

## CARS Data Dictionary for the January 8th Data File Paid CARS Transactions

This data file contains transaction information entered electronically for each of the 678,359 CARS transactions that were paid or approved for payment as of Friday, January, 2010, for a total of \$2,854,740,000. Please note that confidential commercial information concerning dealers and privacy information concerning consumers have been redacted. The redacted information includes banking information and identification (franchise) codes for dealers; name, home address, telephone number, and State identification number for consumers; and the last six characters of the new vehicle's vehicle identification number (VIN).

The data file is being provided in two formats: comma-delimited text (ASCII) and Microsoft Access. The comma-delimited file can be read into most standard statistical and database software. Fields that contain embedded commas are enclosed in quotation marks. The field names are in the first line of the text file. The date fields should be treated as text (not date or numeric) fields because they sometimes contain text, which could cause an error message during import. The Microsoft Access file is readable with the appropriate Microsoft Access software. Both files contain the same 43 fields, which are described below.

Field Name	Field Description	Comments
Vendor_id	Vendor (dealer) identification	Unique number assigned to each of the dealers
Dealer_name	Name of the dealer	
Address_line1	Dealer address line 1	
Address_line2	Dealer address line 2	
Address_line3	Dealer address line 3	
Address_line4	Dealer address line 4	
City	Dealer city	
State	Dealer State	
ZIP	Dealer ZIP	
Area_code	Dealer area code	
Phone	Dealer phone number	Phone numbers entered by dealers in a variety of formats
Invoice_id	Invoice (transaction) identification	Unique number assigned to each of the invoices
Invoice_num	Dealer's invoice number	Code provided by the dealer for internal tracking purposes; not a unique key
Invoice_date	Invoice date	DD-MMM-YYYY Please see the Note to Analysts regarding date fields.
Sale_date	Sale date	YYYY/MM/DD Please see the Note to Analysts regarding date fields.
Disposal_status	Crush/Shred or Transfer Facility (Auction, etc.)	Dealer's intention at time of transaction.

Disposal_facility_nmvtis_id	Disposal facility ID	Five digit unique number assigned by NHTSA to disposal facilities (See list at <a href="http://www.cars.gov/files/disposal-salvage/ELVS.pdf">http://www.cars.gov/files/disposal-salvage/ELVS.pdf</a> .) Code 99999 used for salvage auctions.
Disposal_facility_contact_info	Disposal facility contact information	Free text field of dealer provided information in a variety of formats
Sales_type	Purchased or Leased	
Invoice_amount	-\$1,000, \$1,000, \$3,500 or \$4,500	An invoice amount of -\$1,000 indicates when a vendor returned \$1,000 due to an initial overpayment. An invoice amount of \$1,000 indicates a \$1,000 payment to a vendor due to an initial underpayment.
Trade_in_VIN	Trade-in Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)	
Trade_in_vehicle_category	Passenger Automobile, Category 1 Truck, Category 2 Truck or Category 3 Truck	Selected by dealers based upon EPA side-by-side (See <a href="http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/CarsSearchIntro.shtml">http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/CarsSearchIntro.shtml</a> .)
Trade_in_make	Trade-in make	From EPA pick list
Trade_in_model	Trade-in model	From EPA pick list
Trade_in_year	Trade-in model year	From EPA pick list
Trade_in_vehicle_drive_train	Trade-in drive train / engine	From EPA pick list
Trade_in_mileage	Trade-in combined fuel economy (miles per gallon or mpg)	From EPA pick list
Trade_in_title_state	Trade-in vehicle title State	
Trade_in_registration_state	Trade-in vehicle registration State	
Trade_in_registration_start	Trade-in registration start date	YYYY/MM/DD Please see the Note to Analysts regarding date fields.
Trade_in_registration_end	Trade-in registration expiration date	YYYY/MM/DD Please see the Note to Analysts regarding date fields.
Trade_in_insurance_start	Trade-in insurance start date	YYYY/MM/DD Please see the Note to Analysts regarding date fields. Field not required
Trade_in_NMVTIS_flag	Date dealer flagged trade-in in the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS)	Field not required
Trade_in_odometer_reading	Trade-in odometer reading	Recorded by dealer. May not

		reflect actual mileage such as when odometer “rolls over.”
New_vehicle_VIN_trunc	Truncated new VIN	The last six characters of the new VIN are redacted per NHTSA's Privacy Policy
New_vehicle_category	Passenger Automobile, Category 1 Truck, Category 2 Truck or Category 3 Truck	Selected by dealers based upon EPA side-by-side
New_vehicle_make	New vehicle make	From EPA pick list
New_vehicle_model	New vehicle model	From EPA pick list
New_vehicle_year	New vehicle model year	From EPA pick list
New_vehicle_drive_train	New vehicle drive train / engine	From EPA pick list
New_vehicle_car_mileage	New vehicle combined fuel economy (mpg)	From EPA pick list
New_vehicle_MSRP	New vehicle (base) Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price (MSRP)	
Modified_record	Y/N	In a limited number of invoices, NHTSA either entered the record under its exception process or modified an existing record to correct a mistyped VIN or State identification number.