

Industrial Specialties

TRENDS REPORT

2023

QUARTER 2



NEW LIGHT VEHICLE SALES

↑ 20% YoY¹

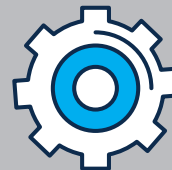
New-vehicle sales in Q2 delivered solid year-over-year gains. Higher inventory levels and improved fleet sales combined to lift overall industry results.



NEW LIGHT VEHICLE INVENTORY

↑ 75% YoY¹

New-vehicle inventory and prices continued to stabilize in June while electric vehicle inventory climbed, closing the month with twice the days' supply as new vehicles in total.



MANUFACTURING PMI

↓ 2.1PTS MoM⁴

The S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI was confirmed at a six-month low of 46.3 in June of 2023, pointing to a second successive monthly decline in the health of the manufacturing sector.



NEW RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION STARTS

↓ 8.0% YoY²

Privately-owned housing starts in June were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.434MM. This is 8% below the revised May estimate of 1.559MM and is 8.1% below the June 2022 rate of 1,561MM.



RESIDENTIAL SALES

↑ 23% YoY²

Sales of new single-family houses in June 2023 were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 697K according to estimates released jointly today by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Department of HUD.



CONSTRUCTION SPENDING

↑ 2.4% YoY²

Construction spending during May 2023 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,925.6B, 0.9% above the revised April estimate of \$1,909B.



DURABLE GOODS ORDERS

↑ 1.7% MoM²

New orders for manufactured durable goods in May, up three consecutive months, increased \$4.9B or 1.7% to \$288.2B, the U.S. Census Bureau announced.



U.S. CHEMICAL REGIONAL PRODUCTION

↓ 3.2% YoY⁵

U.S. Chemical Production Regional Index fell by 0.5% in May. Chemical output declined in all regions of the U.S. except for the West Coast where output ticked slightly higher.



CHEMICAL CAPACITY UTILIZATION

→ to 78.2%⁵

Chemical production was flat in May following declines in March and April. Compared to a year ago, chemical production was 2.7% lower. Capacity utilization was flat compared to April at 78.2%.



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

→ 3.6%⁵

Both the unemployment rate, at 3.6%, and the number of unemployed persons, at 6.0MM, changed little in June. The unemployment rate has ranged from 3.4% to 3.7% since March 2022.



CONSUMER SENTIMENT

↑ 41% YoY³

Consumer sentiment rose for the second straight month, soaring 13% above June and reaching its most favorable reading since September 2021.



CONSUMER PRICES

↑ 3.0% YoY⁵

Headline consumer prices rose 0.2% in June and were up 3.0% YoY. The rise in the headline consumer price index (CPI) was largely due to an increase in the index for shelter, while motor vehicles also contributed.

Sources:

1. "Auto Market Snapshot." Cox Automotive. August 4, 2023. <https://www.coxautoinc.com/insights>.
2. "Census Bureau Index of Economic Activity." United States Census Bureau. <https://www.census.gov/economic-indicators>.
3. "Survey Of Consumers." University of Michigan. <http://www.sca.isr.umich.edu>.
4. "United States Manufacturing PMI." Trading Economics. <https://tradingeconomics.com/united-states/manufacturing-pmi>.
5. "Weekly Chemistry & Economic Trends." American Chemistry Council. March 24, 2023. <https://www.americanchemistry.com/chemistry-in-america/news-trends/weekly-economic-report/2023/weekly-chemistry-economic-trends-march-24-2023>