

UK car sales slide for 12th month: industry body

5 April 2018



SMMT chief executive Mike Hawes said Thursday regarding the latest data.

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Two British built-cars, a Bentley Flying Spur and a Range Rover, pictured in London in 2015

New car sales in Britain fell for a 12th month in March, as demand for diesel vehicles slumped further, this time by more than one third, industry data showed Thursday.

New registrations for all vehicles sank 15.7 percent in March year-on-year to 474,069 cars, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said in a statement.

The number of new diesel-powered cars plunged 37.2 percent to 153,594, with demand sliding on UK government plans to improve air quality.

Consumers continued to ditch [diesel cars](#) last month for automobiles that are regarded as more environmentally-friendly.

March is usually a busy month for car purchases owing to the release of new registration plates.

"March's decline is not unexpected given the huge surge in registrations in the same month last year,"

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