Impact of Car Features on Price and Profitability

Link for the Excel file

Project Description

This project focuses on analyzing car-related data to uncover insights about popularity, pricing, and features across market categories and manufacturers. It addresses business questions such as the variation in car model popularity, relationships between engine power and price, and the influence of features on pricing. The dataset includes attributes like model, market category, engine power, price, and MPG, which were cleaned and preprocessed for consistency and accuracy. Using descriptive statistics, regression analysis, and various visualizations, the project provides actionable insights while creating an interactive Excel dashboard to enable informed decision-making.

Approach

1. Data Handling

Converted all blank values in the dataset by researching their Fuel Type, Horsepower (HP), Number of Cylinders, and Number of Doors.

2. Descriptive Statistics

Used Pivot Tables to summarize car models and their characteristics across categories. Pivot Tables and Charts ensure clarity and interactivity for non-technical users.

3. Visualization

Combo charts, scatter plots, line charts, and bubble charts for trend identification and relationship exploration.

4. For Electric vehicles

MPG in the dataset likely refers to an **equivalent metric** called **MPGe** (Miles Per Gallon Equivalent). Electric kilowatt values have been converted into horsepower using the standard conversion factor (1 kW \approx 1.341 HP) for uniformity in analysis.

Tech-Stack Used

1. Microsoft Excel

Data cleaning, analysis, and visualization.

2. Excel Add-ins

Used for regression analysis and advanced charting.

3. Operating System

Windows 10

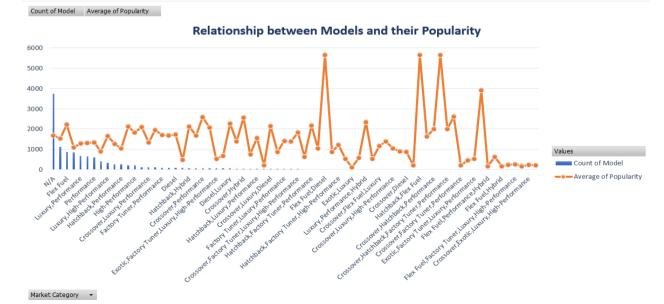
Insights

Task

1. Relationship between Models and their Popularity (Task 1.A, B)

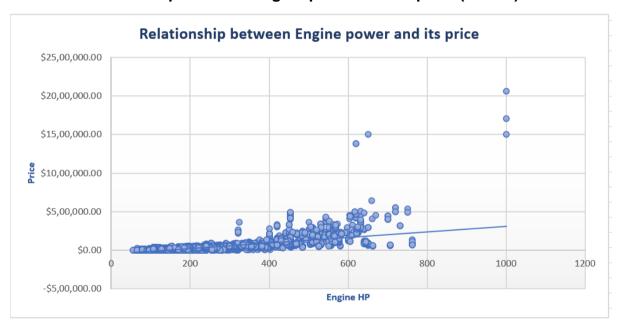
Row Labels	ΨĪ	Count of Model	Average of Popularity
N/A		3742	1676.9
Crossover		1110	1545.3
Flex Fuel		872	2217.3
Luxury		855	1102.7
Luxury,Performance		673	1292.6
Hatchback		641	1318.9
Performance		601	1348.9
Crossover,Luxury		410	884.5
Luxury, High-Performance		334	1668.0
Exotic, High-Performance		261	1271.3
Hatchback, Performance		252	1039.6
Factory Tuner, Luxury, High-Performance		215	2133.4
High-Performance		199	1821.4
Hybrid		123	2105.6
Crossover,Luxury,Performance		113	1344.8
Factory Tuner, High-Performance		106	1941.4
Factory Tuner, Performance		92	1695.7
Flex Fuel,Performance		87	1680.5
Diesel		84	1730.9
Exotic, Luxury, High-Performance		79	467.1
Hatchback, Hybrid		72	2121.3
Crossover, Hatchback		72	1675.7
Crossover, Performance		69	2586.0
Crossover,Flex Fuel		64	2073.8
Exotic, Factory Tuner, Luxury, High-Performance		52	517.5
Luxury,Hybrid		52	673.6
Diesel,Luxury		51	2275.0
Hatchback, Luxury		46	1379.5

Crossover, Hybrid	42	2563.4
Flex Fuel,Luxury	39	746.5
Hatchback,Luxury,Performance	38	1566.1
Exotic, Luxury, Performance	36	217.0
Crossover, Luxury, Diesel	34	2149.4
Flex Fuel,Luxury,High-Performance	33	878.9
Factory Tuner, Luxury, Performance	31	1413.4
Flex Fuel, Luxury, Performance	28	1380.1
Crossover, Factory Tuner, Luxury, High-Performance	26	1823.5
Crossover, Luxury, Hybrid	24	630.9
Hatchback,Factory Tuner,Performance	22	2159.0
Exotic,Factory Tuner,High-Performance	21	1046.4
Flex Fuel, Diesel	16	5657.0
Hatchback, Diesel	14	873.0
Hatchback, Factory Tuner, High-Performance	13	1205.2
Exotic,Flex Fuel,Factory Tuner,Luxury,High-Performance	13	520.0
Exotic, Luxury	12	112.7
Luxury,High-Performance,Hybrid	12	568.8
Luxury,Performance,Hybrid	11	2333.2
Exotic,Flex Fuel,Luxury,High-Performance	11	520.0
Crossover, Flex Fuel, Luxury	10	1173.2
Exotic, Performance	10	1391.0
Crossover, Luxury, High-Performance	9	1037.2
Hatchback, Factory Tuner, Luxury, Performance	9	886.9
Crossover, Diesel	7	873.0
Crossover, Hatchback, Luxury	7	204.0
Hatchback,Flex Fuel	7	5657.0
Crossover,Flex Fuel,Luxury,Performance	6	1624.0
Crossover, Hatchback, Performance	6	2009.0
Crossover, Hatchback, Performance	6	2009.0
Crossover,Flex Fuel,Performance	6	5657.0
Crossover, Hatchback, Factory Tuner, Performance	6	2009.0
Crossover, Factory Tuner, Luxury, Performance	5	2607.4
Crossover, Factory Tuner, Performance	4	210.0
Hatchback,Luxury,Hybrid	3	454.0
Exotic, Factory Tuner, Luxury, Performance	3	520.0
Crossover,Luxury,Performance,Hybrid	2	3916.0
Flex Fuel, Performance, Hybrid	2	155.0
Factory Tuner, Luxury	2	617.0
Flex Fuel, Hybrid	2	155.0
Crossover, Exotic, Luxury, Performance	1	238.0
Flex Fuel, Factory Tuner, Luxury, High-Performance	1	258.0
Performance, Hybrid	1	155.0
Crossover, Exotic, Luxury, High-Performance	1	238.0
Exotic, Luxury, High-Performance, Hybrid	1	204.0
Grand Total	11914	1554.9



- **High Popularity of Flex Fuel and Hybrid Cars**: Categories like "Flex Fuel" (average popularity: 2,217.3) and "Hybrid" (average popularity: 2,105.6) show strong popularity scores, highlighting consumer interest in fuel-efficient technologies.
- Luxury Cars Have Varied Popularity: While "Luxury" (average popularity: 1,102.7) has a high count of models (855), its popularity is lower compared to other specific combinations like "Diesel, Luxury" (2,275.0).
- Performance and High-Performance Cars Are Noteworthy: Categories like "High-Performance" (1,821.4) and "Factory Tuner, High-Performance" (1,941.4) demonstrate significant popularity, emphasizing consumer interest in performance-oriented vehicles.
- Combination Categories Exhibit Higher Popularity: Specific combinations such as "Crossover, Factory Tuner, Luxury, Performance" (2,607.4) and "Luxury, Performance, Hybrid" (2,333.2) tend to have higher popularity scores despite fewer models, indicating niche but desirable market segments.

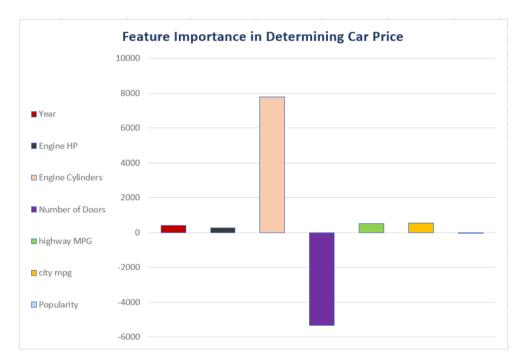
2. Relationship between Engine power and its price (Task 2)



Here, we can see as the price of the cars increases, the horsepower of the cars also increases. This indicates that higher-price cars often come with more powerful engines.

3. Feature Importance in Determining Car Price (Task 3)

SUMMARY OUTPUT								
Regression St	Regression Statistics							
Multiple R	0.678927443							
R Square	0.460942473							
Adjusted R Square	0.460625541							
Standard Error	44145.39838							
Observations	11914							
ANOVA								
	df	SS	MS	F	Significance F			
Regression	7	1.98403E+13	2.83433E+12	1454.38522	0			
Residual	11906	2.32026E+13	1948816198					
Total	11913	4.30429E+13						
	Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 95.0%	Upper 95.0%
Intercept	-856696.461	139891.0412	-6.12402663	9.4115E-10	-1130905.74	-582487.182	-1130905.74	-582487.182
Year	389.6257578	70.09889544	5.558229631	2.7839E-08	252.2204788	527.0310368	252.2204788	527.0310368
Engine HP	280.001166	6.783256083	41.27828326	0	266.7048767	293.2974554	266.7048767	293.2974554
Engine Cylinders	7780.856492	438.8345789	17.73072785	1.8913E-69	6920.669075	8641.043908	6920.669075	8641.043908
Number of Doors	-5331.16346	489.8194088	-10.8839367	1.8516E-27	-6291.28946	-4371.03745	-6291.28946	-4371.03745
highway MPG	496.8050154	104.7178902	4.744222928	2.1174E-06	291.5408551	702.0691758	291.5408551	702.0691758
city mpg	546.5121152	98.4343985	5.552044036	2.884E-08	353.5646242	739.4596061	353.5646242	739.4596061
Popularity	-3.41323582	0.283092034	-12.0569829	2.784E-33	-3.96814242	-2.85832922	-3.96814242	-2.85832922



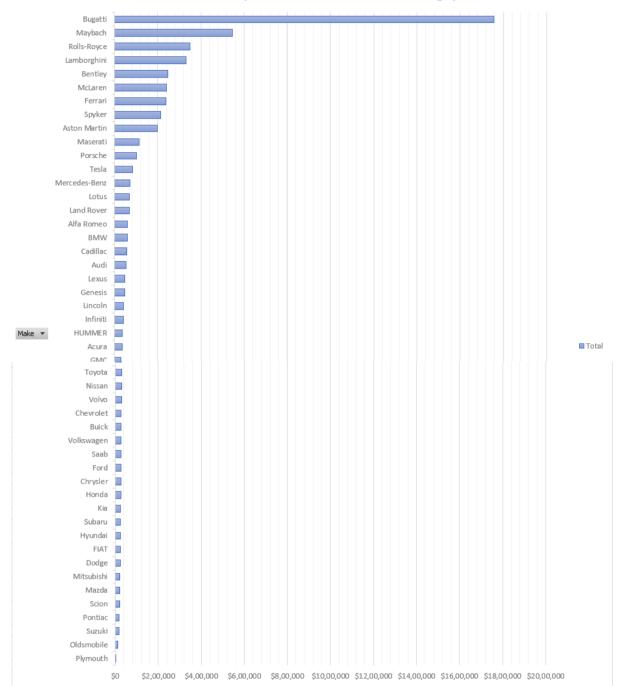
Strong Positive Impact of Engine Cylinders: The coefficient for "Engine Cylinders" (7,780.86) is the highest, indicating that the number of cylinders is the most influential factor in determining a car's price.

Negative Impact of Number of Doors: "Number of Doors" has a significant negative coefficient (-5,331.16), suggesting that cars with more doors might be associated with lower prices, potentially due to market segmentation.

4. Relationship between manufacturer and average price (Task 4.A, B)

Row Labels	ŢŢ.	Average of MSRP
Plymouth		\$3,123
Oldsmobile		\$11,543
Suzuki		\$17,907
Pontiac		\$19,322
Scion		\$19,933
Mazda		\$20,039
Mitsubishi		\$21,241
Dodge		\$22,390
FIAT		\$22,670
Hyundai		\$24,597
Subaru		\$24,828
Kia		\$25,310
Honda		\$26,674
Chrysler		\$26,723
Ford		\$27,399
Saab		\$27,414
Volkswagen		\$28,102
Buick		\$28,207
Chevrolet		\$28,350
Volvo		\$28,541
Nissan		\$28,583
Toyota		\$29,030
GMC		\$30,493
Acura		\$34,888
HUMMER		\$36,464
Infiniti		\$42,394
Lincoln		\$42,840
Genesis		\$46,617
Lexus		\$47,549
Audi		\$53,452
Cadillac		\$56,231
BMW		\$61,547
Alfa Romeo		\$61,600
Land Rover		\$67,823
Lotus		\$69,188
Mercedes-Benz		\$71,476
Tesla		\$85,256
Porsche		\$1,01,622
Maserati		\$1,14,208
Aston Martin		\$1,97,910
Spyker		\$2,13,323
Ferrari		\$2,38,219
McLaren		\$2,39,805
Bentley		\$2,47,169
Lamborghini		\$3,31,567
Rolls-Royce		\$3,51,131
Maybach		\$5,46,222
Bugatti		\$17,57,224
Grand Total		\$40,595
Granu Total		Ş40,595



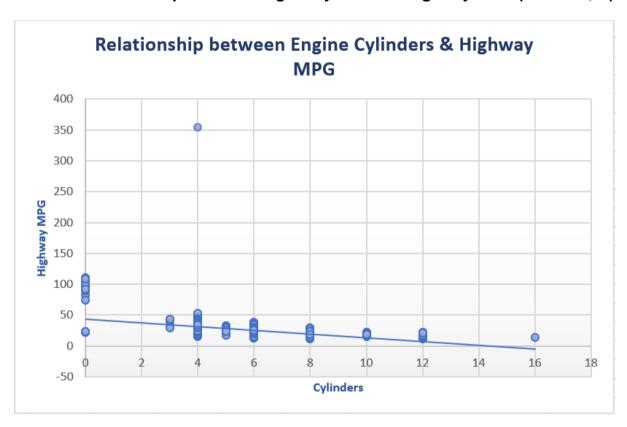


Economy Brands (Below \$30,000) - Brands like Oldsmobile, Suzuki, and Pontiac dominate the affordable segment.

High-End and Exotic Luxury (Above \$70,000) -Brands like **Mercedes-Benz**, **Porsche**, and **Bentley** cater to the high-end luxury segment.

Hyper-Luxury Dominance - Bugatti leads the market with an average MSRP of \$1,757,224, underscoring its exclusivity and engineering excellence.

5. Relationship between Engine Cylinders & Highway MPG (Task 5.A, B)

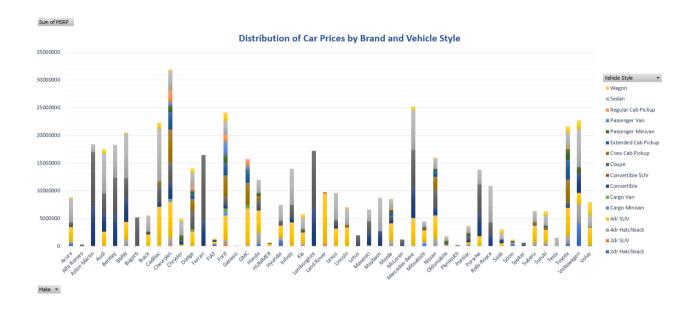


Correlation Coefficient between Engine Cylinders and Highway MPG = -0.61454

- There is a Negative Correlation between Engine Cylinders and Highway MPG.
- This indicates a moderate to strong negative relationship. As the number of engine cylinders increases, the highway MPG tends to decrease, likely due to larger engines consuming more fuel.

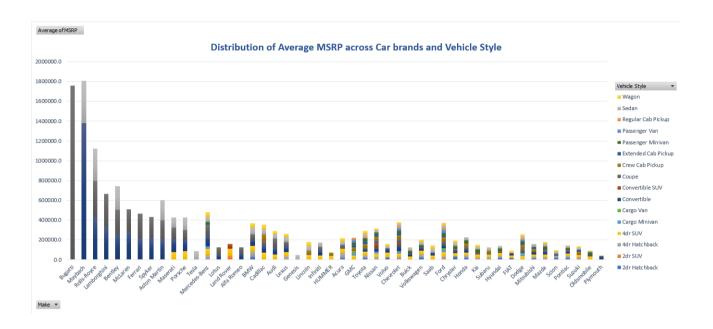
Dashboard

1. Distribution of Car Prices by Brand and Vehicle Style



- Luxury Segment: Lamborghini and Rolls-Royce show their dominance in Convertible and Coupe categories.
- Mass Market Leaders: Toyota and Honda excel in Passenger Vans and Sedans, indicating family-oriented offerings.
- SUVs: A major contributor to MSRP totals for brands like Toyota, Cadillac, and Chevrolet.
- Sedans: Dominated by Audi, BMW, and Mercedes-Benz in the luxury segment.
- **Sports Cars (Coupe & Convertible)**: Lamborghini, Ferrari, Porsche, and Rolls-Royce lead with high MSRP.
- **Niche Vehicles**: Brands like **Spyker** and **Lotus** specialize in high-end sports cars with small market shares.

2. Distribution of Average MSRP across Car brands and Vehicle Style



Bugatti has the highest average MSRP across its models, with a peak value of ₹1,757,223.70.

Maybach, Rolls-Royce, Lamborghini, and Bentley also dominate the luxury segment, with average MSRPs ranging from ₹247,169.30 to ₹1,381,375.00.

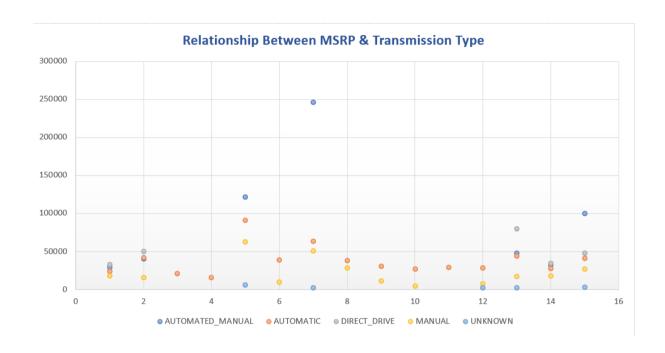
Convertible and Coupe models often have higher MSRPs across multiple brands.

Pickup trucks (e.g., Crew Cab and Extended Cab Pickups) show moderate MSRPs, with **Ford** and **Chevrolet** leading this category.

Toyota, **Nissan**, **Chevrolet**, and **Honda** dominate the more affordable segment, with average MSRPs mostly below ₹40,000.

Brands like **Kia**, **Hyundai**, and **Subaru** follow closely, focusing on affordability and specific vehicle types like SUVs and sedans.

3. Relationship Between MSRP & Transmission Type



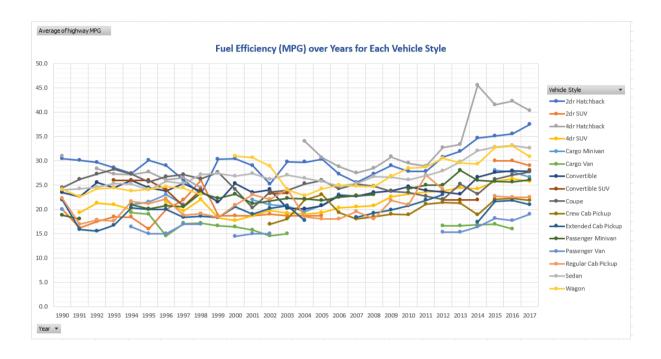
Automated Manual vehicles generally have the **highest MSRP** across most body styles, with notable peaks in **Passenger Van** (₹245,977.43) and **Cargo Van** (₹121,256.64).

Manual transmissions are the most affordable, with significantly lower MSRPs, especially in **Regular Cab Pickup** ($\stackrel{?}{\stackrel{\checkmark}{}}4,405.33$) and **Sedan** ($\stackrel{?}{\stackrel{\checkmark}{}}17,119.23$).

Cargo Minivans and Passenger Vans tend to have higher MSRPs across transmission types, particularly with Automated Manual and Automatic transmissions.

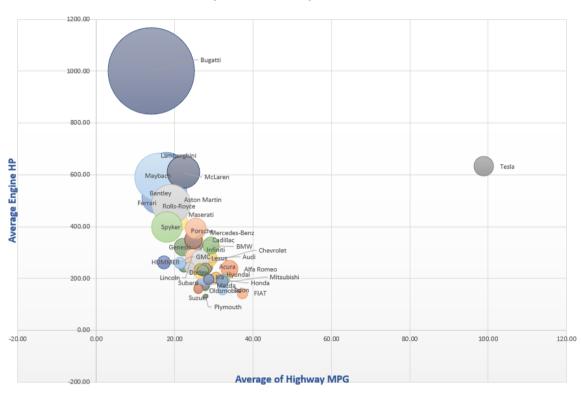
Sportier body styles like **Coupes** and **Convertibles** have moderate MSRPs, with **Automatic Coupes** at ₹63,371.81 and **Manual Convertibles** at ₹50,484.37.

4. Fuel Efficiency (MPG) over Years for Each Vehicle Style



- There is a notable increase in average highway MPG for body styles like **Sedans** and **Wagons**, particularly in recent years (e.g., 2015–2017).
- Body styles such as 2dr Hatchbacks and 4dr Hatchbacks consistently show higher highway MPG averages.
- Cargo Vans and Passenger Vans exhibit the lowest MPG averages, remaining below 25 MPG across most years.

5. Car's horsepower, MPG, and price vary across different Brands



Car's Horsepower, MPG, and price across Different Brands

High-End Luxury Brands: Brands like Bugatti, Rolls-Royce, and Lamborghini dominate in engine horsepower (e.g., Bugatti: 1001 HP) and MSRP (e.g., Bugatti: \$1,757,223.67), with lower highway MPG reflecting performance over efficiency.

Affordable & Efficient Segment: Brands such as FIAT, Honda, and Scion exhibit high highway MPG (e.g., FIAT: 37.34 MPG) at lower MSRPs (e.g., Scion: \$19,932.50), catering to budget-conscious consumers.

Tesla's Unique Efficiency and Power: Tesla stands out with exceptional highway MPG equivalent (98.94 MPGe) and high engine horsepower (633.22 HP approximately 472.19 kW), showcasing its dominance in the electric vehicle market with a competitive MSRP of \$85,255.56.

{For electric vehicles, MPG in the dataset likely refers to an equivalent metric called MPGe (Miles Per Gallon Equivalent).}

Result

This report outlines the project's key outcomes, emphasizing the substantial role of car features in determining price and profitability, and offers actionable recommendations derived from the findings. Key discoveries include:

- Cars with greater horsepower show a notable increase in price and profitability, with higher horsepower models commanding higher prices and delivering better profit margins.
- Fuel-efficient cars, although negatively correlated with price, attract a specific market segment focused on eco-friendliness and cost savings.
- Brand prestige proves to be the strongest determinant of price and profitability, as vehicles from prestigious brands tend to command significantly higher prices and yield better profit margins.

This project elevated my exploratory data analysis (EDA) skills to a new level and deepened my ability to extract valuable insights from data. It has also equipped me with the knowledge to make informed decisions that lead to meaningful and impactful outcomes.

Link for the Excel file

Note: If the Excel file is opened in Google Sheets, all the formatting and styling will be lost. Therefore, I kindly request that you open this link in Excel rather than in Google Sheets. Thank you.