
40 C.F.R. § 600.315-08

Classes of comparable automobiles.

(a) The Secretary will classify automobiles as passenger automobiles or light trucks (nonpassenger automobiles) in accordance with 49 CFR part 523.

(1) The Administrator will classify passenger automobiles by car line into one of the following classes based on interior volume index or seating capacity except for those passenger automobiles which the Administrator determines are most appropriately placed in a different classification or classed as special purpose vehicles as provided in paragraph (a)(3) of this section.

(i) *Two seaters*. A car line shall be classed as “Two Seater” if the majority of the vehicles in that car line have no more than two designated seating positions as such term is defined in the regulations of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR 571.3.

(ii) *Minicompact cars*. Interior volume index less than 85 cubic feet.

(iii) *Subcompact cars*. Interior volume index greater than or equal to 85 cubic feet but less than 100 cubic feet.

(iv) *Compact cars*. Interior volume index greater than or equal to 100 cubic feet but less than 110 cubic feet.

(v) *Midsized cars*. Interior volume index greater than or equal to 110 cubic feet but less than 120 cubic feet.

(vi) *Large cars*. Interior volume index greater than or equal to 120 cubic feet.

(vii) *Small station wagons*. Station wagons with interior volume index less than 130 cubic feet.

(viii) *Midsized station wagons*. Station wagons with interior volume index greater than or equal to 130 cubic feet but less than 160 cubic feet.

(ix) *Large station wagons*. Station wagons with interior volume index greater than or equal to 160 cubic feet.

(2) The Administrator will classify light trucks (nonpassenger automobiles) into the following classes: Small pickup trucks, standard pickup trucks, vans, minivans, and SUVs. Starting in the 2013 model year, SUVs will be divided between small sport utility vehicles and standard sport utility vehicles. Pickup trucks and SUVs are separated by car line on the basis of gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR). For a product line with more than one GVWR, establish the characteristic GVWR value for the product line by calculating the arithmetic average of all distinct GVWR values less than or equal to 8,500 pounds available for that product line. The Administrator may determine that specific light trucks should be most appropriately placed in a different class or in the special purpose vehicle class as provided in paragraphs (a)(3)(i) and (ii) of this section, based on the features and characteristics of the specific vehicle, consumer information provided by the manufacturer, and other information available to consumers.

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