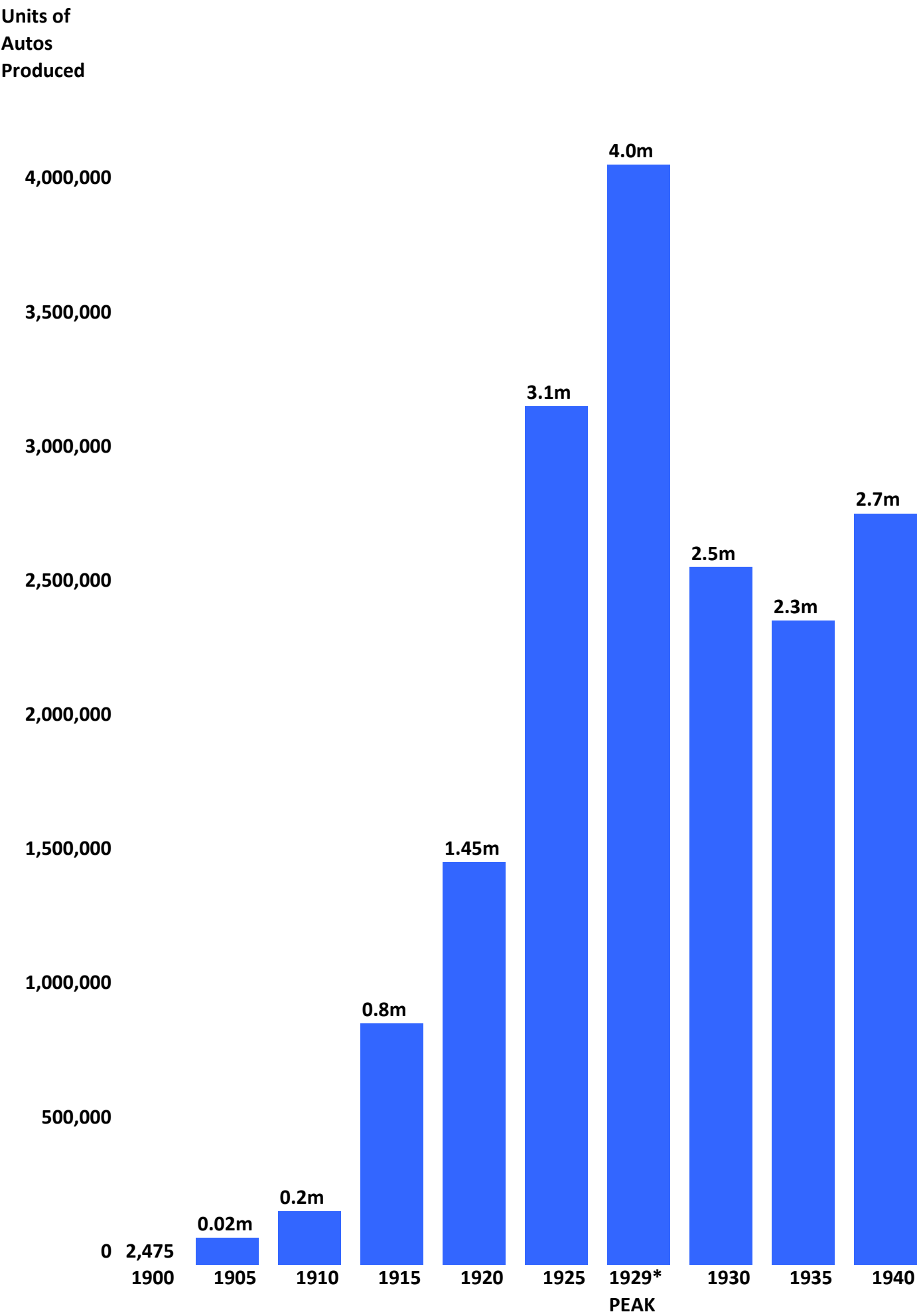


US Auto Production 1900 - 1940

Chart: N.4



Until the late 1920 the auto business was a handcraft industry with over 1,800 companies. After the recession the industry underwent a dramatic rationalisation so that by 1940 there just seven major auto companies in the US producing 99% of output: General Motors with its brands, Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac and Oldsmobile, had 53% of the market compared to Chrysler (Plymouth, Dodge) with 27% and Ford with 20% . Between 1942 and 1945 all auto production in the US ceased and GM, Ford and Chrysler turned exclusively to production of tanks, trucks, sundry military vehicles and warplanes.

Francis Pike, Hirohito's War, The Pacific War 1941 - 1945 [Bloomsbury 2015]