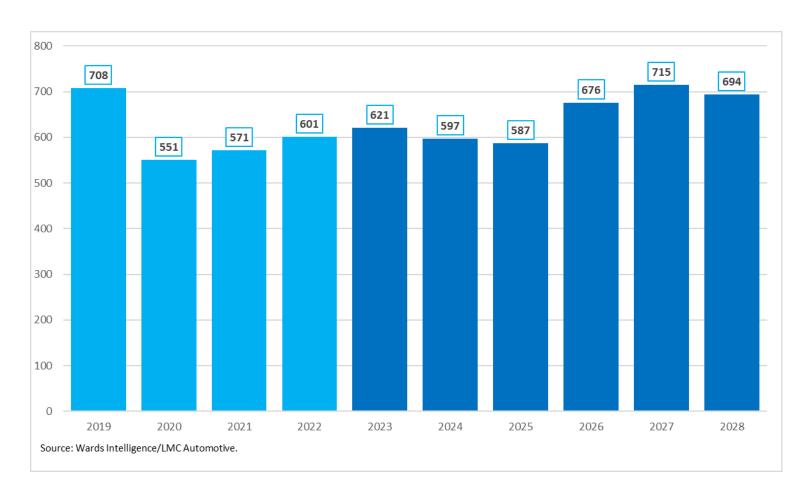
Year/Year % Change										
2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028				
22.3	2.5	7.1	9.3	-3.6	-0.3	-0.4				

- Despite growing sales and increased capacity with a new BEV plant starting in late-2024, production flattens in long-term as it continues to source half its vehicles from overseas
- Close to one-third of production will be BEVs by 2028





### **Volkswagen Group Light-Vehicle Production (thousands)**



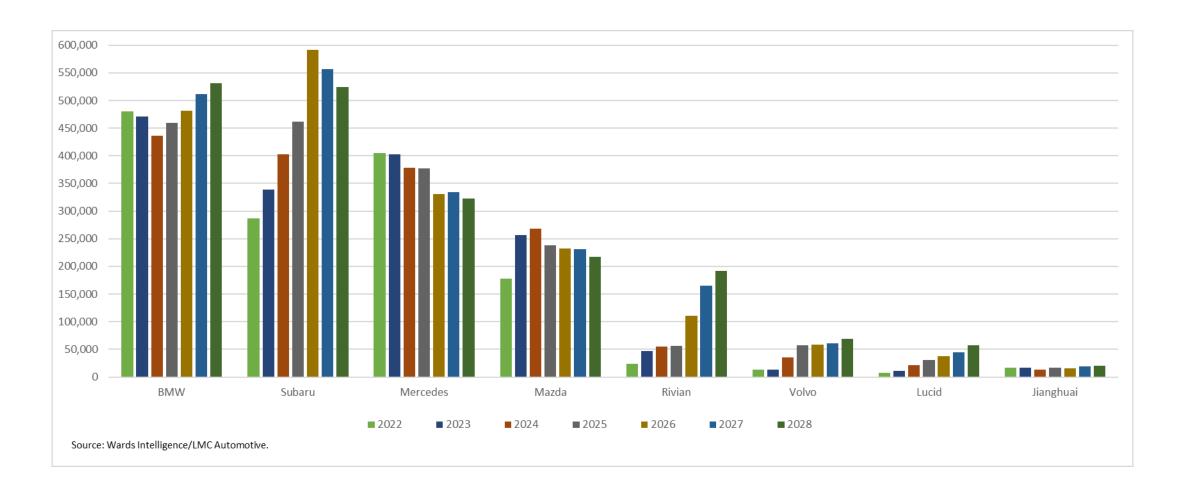
Year/Year % Change										
2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028				
5.2	3.3	-3.8	-1.7	15.1	5.7	-2.9				

 Production grows after new plant added in South Carolina in 2026 and Tennessee plant ramps up BEV output





### **Production by Manufacturer: Rest of the Industry**









### Thank you

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