

FACT SHEET

FEBRUARY 2025



WHAT ARE VANS?

- Vans are part of a category known as 'light commercial vehicles'.
- The European classification system defines vans as "motor vehicles with at least four wheels, used for the carriage of goods, and having a maximum mass not exceeding 3.5 tonnes".
 - They are classified as the N1 category.
 - This category is further broken down into Class I, II, and III vehicles, depending on vehicle weight.
- Light commercial vehicles can also be used to transport people, in which case they are treated as passenger cars under the M categories.
- Many light commercial vehicles are registered through multi-stage type approval. This means that the manufacturer produces an incomplete vehicle, which is then completed by a bodybuilder.
 - Thousands of different build-ups are available to satisfy customer needs (eg camper vans, broadcasting vans, freezer boxes, etc).

WHY ARE VANS IMPORTANT?

- Vans enable a broad range of activities, including:
 - Construction
 - Postal and courier services
 - Ambulances
 - Policing and rescue operations
 - Mobile workshops
 - Passenger transportation, think for example of school buses or the transport of disabled people
- Vans are key players in the logistics chain, enabling the 'last mile' delivery of goods in urban areas.
- Van-derived cars are the most effective means to carry small groups of less than eight passengers.
- As they are business tools, the total cost of ownership (TCO) is extremely important.
 - Fuel consumption, price, and maintenance costs are decisive factors for customers.
- Largely used by SMEs as business tools, vans power the European economy, helping businesses to thrive.

VANS IN FIGURES



30 There are 30 light commercial vehicle assembly plants in the EU.

578,482

vans were exported in 2023, worth nearly €10 billion. European vans are increasingly popular around the world.

30,191,188

30.2 million vans are in circulation throughout the EU, half of which can be found in three countries: France (6.4 million), Italy (4.4 million) and Spain (4 million).

1.5
MILLION

vans were registered in the EU in 2023, an increase of 14.6% compared to the previous year.

12.5

The average age of the EU van fleet is 12.5 years and rising.

7.4%

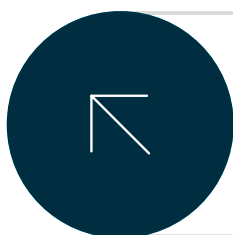
7.4% of new vans sold in the EU are electrically chargeable (battery electric and plug-in hybrid), but they account for only 0.8% of vans on the road today.

80%

Vans represent almost 80% of sales (in units) in the commercial vehicle market (which also includes trucks, heavy trucks, buses and coaches).

83%

Diesel vehicles continue to make up the vast majority of new van registrations in the EU, accounting for 83% of sales.



2 MILLION

vans were produced in the EU in 2023.