

## Which Brands Make the **Best Cars?**

Consumer Reports rated cars from 32 brands on reliability, owner satisfaction, safety, and road-test scores. Here's how the brands rank, based on their vehicles' Overall Scores.

## December 5, 2024

By Jeff S. Bartlett | Data analysis by Anita Lam | Data visualizations by Andy Bergmann

very year, Consumer Reports publishes a car brand report card. We rank automakers based on their vehicles' average Overall Score-a combination of our road-test scores, safety ratings, and predicted reliability and owner satisfaction data. This provides a definitive number to help consumers see which brands shine and which might be best avoided.

We also present separate ratings specifically for each brand's average road-test, reliability, and owner satisfaction scores for new models. And we rank brands based on their used-car reliability.

Among the 32 brands featured in the 2025 report card, the top five remain unchanged from last year's results, aside from one significant shift: Subaru claims the top spot from BMW, edging out last year's highest-ranked brand by a single point in its average Overall Score.

Lexus moves from fifth to third place, not through its own improvements but because Porsche and Honda slid slightly.

Audi was a big mover this year, climbing six spots to be ranked sixth. Mini and Acura lost positions due to lower predicted reliability scores.

Other brands that saw significant movement included Buick, which slid four places to 17th because of lower road-test scores. The score for the new Envista was only adequate. Cadillac tumbled seven spots to land at 21st due partly to the well-below-average reliability of its Lyriq EV.

There's a certain amount of shuffling every year, particularly among brands where we've tested only some of its models. Because the rankings are based on averages, small product lines mean that each model has an outsized impact on its brand's score.

Car buyers should look for consistent performance, as we've seen with the top five brands. The same attention should be given to avoiding the lowest-rated brands. That section of our list tends to include GMC, Land Rover, Rivian, and Stellantis brands Alfa Romeo, Dodge, and Jeep.

Keep in mind that even high-scoring brands can have low-scoring models. Be sure to check the ratings of the specific models you're interested in. This is especially true for bigger brands like Toyota. Some models achieve high scores (Camry), while others get poor scores (Tacoma) for road tests and predicted reliability.

Of the 32 brands Consumer Reports rated this year, only four manufacturers managed to earn recommendations for every model we tested: Porsche, Infiniti, Mini, and Buick. But don't read too deeply into that. These are brands with small product lines and few tested models. For example, Chrysler is the highest-ranked domestic brand, in 16th place. But that score is based on its small product line: the Pacifica, Pacifica Hybrid, and the new-for-2025 Voyager.

## All Brands Ranked

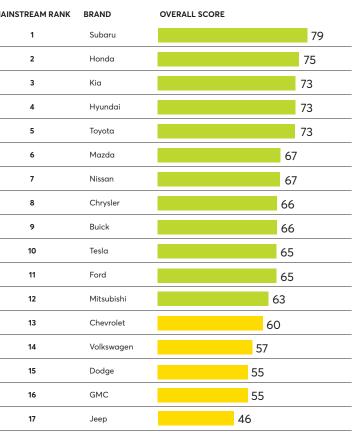
verall Rank		Brand	Overall Score		Road-Test Score	Predicted Reliability	Owner Satisfaction
1	▲1	Subaru		79	84	$\bigcirc$	0
2	▼ 2	BMW		78	89	•	$\bigcirc$
3	▲ 2	Lexus		77	80	0	0
4	▼1	Porsche		77	86	•	0
5	▼1	Honda		75	82	0	0
6	▲ 6	Audi		74	86	•	$\bigcirc$
7	-	Kia		73	83	•	0
8	▲ 2	Hyunda		73	82	0	0
9	-	Toyota		73	78	0	0
10	▲ 6	Infiniti		71	78	1	8
11	▼ 5	Mini		71	76	1	0
12	▼1	Acura		68	76	0	0
13	▲ 2	Genesis	67		80	•	0
14	▼ 6	Mazda		67		•	0
15	▲ 4	Nissan		67		0	<b>~</b>
16	▲ 8	Chrysler		66		0	<b>~</b>
17	▼4	Buick		65		0	1
18	-	Tesla		65		0	0
19	▼2	Ford		65		0	0
20	-	Mitsubishi	6	63		0	0
21	▼7	Cadilla	6	63		<b>O</b>	0
22	▲1	Volvo	62	62		0	0
23	▲ 5	Mercedes-Benz	61		80	$\bigcirc$	<b></b>
24	▼ 3	Lincoln	61		79	$\bigcirc$	0
25	▼ 3	Chevrolet	60			0	0
26	-	Volkswagen	57		78	$\bigcirc$	<b></b>
27	-	Alfa Romeo	56		72	$\bigcirc$	0
28	▼ 3	Dodge	55		69	$\bigcirc$	0
29	▲1	GMC	55		71	$\bigcirc$	
30	▲1	Land Rover	51		65	$\bigcirc$	<b></b>
31	▼ 3	Rivian	48			8	8
32	-	Jeep	46			<b>S</b>	<b>~</b>

(#C136493) Reprinted with permission from Consumer Reports ©2024. This reprint does not imply an endorsement or sponsorship of any product, service, company or organization that works side by side with consumers for truth, transparency, and fairness in the marketplace. For complete reviews, articles, tips and recommendations go to ConsumerReports or a to become a member. Do not edit or alter this reprint in any fashion. Reproductions are not permitted

There are seven brands that don't have a single model recommended by Consumer Reports: Lincoln, Alfa Romeo, Dodge, GMC, Land Rover, Rivian, and Jeep. They are also among the bottom-ranked brands. Consider carefully before buying from those manufacturers.

To be included in the brand ranking, CR has to have tested at least two current models from a company. For that reason, we didn't include Fiat, Jaguar, Lucid, Maserati, Polestar, and Ram.

In the charts, you can see the full brand ranking, or you can see how the brands look when split into mainstream and luxury groups, which may better reflect how you shop. These distinctions are made at the brand level, reflecting car prices and market position, rather than the attributes of individual cars. For both mainstream and luxury vehicles, the Overall Scores are calculated in the same manner and can be compared directly against each other.



## Mainstream Brands Ranked