

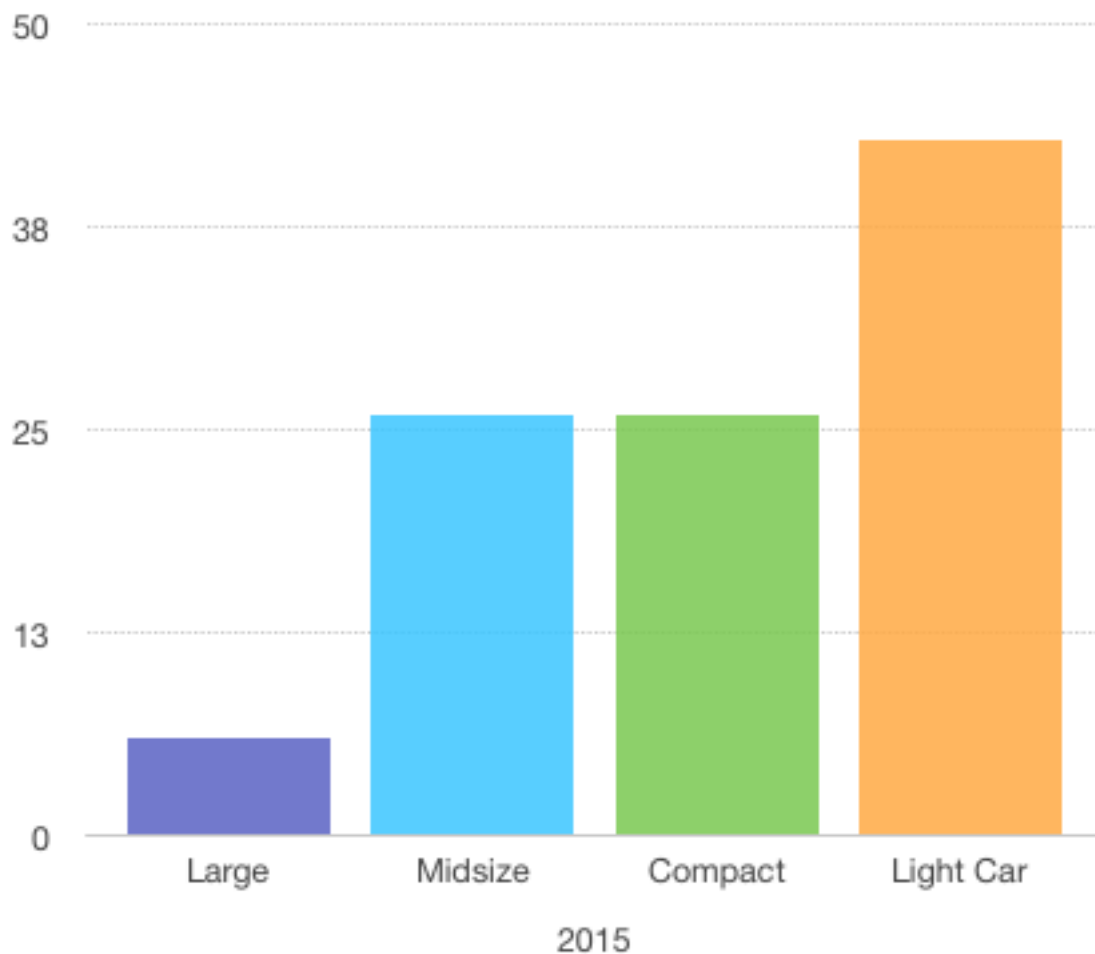
The popularity of the light car in 21st-century Europe

By light cars I mean supermini cars, mini or small multipurpose vehicles, mini or small sport utility vehicles and City or minicar's.

In the United Kingdom today we seem to be overwhelmed with even larger Sport utility vehicles ,fancy trucks, and large German saloon cars, This led me to think about at what proportion are the various classes of vehicles on the road in the UK today. I was unable to obtain the data I was looking for the UK but was able to find a couple of sites that were able to furnish me with Data for Europe. One of them was carsalesbase.com which gave me the individual registration totals of cars in Europe for the last 20 years. Another site that gave me total for all passenger cars each year was the European automobile manufacturers association site the ACCO, and between those I was able to compose a simple list of all the classes of cars registered in Europe for the years 2015. Also I was able to produce detailed lists of the various light cars types for the last twenty years.

Passenger car registrations in Europe for the period 1997 to 2016 amounted to two hundred and eighty-two million. The total number passenger cars registered in Europe in 2015 was almost thirteen point two million. The various size cars registered is as follows. Large cars 6%, Midsize cars 26%, Compact cars 25% and light or small cars 43% . The light car total is composed of the following. Supermini's 22%, Small MPV's 3%, Mini SUV's 9% and City Cars 9% of the overall total.

Class Comparison Percent



The most popular supermini during the period 1997 to 2016 has been the Peugeot 206/7/8 series of cars with a 7.83 million examples registered, followed by the Renault Clio with over 7.5 million registrations, next the Opel Corsa with 7.1 million, followed by the Ford Fiesta with almost 6.7 million and the Volkswagen Polo with 6.5 million, the Renault Twingo in all its forms at 2.5 million registrations, the Ford Ka, model with 1.9 million registrations and finally the Fiat 500 with 1.5 million registrations in that period.

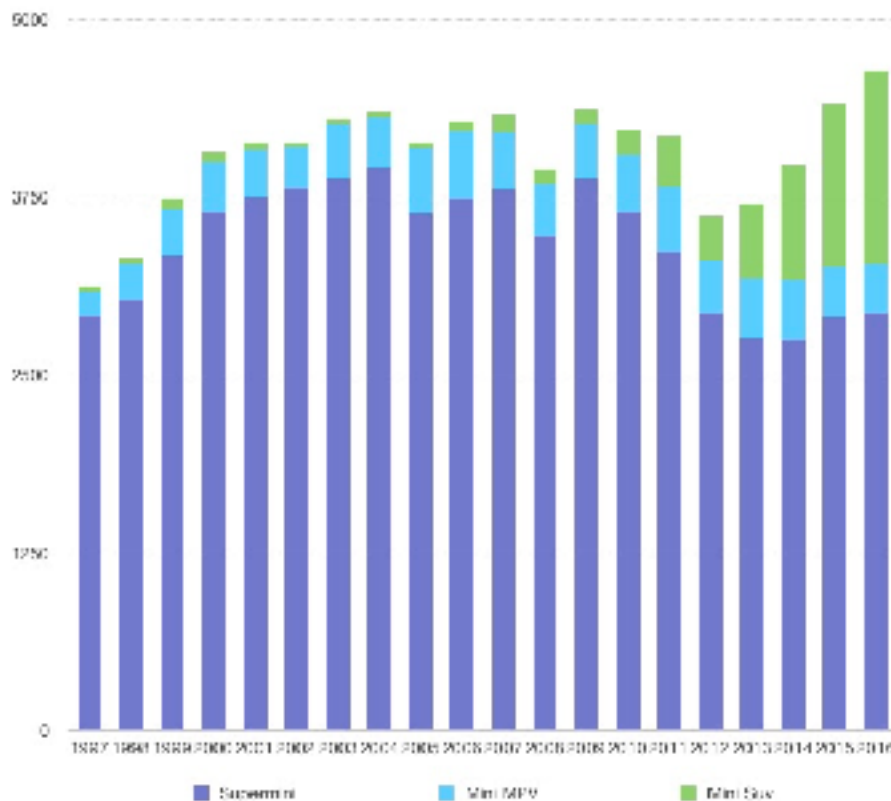
When we come to the small or mini MPV's, top of the list is the original small multipurpose vehicle the first of Renault Scenic model's, that was out of production by the year 2004 with a 1.8 million examples, the next is the long-running Opel Meriva at 1.5 million registrations. Then there is the Renault Modus and related Nissan Note that only manage 1.1 million registrations between them.

Being on sale in Europe from the year 2010 the Dacia Duster tops the list of mini Sport utility vehicles at almost 775,000 registration, after only four years the Renault Captur has reached 660,000 registration, with the Nissan Juke with almost 630,000 registrations and the Opel Mohka at 530,000 registrations, the Peugeot 2008 at 120,000 registrations, completing in the top sellers of the type.

The Supermini continues to be the dominant type amongst the light cars, despite similar sized types becoming fashionable for a limited time such as the small MPV, as illustrated below. The conclusion from my studies are that the Light car is still very important in the European motoring scene despite new fades in oversize cars and will continue to be so in the future.

Below is the data used to reach these conclusions.

Light Car Combined Totals



City Car Totals

Table 1

Model	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Panda	122.234	130.943	126.443	94.667	92.490	103.881	107.718	217.981	219.862	232.051	249.000
500											42.468
Seicento		82.166	175.52	161.53	147.110	103.30	96.113	71.546	52.655	42.904	36.403
Up											
Aygo									21.360	96.251	102.67
i10											0.353
Twingo	208.58	199.14	195.25	162.70	163.11	140.54	114.81	86.159	76.961	54.231	87.580
107/108									19.610	91.025	97.225
ForTwo				100.96	101.93	109.77	98.361	82.43	75.112	63.202	91.624
C1									17.949	87.563	93.903
Karl											
Picanto								58.579	85.314	76.550	60.996
Adam											
Forfour							0.173	37.174	49.729	34.789	1.944
Citigo											
Matiz/ Spark			90.524	104.48	69.106	58.640	50.53	79.409	73.189	61.45	67.352
Celerio											
Ka	202.31	206.13	161.7	146.86	137.06	134.42	97.428	78.771	68.987	61.745	52.139
Mii											
iQ											
Agila				41.776	83.788	75.834	70.568	55.390	37.118	27.703	17.126
Splash											0.511
Alto	20.396	16.908	15.661	13.281	6.958	15.929	23.766	32.725	26.106	6.755	
Wagon R+			23.026	29.778	35.220	42.037	35.555	31.796	15.907	5.173	2.213

Small MPV Totals

Table 1-4

Model	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Scenic	177.122	252.061	290.152	301.722	291.846	256.441	250.317				
Multipla	0	0.426	39.189	48.784	49.841	31.639	21.305	21.278	30.674	27.287	21.147
Idea							3.427	61.293	45.320	35.003	26.147
Meriva							112.107	203.064	181.767	164.647	132.147
Modus								60.698	165.277	78.153	59.147
Note										71.659	65.147
Muso								7.643	32.628	35.473	36.147
Verso-S											
Roomster										71.659	65.147
C3 Picasso											
Venga											
ix20											
B-max											
500L											
Trezia											
Space Star			41.030	36.591	40.923	42.074	36.932	29.183	13.877	1.923	0.147
YRV/Materia				0.562	4.889	4.521	2.570	2.095	0.899	0.484	5.170

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
										1819.661
21.559	17.995	10.281	8.604							328.862
26.373	15.982	9.586	6.128	5.983	2.892					211.987
132.067	102.768	83.791	104.258	127.464	78.447	57.381	57.033	53.250	48.813	1506.857
59.888	76.884	71.276	50.408	48.389	30.317	5.153				646.443
65.945	59.339	51.742	45.412	35.448	31.386	33.087	65.579	46.267	35.884	541.748
36.913	33.858	33.525	25.041	16.439	15.515	1.274				238.309
				20.666	18.205	8.672	6.202	4.992	0.532	59.269
65.945	59.339	51.742	45.412	35.448	31.386	33.087	26.018	14.951	0.089	435.076
	0.279	75.793	76.501	65.081	53.093	59.799	49.067	39.430	36.754	455.797
		0.140	34.496	41.250	31.255	30.203	25.293	28.547	26.121	217.305
			4.029	47.230	44.610	39.670	37.290	35.431	33.624	241.884
					15.871	68.557	53.889	46.147	40.474	224.938
					10.494	74.536	94.114	85.357	82.150	346.651
				2.808	2.029	1.480	0.389			6.706
0.140										242.673
5.170	4.143	2.168	1.493	0.634						29.628

Small SUV's

Table 1-6

Model	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
Captur											
2008											
Mokka											
Duster											
500X											
Juke											
C4 Cacus											
Renegade											
Vitara	35.537	38.419	20.875	15.367	7.310						
Ecosport											
CX-3											
HR-V			23.368	25.758	16.322	10.291	6.838	7.442	3.707	0.779	
Soul											
Jimny		4.171	19.431	21.351	19.865	21.541	21.182	26.67	27.007	28.388	27
Tivoli											
Niva	4.651	1.869	2.657	4.727	3.378	3.418	4.165	5.010	5.873	4.219	3
SX4										22.240	48
Trax											
Sedici									0.170	16.070	31
Pacema n											
Terios			11.696	8.708	6.404	7.010	7.797	9.079	10.651	16.848	21

Table 1-7

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
							84.085	164.801	194.847	215.493	659.226
							58.672	135.541	154.325	175.079	523.617
						5.475	70.768	127.437	163.246	164.340	531.266
				57.438	134.001	101.452	88.082	127.772	125.416	139.826	773.987
								0.135	74.262	104.931	179.328
				22.228	101.417	101.44	106.411	97.538	102.574	98.108	629.716
								28.974	78.888	71.378	179.24
								7.768	53.940	76.203	137.911
									43.247	73.099	233.854
								12.890	40.084	57.294	110.268
									24.232	52.409	76.641
9									7.621	43.456	145.582
			7.621	15.286	11.469	5.532	3.202	10.261	16.326	13.599	83.296
8	27.783	21.880	20.681	17.473	12.923	12.467	10.713	10.787	12.271	13.184	349.772
									4.512	10.051	14.563
9	3.703	3.134	4.841	3.256	2.688	2.097	1.670	1.542	1.652	1.925	66.475
0	48.757	51.985	41.209	36.931	35.554	29.505	28.106	14.126	3.161	0.489	
							17.658	9.316	0.229		27.203
0	31.518	23.943	19.862	16.381	14.781	8.704	5.849	3.550	0.249		141.077
				12.361	53.991	54.788	58.843	60.922	44.475	37.094	322.474
8	21.925	18.296	12.312	9.175	4.892	2.164	0.332				147.289