Reliability by category (New models)

Small cars | Family cars | Upscale cars | Large cars | Luxury cars | Coupes and convertibles | Vans | Sporty cars | Wagons & hatchbacks | Minivans | Small SUVs | Midsized SUVs | Large SUVs | Compact pickup trucks | Full-sized pickup trucks

Our in-depth data let us predict how this year's models will fare.

Reliability is an important concern for the new-car buyer, but a difficult quality to discern. *CR's* annual reliability surveys can help. Our latest survey, conducted in the spring of 2004, yielded information on 810,000 vehicles spanning the 1997 to 2004 model years. By looking at these data for past model years, we can predict how current models are likely to hold up.

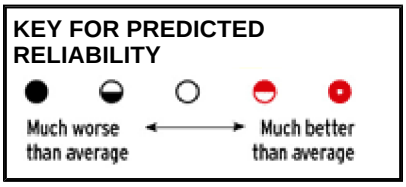
To create the scores shown here, we average the overall reliability scores for the last three years, where available, provided the vehicle didn't change significantly in that time and hasn't for 2004. We've found that three years' data is a better predictor than is the single most recent model year.

Each car's overall score is calculated for its 2002, 2003, and 2004 versions. It's also weighted to emphasize more serious problem areas, including the engine, transmission, cooling system, and drive system. This overall score is then compared with the average for all the 2002, 2003, and 2004 cars in the survey. The charts reflect how the car compared with that all-car average.

The Predicted Reliability ratings at the bottom of each graph are based on a range. For example: Average stretches 20 points on either side of zero. So a car may have an average Predicted Reliability rating even if its score is a negative number. A broken bar indicates a percentage that extends beyond the chart.

In cases where a vehicle was new or was redesigned last year, or where we simply lack sufficient data, we may rely on one year's data--indicated by an asterisk (*)--if that's all that's available. Otherwise, the score is based on at least two.

Most new models don't appear here since we don't yet know how they'll rank. We make predictions for some models if the manufacturer's track record is consistent. Unless noted, all versions (body styles, drive wheels, powertrains) are included under the listed model.



Small cars

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average ... Average ... % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Toyota Echo	
Toyota Corolla	
Honda Civic	
Mazda3*	
Mitsubishi Lancer (non-turbo)	
Subaru Impreza (non-turbo)	
Hyundai Elantra	
Ford Focus Sedan	

Suzuki Aerio*	
Hyundai Accent	
Chevrolet Cavalier	
Dodge Neon	
Nissan Sentra	
Saturn Ion	
Volkswagen Golf	
Volkswagen Jetta	
Volkswagen New Beetle	
PREDICTED RELIABILITY	

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Family cars

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average — Average — % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Toyota Prius*	
Toyota Camry	
Pontiac Grand Prix*	
Hyundai Sonata	
Nissan Maxima*	
Subaru Outback H6	
Subaru Legacy/Outback (4-cyl.)	
Honda Accord	
Chevrolet Impala	
Hyundai XG350	
Nissan Altima	
Ford Taurus Sedan	
Mercury Sable Sedan	
Volkswagen Passat (FWD)	
Mazda6	
Chevrolet Malibu*	
Chrysler Sebring Sedan	
Dodge Stratus Sedan	
Volkswagen Passat (AWD)	
Pontiac Grand Prix (Supercharged)*	
PREDICTED RELIABILITY	

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Upscale cars

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average ... Average ... % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Lexus IS300	
Acura TSX*	
Infiniti G35	
Lexus ES330	
Saab 9-5	
Volvo S60 (FWD)	
Cadillac CTS	
Acura TL*	
BMW 3 Series	
Audi A4	
Lincoln LS	
Mercedes-Benz C-Class	
Volvo S60 (AWD)	
Saab 9-3	
Jaguar X-Type (-89%)	
PREDICTED RELIABILITY	

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Large cars

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average ... Average ... % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Toyota Avalon	
Ford Crown Victoria	
Mercury Grand Marquis	
Lincoln Town Car	
Buick LeSabre	
Buick Park Avenue	
Pontiac Bonneville	
PREDICTED RELIABILITY	

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Luxury cars

Make and model	Overall score

	% Worse Than Average	Average	% Better Than Average
	-80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80		
Lexus LS430			
Infiniti Q45			
Volvo S80			
Cadillac DeVille			
BMW 5 Series*			
Mercedes-Benz E-Class (-85%)			
Jaguar S-Type (-107%)			
BMW 7 Series (-108%)			
Mercedes-Benz S-Class (-124%)			
PREDICTED RELIABILITY			

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Coupes & convertibles

Make and model	Overall score		
	% Worse Than Average	Average	% Better Than Average
	-80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80		
Lexus SC430			
Chevrolet Monte Carlo			
Chrysler Sebring Coupe*			
Dodge Stratus Coupe*			
Toyota Camry Solara*			
Pontiac Sunfire Coupe			
Chrysler Sebring Convertible			
Mercedes-Benz CLK (-84%)			
Mercedes-Benz SL* (-135%)			
PREDICTED RELIABILITY			

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Vans

Make and model	Overall score		
	% Worse Than Average	Average	% Better Than Average
	-80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80		
Ford Econoline Wagon/Van			
GMC Savana Van 1500 (-111)			
Chevrolet Express Van 1500 (-111)			
PREDICTED RELIABILITY			

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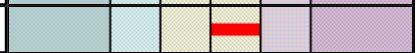
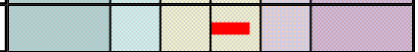
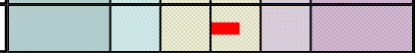
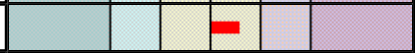
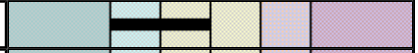
Sporty cars

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average — Average — % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Toyota Celica	
Acura RSX	
Mazda MX-5 Miata	
Subaru Impreza WRX	
Mitsubishi Eclipse	
Porsche 911, Carrera	
Ford Thunderbird	
Honda S2000	
Nissan 350Z	
Porsche Boxster	
Audi TT	
Mazda RX-8*	
Mini Cooper	
BMW Z4	
Hyundai Tiburon* (-92%)	
PREDICTED RELIABILITY	

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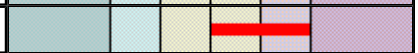
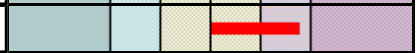
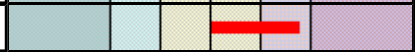
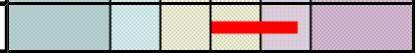
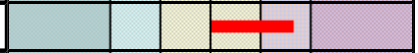
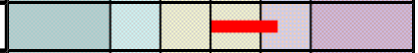
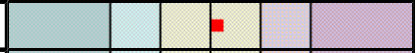
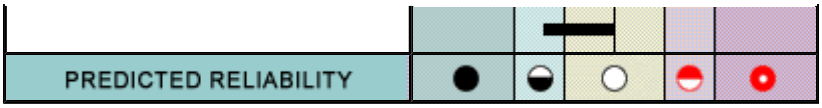
Wagons & Hatchbacks

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average — Average — % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Scion xB*	
Toyota Matrix	
Pontiac Vibe	
Subaru Impreza Wagon	
Subaru Outback H6	
Chrysler PT Cruiser	
Ford Focus Hatchback	
Ford Focus Wagon	
Ford Taurus Wagon	
Mercury Sable Wagon	
Volvo V70/XC70	
Audi A6 Allroad	



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Minivans

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average ... Average ... % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Toyota Sienna*	
Chrysler Town & Country (ext, 2WD)	
Dodge Grand Caravan (2WD)	
Ford Freestar*	
Mercury Monterey*	
Chrysler Town & Country (reg)	
Dodge Caravan	
Chrysler Town & Country (ext, AWD)	
Dodge Grand Caravan (AWD)	
Kia Sedona	
Mazda MPV	
Chevrolet Astro (-97%)	
GMC Safari (-97%)	
Nissan Quest* (-115%)	
PREDICTED RELIABILITY	

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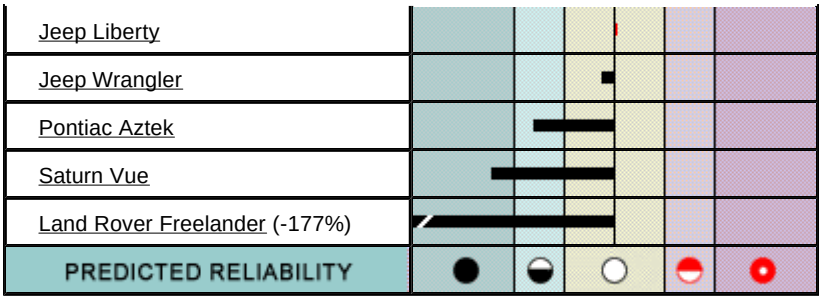
Small SUVs

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average ... Average ... % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Toyota RAV4	
Honda Element	
Honda CR-V	
Subaru Forester	
Mitsubishi Outlander*	
Hyundai Santa Fe	
Ford Escape	
Mazda Tribute	
Kia Sorento	
Suzuki Grand Vitara, XL-7	



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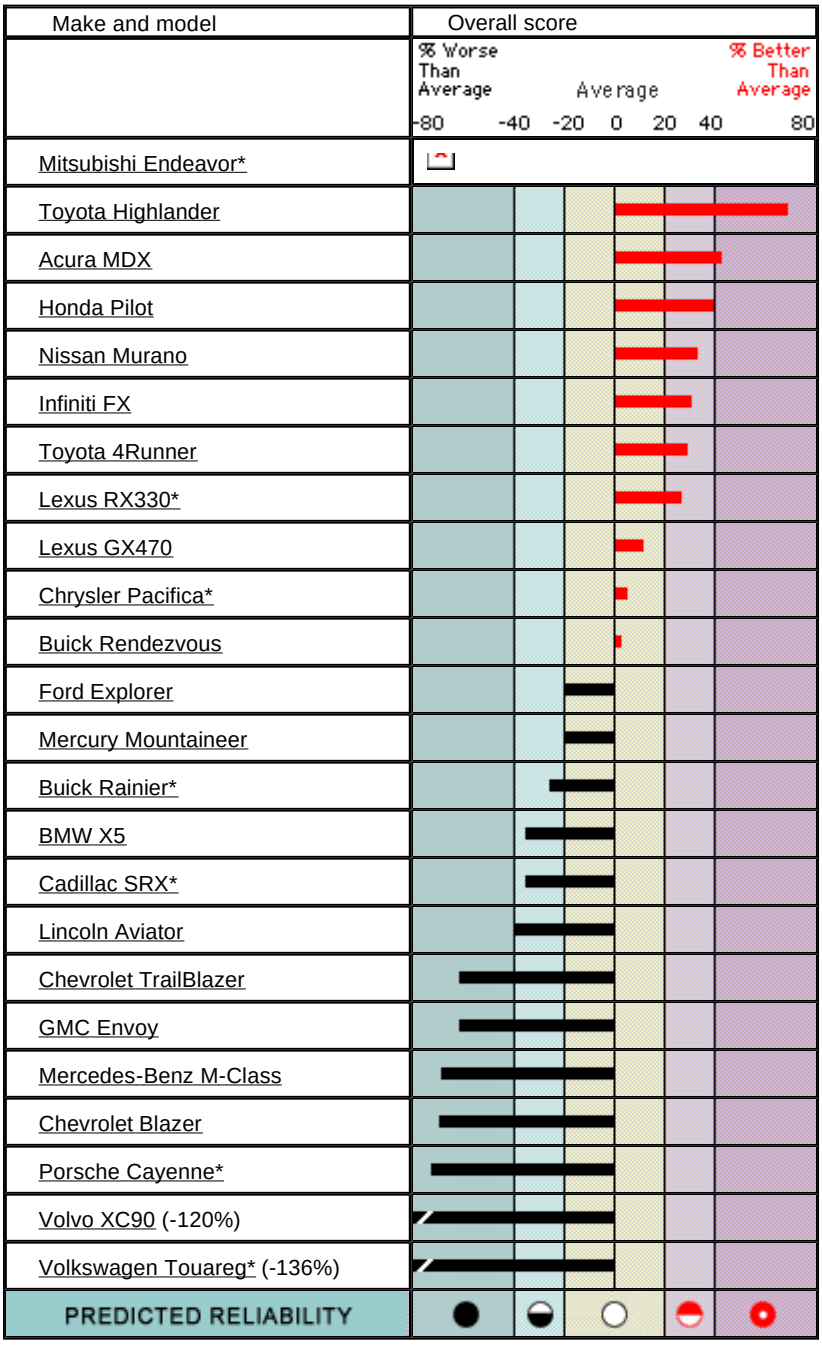
Midsized SUVs



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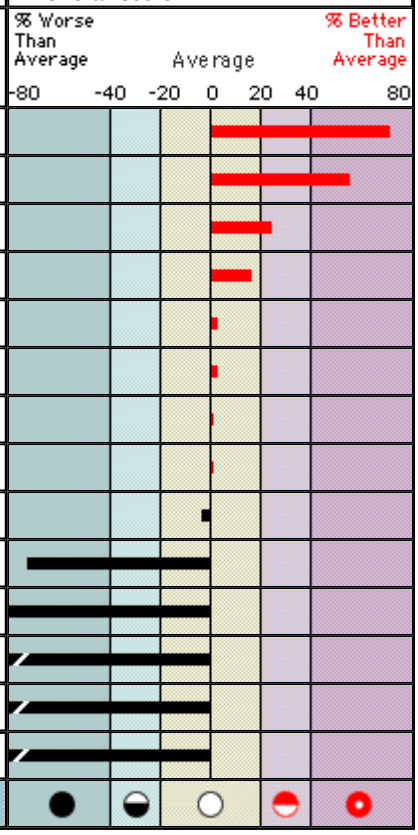
Large SUVs

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average ... Average ... % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Toyota Land Cruiser	
Lexus LX470	
Toyota Sequoia	
Dodge Durango*	
Chevrolet Suburban	
GMC Yukon XL	
Chevrolet Tahoe	
GMC Yukon	
Cadillac Escalade	
Hummer H2	
Ford Excursion	
Ford Expedition (-85%)	
Nissan Armada* (-111%)	
Lincoln Navigator (-181%)	
PREDICTED RELIABILITY	



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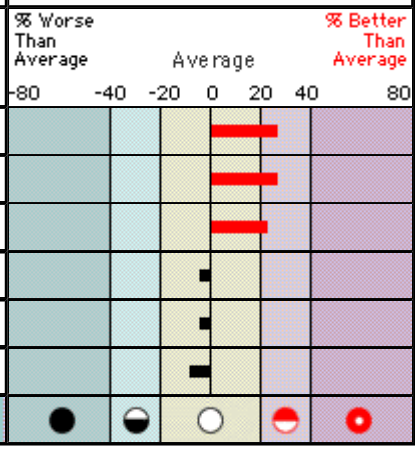
Compact pickup trucks

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average ... Average ... % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Chevrolet Colorado*	
GMC Canyon*	
Subaru Baja*	
Ford Ranger	
Mazda B-Series	
Ford Explorer Sport Trac	
PREDICTED RELIABILITY	



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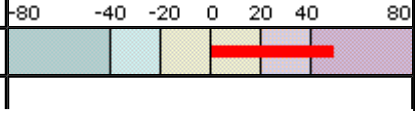
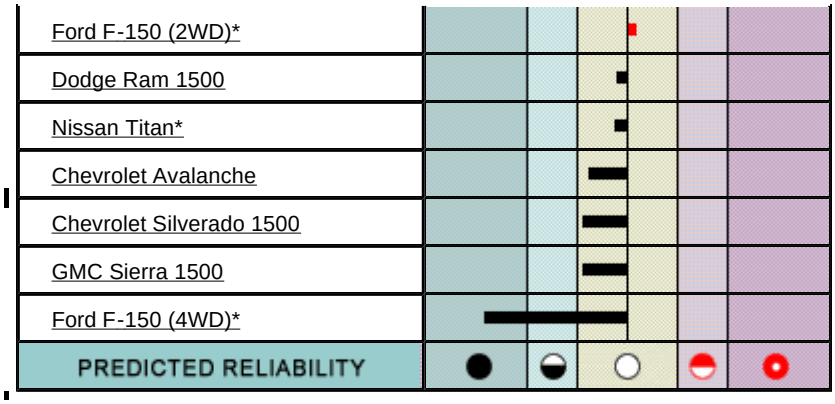
Full-sized pickup trucks

Make and model	Overall score
	% Worse Than Average ... Average ... % Better Than Average -80 -40 -20 0 20 40 80
Toyota Tundra	





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