

Appraiser Blog

Data Breakdown: 2023 U.S. Vehicle Ownership Statistics



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Americans place a high value on car ownership, according to the latest data on the subject in the United States. During the period 2017-2021, registrations for personal and commercial vehicles increased by 3.66 percent. According to the latest data available, 91.7 percent of U.S. families had at least one vehicle in 2021, and 22.1% had three or more.

Using the latest available data, we reveal car ownership rates by state, the most popular car models, and more.

What Is the Number of Cars in the U.S.?

In 2021, there were a total of 278,063,737 vehicles registered in the US, with the state of Montana having the most motor vehicle registrations per 1,000 licensed drivers with 2,492.55.

Between 2017 and 2021, the number of registered vehicles in the United States increased by 3.66%, from 268,258,178 to 278,063,737, indicating an upward trend.

The most popular vehicle type in 2021 was trucks, with 166,079,082 private and commercial vehicle registrations, compared to 101,601,344 for cars.

Top 10 States With the Highest Number of Registered Vehicles			
		Motor Vehicle Registrations	
Rank	State	Per 1,000 Licensed Drivers (2021)	Percentage Change (2017-2021)
1	Montana	2492.55	18.18%

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2	South Dakota	2067.69	12.48%
3	Wyoming	2015.58	8.23%
4	North Dakota	1643.66	-12.87%
5	Iowa	1619.97	2.44%
6	Arkansas	1514.37	25.08%
7	Idaho	1465.90	8.07%
8	Kentucky	1447.39	2.66%
9	Indiana	1343.94	1.42%
10	Alabama	1343.27	10.34%

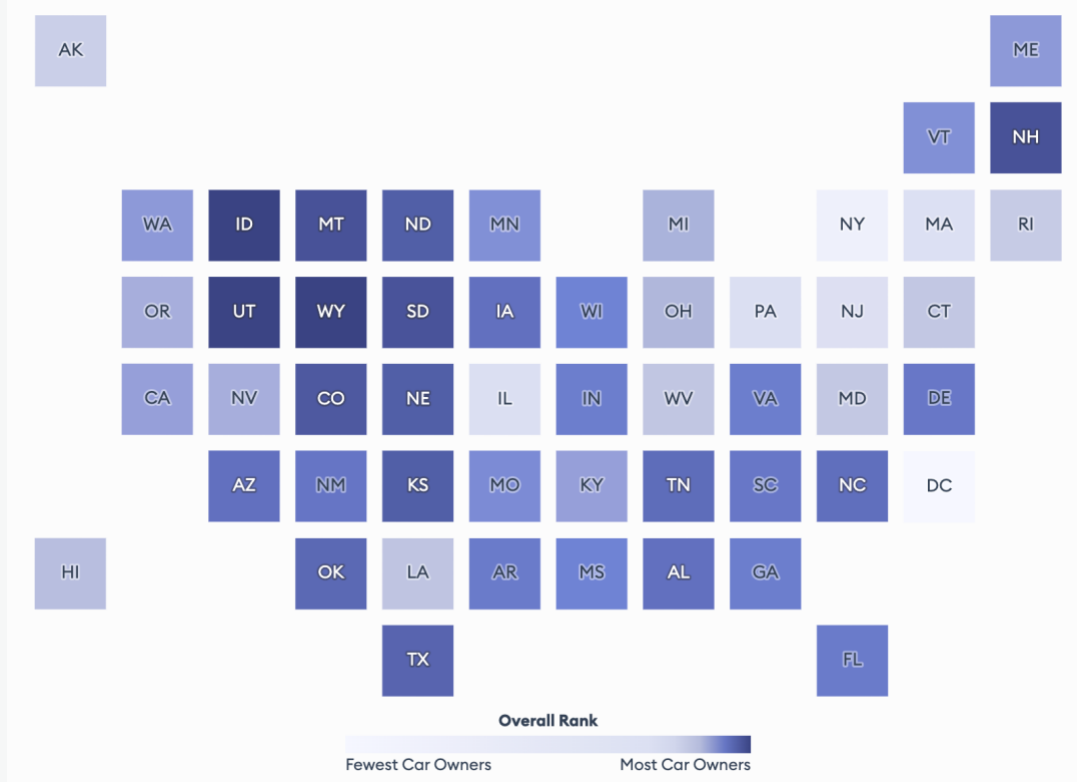
What is the Average Number of Cars Owned by Americans?

In 2021, 8.3% of households lacked a vehicle, a 5.7% decrease from 2017, when 8.8% of households didn't have one.

- In 2021, 91.7% of households owned at least one vehicle, up from 91.2% in 2017.
- In 2021, 37.1% of households had two vehicles, a 0.8% decrease from 2017 (37.4%).
- In 2021, 22.1% of households had three or more vehicles, an increase of 7.28% from 2017.

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Percentage of American Car Ownership			
Number of vehicles	% of households		% change
	2017	2021	2017-2021
0	8.80%	8.30%	-5.68%
1	33.20%	32.50%	-2.11%
2	37.40%	37.10%	-0.80%
3 or more	20.60%	22.10%	7.28%



States With the Highest Rate of Vehicle Ownership

Top 10 Most Popular Cars in the U.S.

There were 653,957 Ford F-Series pickups sold in 2022, making it the most popular vehicle model nationwide. Check the top 10 most popular car models in 2022:

Top 10 Most Popular Cars in the U.S.			
Rank	Make	Model	2022 Sales
10	Jeep	Grand Cherokee	223,345
9	Toyota	Tacoma	237,323
8	Honda	CR-V	238,155
7	GMC	Sierra	241,522
6	Tesla	Model Y	252,000
5	Toyota	Camry	295,201
4	Toyota	RAV4	399,941
3	Ram	Pickup	468,344
2	Chevrolet	Silverado	513,354
1	Ford	F-Series	653,957