Tesla 2Q deliveries rise over 1Q despite factory shutdown

July 2 2020, by Tom Krisher

In this May 13, 2020, file photo, Tesla cars are loaded onto carriers at the Tesla electric car plant in Fremont, Calif. Tesla says it delivered more electric vehicles worldwide in the second quarter than it did in the first. The increase came even though coronavirus restrictions forced it to shut down its only U.S. factory for much of the period. (AP Photo/Ben Margot, File)

Tesla says it delivered more electric vehicles worldwide in the second quarter than it did in the first. The increase came even though

coronavirus restrictions forced it to shut down its only U.S. factory for much of the period.

The [company](#) says it delivered 90,650 vehicles from April through June as it rolled out the new Model Y SUV in the U.S. and China. That's a 2.5% increase over the first quarter's 88,400. But it was a 4.8% drop from the [second quarter](#) of 2019, when Tesla delivered 95,200 vehicles.

Coronavirus restrictions adopted in the San Francisco Bay Area forced Tesla to close its only U.S. assembly plant in Fremont, California, for almost two months starting March 23. It didn't reopen until May 11.

The Palo Alto, California, company said it delivered 10,600 of its older Models, the S sedan and X SUV. The newer Y small SUV and Model 3 smaller car accounted for the bulk of the sales at 80,050.

The sales performance beat Wall Street estimates of 72,000 for the second quarter, according to FactSet.

It came with a feverish push to crank out and sell more vehicles in the U.S., and it gives the company a shot at breaking even when second-quarter financial results are released.

The push came with numerous quality problems reported on Tesla owner forums and social media. Many Model Y buyers reported rejecting their SUVs due to mismatched paint and body panels that didn't fit properly. Many others reported that their vehicles were flawless.

At the end of the second quarter, CEO Elon Musk told employees in an emailed note that prospects for the company breaking even for the period are tight, and he's asked them to go all-out to make it happen.

In this May 11, 2020, file photo, a man walks in the Tesla plant parking lot in Fremont, Calif. Tesla says it delivered more electric vehicles worldwide in the second quarter than it did in the first. The increase came even though coronavirus restrictions forced it to shut down its only U.S. factory for much of the period. (AP Photo/Ben Margot, File)

In the message to Tesla's roughly 48,000 workers, Musk wrote that it "really makes a difference for every car you build and deliver."

In the [first quarter](), the company eked out a $16 million [net profit](), its third-straight profitable quarter.

At the opening bell, Tesla's [share price]() shot up 8.7% to $1,216.65.

While our main factory in Fremont was shut down for much of the quarter, we have successfully ramped production back to prior levels,"

Tesla said in a statement Thursday.

The second-quarter numbers bring Tesla's sales for the first half of the year to 185,850, behind the pace needed to meet Musk's brash prediction of selling more than 500,000 cars for the year. That would be significantly higher than the company's sales of 367,500 last year.

The sales figures came one day after Tesla's [market capitalization](#) surpassed Toyota to become the world's most valuable auto company.

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