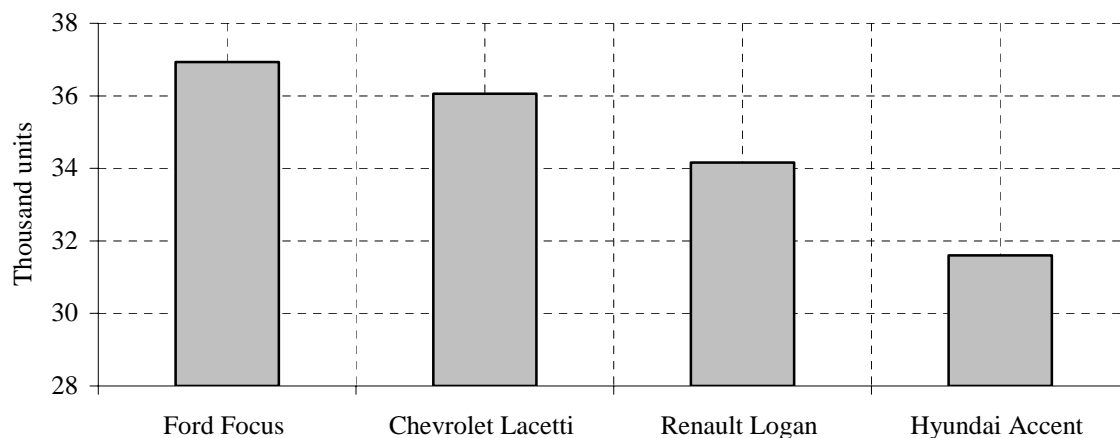


Foreign auto sales in January-March 2008

Foreign auto sales rose 48% in Russia within first five months of the year. Two-digit growth rates are no longer a surprise for Russia's thriving market.

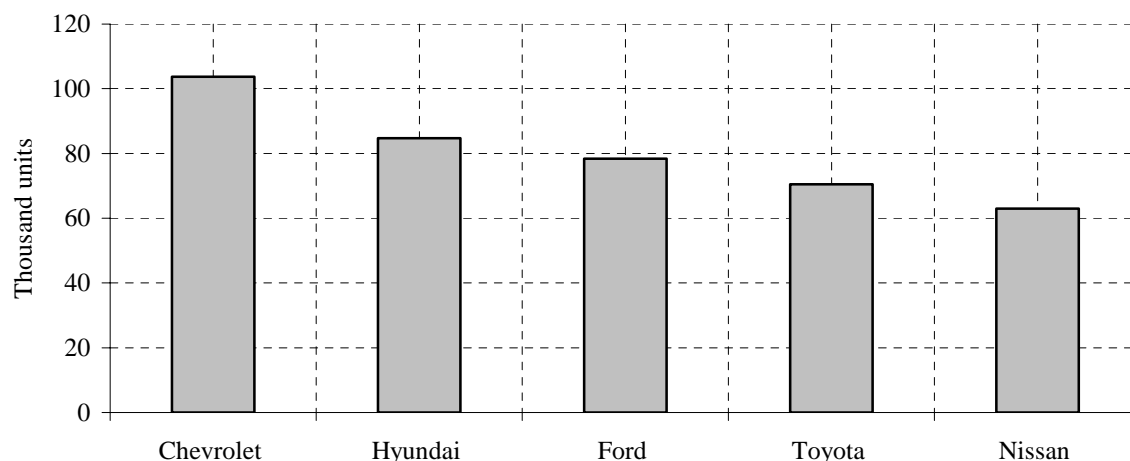
The sales mix has not seen any marked changes except for Ford Focus retrieving its position as a top-selling automaker against declining sales.

Best selling foreign cars in January-March 2008 (by model)



Showing the highest growth rates - 136% - Lacetti pushed Chevrolet into the 'most popular auto' position. In total, more than 100,000 Lacetti units have been sold.

Best selling foreign cars in January-March 2008 (by make)



The sales mix is not likely to change over time. With summer setting in, the market may see a seasonal sales growth, so a 48% rise is hardly the limit. AutoVAZ who faced a sales crisis last summer might witness hard times again. The crisis may reoccur this year, all the more so because the carmaker have raised prices for a third time already.

By Kirill Lebedev