



## Pickups and SUVs Sell More in the US as Fuel Prices Drop

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As the fuel prices drop the Americans once again get back to buying pickups and SUVs. Recent data released by the Environmental Protection Agency shows that it is pacing down the U. S. automakers' progress on fuel economy targets.

In 2014, the U. S. passenger cars and light trucks averaged 24.3 miles per gallon which was a slight increase from 24.1 miles per gallon noted in 2013. In the year prior to that a 0.5 miles per gallon increase was noted.

Two reports released on Wednesday by the EPA reflected that the U. S. auto manufacturers are generally using pollution credits to meet the requirements of the regulators on fuel efficiency in spite of the efforts to sell more of hybrid and electric cars along with making improvements in the technology of engines powered by gas. Pollution credits are a way to avoid penalties in case the auto companies do not meet standards for fuel efficiency.

Dan Becker, the director of the Safe Climate Campaign which is an environmental group from Washington said, "The auto industry is exploiting the program's loopholes to boost gas-guzzler production and thwart the rules."

In August, in the U. S, almost 59.8 percent of the newly purchased vehicles were light trucks vs. 40.2 percent cars. The preference gap is wide and the trend is advantageous for the domestic automakers like GM, Ford and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles.

<http://topnews.ae/content/221904-pickups-and-suvs-sell-more-us-fuel-prices-drop>