

Utility vehicles log 50% higher exports in May over low base

SOHINI DAS

Mumbai, 11 June

Exports of utility vehicles (UVs) were up 50.5 per cent in May 2024 owing to a low base in the same month of the previous year, while domestic wholesales and production went up 17.6 per cent and 26.9 per cent, respectively, shows the data released by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM).

PVs comprise passenger cars and UVs. UVs are mainly sports utility vehicles (SUVs) or multi utility vehicles (MUVs).

India exported 24,490 UVs in May, up 50.5 per cent from 16,274 units in May last year.


Domestic UV sales were up 17.6 per cent to 182,883 units while production was up 26.9 per cent to 213,462 units.

Export growth has been led by companies like Hyundai Motor India, Honda Cars India, and Volkswagen India. Hyundai exported 14,400 passenger vehicles (PVs) in May, up 31 per cent from May 2023.

An official of the company said exports last year in May

POWER MODE Figures for May '24				
	Exports	% change Y-o-Y	Domestic sales	% change Y-o-Y
Utility vehicles	24,490	50.5	182,883	17.6
Passenger cars	28,802	-19.6	106,952	-11.1
Vans	699	-39.6	10,960	-14.5
Total PVs*	53,991	1.4	300,795	4.2
Total 2W**	312,418	20.2	1,620,084	10.1

Data for BMW, Mercedes, JLR, Tata Motors, and Volvo Auto was not available; *passenger vehicles; **two-wheelers
Source: SIAM



were affected due to shortages of semiconductor chips and therefore a low base effect pushed exports up in May 2024.

Hyundai Motor India forms a critical part of Hyundai Motor Corporation's global export hub with exports spanning across Africa, West Asia, and

other countries including Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile, Honda Cars' exports increased 11 times in May to 6,521 units, up from the 587 in May last year. Volkswagen India too saw a rise in PV exports to 5,839 units in May, up from the 3,222 in the

same month last year.

European car major Skoda Auto Volkswagen India (SAVWIPL) said at the end of May it had manufactured over 1.5 million vehicles at its Chakan facility in Pune since it commenced operations at the plant in 2009.

These include models from Volkswagen and Skoda, such as the Kushaq (Skoda), Slavia (Skoda), and Taigun (Volkswagen). The Skoda-Volkswagen Group exports over 30 per cent of its car production in India to 40 global markets.

Piyush Arora, managing director and chief executive officer, SAVWIPL, had said as the firm outlined its expansion plans in India, it aimed to elevate India's position as a global hub for automotive manufacturing.

Exports of passenger cars dipped 19.6 per cent. Passenger car sales were also down 11.1 per cent and production was down by 13 per cent in May.

Domestic PV wholesales were up 4.2 per cent in May while retail sales were down by nearly 1 per cent.