

European registrations rose marginally in May—the first rise in nine months—helped by a jump in deliveries in Germany. Sales in the EU and EFTA markets climbed 0.04% to 1.44 million cars compared to a year ago, industry association ACEA said last week.

The slight increase in May registrations was the first in nine months.



Among the winners for the month were Lexus, whose registrations rose 26%; BMW and Seat up 15%, Citroën up 14%; and Toyota brand, up 11%.

Losers included Alfa Romeo, whose volume plunged 49%, Nissan, down 18%, Jeep, down 13%, Renault brand, down 10%, and VW brand down 9%.

Sales in Germany surged 9%, in UK fell 4.6%, and in Spain fell 7%. The French and Italian new-car markets were both down 1%.

For the year through May, Europe's car market declined 2% to 6.94 million, according to ACEA.