

Junk Car Value Index

Speedy's Cash For Cars

Updated 2026-07-15

Based on **481 real cash offers** made through our nationwide buying network over the last 90 days across **47 US states**, the typical (median) offer for a junk or used car is **\$1,000**. These are real amounts offered to sellers — not estimates or book values.

TYPICAL OFFER (MEDIAN)

\$1,000

MIDDLE 50% OF OFFERS

\$750–\$1,600

FULL RANGE

\$300–\$6,300

STATES REPRESENTED

47

Typical payout by model year

MODEL YEAR	TYPICAL OFFER	SHARE
2005 or older	\$775	6%
2006–2012	\$900	39%
2013–2017	\$1,050	48%
2018 or newer	\$2,350	7%

Typical payout by make

MAKE	TYPICAL OFFER	OFFERS
Mercedes-Benz	\$1,850	14
BMW	\$1,500	10
Jeep	\$1,338	13
Chrysler	\$1,250	10
Volkswagen	\$1,225	11
Toyota	\$1,200	89
Honda	\$1,000	46
Chevrolet	\$975	38

Where payouts run highest and lowest

Among states with enough offers to report, **LA** shows the highest typical offer at **\$1,665** and **NV** the lowest at **\$603**, against a national median of \$1,000. Location drives payouts through local scrap prices, parts demand, and towing distance.

What the data says

- **Newer pays more, but not linearly.** Cars from "2018 or newer" bring a typical \$2,350 versus \$775 for "2005 or older" — weight, running condition, and parts demand matter as much as age.
- **Brands that hold value on the road hold value at the end of it.** The makes commanding the highest end-of-life offers are the ones with strong used-car demand and available parts.
- **A low offer usually reflects the market, not a lowball.** Missing catalytic converters, non-running condition, and thin parts demand are the biggest drags on value.

Cite this data. Journalists and researchers are welcome to cite the Junk Car Value Index with attribution.

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Need a custom cut (a state, make, or time window) for a story? We can usually turn it around same-day.

Methodology: figures are computed from live cash offers made through the Speedy's Cash For Cars buying network — real vehicles and real amounts, never estimates. Window statistics cover a rolling 90-day period; make, model-year, and state figures accumulate over our full history. Medians are shown rather than averages so outliers don't skew the picture.

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