

EU-CHINA AUTOMOBILE TRADE: FACTS AND FIGURES

- Today, the European Union is the biggest exporter of passenger cars to China, accounting for 53.3% of total Chinese car imports by value.
- The other way around, China is the second main destination for EU-built passenger cars: 17.5% of the total value of EU car exports heads for China.

GLOBAL TRADE

European Union¹

EU passenger car imports:

- Total value: €46,081 million
- Quantity: 3,652,383 units

EU passenger car exports:

- Total value: €127,806 million
- Quantity: 5,403,412 units

China²

Chinese passenger car imports:

- Total value: €42,011 million
- Quantity: 1,120,284 units

Chinese passenger car exports:

- Total value: €6,713 million
- Quantity: 867,747 units

EU-CHINA AUTOMOBILE TRADE¹

Passenger cars

- EU exports to China in 2018: 545,082 cars worth about €22.4 billion
 - 17.5% of the EU global car export value headed for China
 - 53.3% of the Chinese global car import value came from the EU
- Chinese exports to the EU in 2018: 319,800 cars worth about €460 million
 - 6.8% of Chinese global car export value headed for the EU
 - 8.8% of the EU global car import volume came from China

Main destinations of EU passenger car exports (by value)¹

1. UNITED STATES	worth €37.3 billion in 2018	-2.8% compared to 2017
2. CHINA	worth €22.4 billion in 2018	+0.2% compared to 2017
3. JAPAN	worth €8.4 billion in 2018	+3.0% compared to 2017
4. SWITZERLAND	worth €7.1 billion in 2018	-5.1% compared to 2017
5. SOUTH KOREA	worth €7.0 billion in 2018	+10.6% compared to 2017

¹ EUROSTAT

² China Customs

PRODUCTION

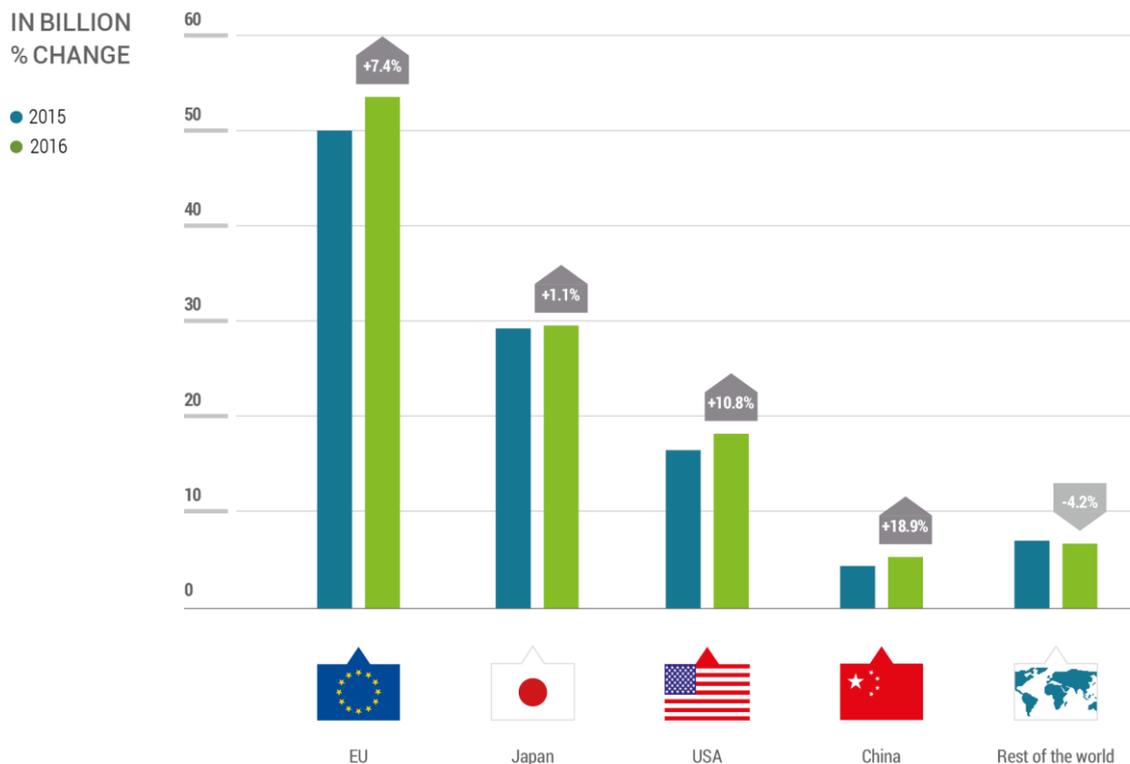
Nearly 6 million passenger cars built in China by EU companies in 2018

- In 2018, EU-owned automobile manufacturers made almost 6 million passenger cars in China, accounting for nearly 25% of total Chinese car production.
- The vast majority of European car makers are active in China (namely BMW Group, Daimler, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, PSA Group, Renault Group and Volkswagen Group), operating some 30 production and assembly plants.
- The other way around, Chinese-owned companies produced 422,632 passenger cars in the EU in 2018, at five production plants in Bulgaria, Belgium, Sweden and the UK.

INNOVATION

- The chart below provides an overview of the world's biggest investors in automotive R&D.
- The EU is by far the world's largest investor (spending €54 billion on automotive R&D annually), although China (investing €5.4 billion per year) recorded the highest annual percentage increase (+18.9%).

R&D investment in the automotive sector, by world region



Source: 2017 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard, European Commission