

What are the economic & industry indicators?

TrendLens™, Auto Care Association’s industry research platform, includes 30+ expertly curated Economic & Industry Indicators. Pulling from our work with the Auto Care Factbook, these indicators can provide you a glimpse into the economic world that surrounds your business. See miles driven side-by-side with consumer sentiment; understand the change in VIO over the last 5 years and know what variables are impacting the industry. All economic and industry indicator data is pulled straight from our data partners and are always up-to-date. We invite you to explore what these indicators can do for you and your business.

Please note, all economic & industry indicators are updated monthly. However, timing of updates varies by source.

U.S. Economy

Indicator	Description
Business Confidence Index (Auto Care/Northwood University)	Index value that measures business outlook based on survey responses from Auto Care members. <i>Source: Auto Care Association</i>
Economic Confidence Index (Auto Care/Northwood University)	Index value that measures economic outlook based on survey responses from Auto Care members. <i>Source: Auto Care Association</i>
Capacity Utilization-Motor Vehicles & Parts	Estimate of sustainable potential output expressed as a percentage of actual output in the base year. <i>Source: U.S. Federal Reserve Board</i>
Construction Spending	Dollar value (in \$ millions) of all construction projects put in place during the month. <i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>
Disposable Income	Income (in \$ billions) remaining after all necessary expenses are paid, such as living, transportation, taxes, insurance, etc. <i>Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis</i>
Durable Goods - Orders	Value (in \$ millions) of new orders for manufactured durable goods across all industries. <i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>
Durable Goods - Shipments	Value (in \$ millions) of shipments of manufactured durable goods across all industries. <i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>
Exchange Rates - Broad composite	An index of average rates of exchange to the U.S. dollar. <i>Source: U.S. Federal Reserve Board</i>
Housing Starts	Number (in thousands of units) of residential construction projects that began during the month. <i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>
Industrial Production-Motor Vehicles & Parts	Index measures real output for the Motor Vehicle & Parts sector expressed as change in output from a base year. <i>Source: U.S. Federal Reserve Board</i>
Inflation Rate	The annual inflation rate for the U.S. for the last 12 months. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>

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Interest Rates - Prime Rate	An interest rate that serves as a benchmark for other rates; typically used by banks for short-term loans. <i>Source: U.S. Federal Reserve Board</i>
Purchasing Managers Index	An index showing the direction and scope of change in the manufacturing economy. <i>Source: Institute for Supply Management</i>
U.S. Temperature Average	Average monthly temperature (in F) for the continental U.S. <i>Source: U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</i>
U.S. Temperature Deviation	Deviation of the average monthly temperature (in F) from the long-term average. <i>Source: U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</i>

Producer Prices

Indicator	Description
Diesel Fuel	Index measuring changes in selling prices of diesel fuel received by domestic producers of goods and services. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Gasoline	Index measuring changes in selling prices of gasoline received by domestic producers of goods and services. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Metals & Metal Products	Index measuring changes in selling prices of metal products received by domestic producers of goods and services. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Motor Vehicle Parts	Index measuring changes in selling prices of vehicle parts received by domestic producers of goods and services. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Tires & Repair Materials	Index measuring changes in selling prices of rubber products received by domestic producers of goods and services. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>

Consumer Prices

Indicator	Description
Gasoline	Average retail price (\$ per gallon) for gasoline at U.S. stations. <i>Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration</i>
Motor Vehicle Maintenance & Repair	Index measuring changes in prices of motor vehicle maintenance and repair for urban households. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Motor Vehicle Parts & Equipment	Index measuring changes in prices of motor vehicle parts and equipment purchased by urban households. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
New Vehicles	Index measuring changes in prices of new motor vehicles purchased for consumption by urban households. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Used Vehicles	Index measuring changes in prices of used motor vehicles purchased for consumption by urban households. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>

Retail Sales

Indicator	Description
Auto Parts, Accessories & Tire Stores	Monthly retail sales (in \$ millions) by auto parts, accessories and tire stores. <i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>
New Car Dealers	Monthly retail sales (in \$ millions) by new car dealers. <i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>
Used Car Dealers	Monthly retail sales (in \$ millions) by used car dealers. <i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau</i>

Aftermarket Employment

Indicator	Description
Aftermarket Employment	Number of people (in thousands of jobs) employed in the aftermarket industry. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Average Hourly Wage of Parts Manufacturing Employees	Average hourly wage (in \$) of nonsupervisory workers employed at parts manufacturing enterprises. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Average Hourly Wage of Parts Store Employees	Average hourly wage (in \$) of nonsupervisory workers employed at automotive parts and accessories stores. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>
Average Hourly Wage of Tire Dealer Employees	Average hourly wage (in \$) of nonsupervisory workers employed at tire dealers. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Labor</i>

Auto Industry

Indicator	Description
Gasoline Supplied	Gasoline fuel products supplied for consumption to the U.S. in thousands of barrels. <i>Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration</i>
Miles Driven	Total number of miles driven (in millions) on U.S. roads by all vehicles. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Transportation</i>

Trucking Industry

Indicator	Description
Diesel Fuel	Average retail price (\$ per gallon) for diesel fuel at U.S. stations. <i>Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration</i>
Fuel Oil Supplied	Fuel oil products supplied for consumption to the U.S. in thousands of barrels. <i>Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration</i>