Brazilian News

Brazilian Automotive Production Could Return to More Than 3 Million Units a Year

The last time production surpassed this level was in 2014, but low average incomes remain a major barrier to further market expansion.

Between January and June 2026, automakers operating in Brazil produced 1,372,392 vehicles, including 1,299,353 passenger cars and light commercial vehicles. This represented an 8.78% increase compared with the 1,261,640 vehicles produced during the same period in 2025, and a 20.75% increase over the 1,136,583 units produced in the first half of 2024.

If production continues at the same pace during the second half of the year, total output could reach approximately 2.8 million vehicles by the end of 2026. However, the second half of the year is typically stronger than the first in Brazil. If the 24.4% increase recorded in the second half of 2024 is repeated in the second half of 2026, annual production could surpass the 3-million-unit mark this year—a level not seen since 2014, when Brazil produced 3,151,831 vehicles.

Nevertheless, another major barrier to market expansion remains: Brazil's relatively low average income. Average annual income is below US$11,000, while the minimum wage has fluctuated significantly over the past two decades.

To illustrate the challenge facing Brazilian consumers, we compared the minimum wage during different presidential administrations with the price of a Toyota Corolla XEi. The model currently sells for approximately R$177,000 (US$34,000). The Brazilian real is currently trading at approximately R$5.17 to US$1.00, based on the exchange rate on August 10, 2026.

Primat Curtis Makes Another Acquisition in Brazil

Primat Curtis has announced the acquisition of Realtec, a Brazilian company specializing in surface treatments for fasteners. Realtec is recognized for its expertise in zinc-flake coatings and electrostatic coating technologies, including PTFE spray coatings.

"This acquisition represents another strategic step in strengthening the Group's presence in an increasingly global market. Thanks to Realtec's two production sites, located in the states of São Paulo and Minas Gerais, Primat Curtis will be able to offer its customers a stronger local presence and greater operational efficiency across the automotive, oil & gas, and earthmoving equipment sectors," said Alberto Girardi, Director of Business Development and Marketing at Primat Curtis.

The acquisition further advances Primat Curtis' strategy of international expansion and increased industrial capacity. By integrating Realtec's specialized technological expertise and process know-how, the Group is strengthening its position in a market where quality, reliability, and sustainability are key competitive factors. The acquisition marks another step in Primat Curtis' expansion in Brazil. In 2022, the company acquired Prosdac, based in Jundiaí, São Paulo.

Metalac SPS Holds 74th Edition of Its Fastener Training Course

Metalac SPS, the Brazilian subsidiary of Precision Castparts Corp. (PCC), a global manufacturer of complex metal products for the aerospace and industrial sectors headquartered in Portland, Oregon, USA, has held another edition of its traditional fastener training course.

The 74th edition of the course took place from August 10 to 13, 2026, at the Technology Center in Sorocaba, São Paulo, where Metalac's industrial complex is located. The facility welcomed approximately 200 participants for a combination of classroom instruction and hands-on experience in laboratories, on the factory floor, and in other practical training environments.

Participants included professionals from a wide range of technical and managerial positions, including product and process development engineers and analysts; technicians responsible for determining tightening parameters; quality auditors specializing in bolted joints and tightening tools; professionals involved in bolted-joint projects; and leaders and managers of assembly lines.

The course focused on the design and sizing of bolted joints, while also providing an exclusive environment for discussions on innovation, new technologies, and emerging trends in the fastening industry.

The program featured presentations by industry experts as well as practical exercises designed to connect technical concepts with participants' day-to-day professional activities. The event provided an opportunity for professionals to improve, update, learn and network.

Böllhoff Acquires Brazilian Nut Manufacturer Nutep

Through its Brazilian subsidiary, the Böllhoff Group has announced the acquisition of Nutep S/A Indústria Metalúrgica, a manufacturer of nuts based in Betim, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Founded in 2005, Nutep currently employs approximately 70 people and is IATF certified. The company specializes in supplying fastening components to the industrial sector, with a particular focus on the automotive industry. "This is a strategic milestone to accelerate our growth and consolidate our industrial presence in South America," the Böllhoff Group said in a statement. ■

by Sergio Milatias, 'Revista do Parafuso' (The Fastener Brazilian Magazine)
revistadoparafuso@revistadoparafuso.com
www.revistadoparafuso.com