

Advanta-STAR Consumer Research on the Honda Civic

2005

Honda Civic compared with the Chevrolet Aveo.....	1
Honda Civic compared with the Chevrolet Cavalier	4
Honda Civic compared with the Chrysler PT Cruiser.....	8
Honda Civic compared with the Dodge Neon	10
Honda Civic compared with the Ford Focus.....	14
Honda Civic compared with the Hyundai Accent	18
Honda Civic compared with the Hyundai Elantra.....	21
Honda Civic compared with the Kia Rio.....	24
Honda Civic compared with the Kia Spectra.....	28
Honda Civic compared with the Mazda 3	30
Honda Civic compared with the MINI.....	33
Honda Civic compared with the Mitsubishi Lancer.....	35
Honda Civic compared with the Nissan Sentra.....	38
Honda Civic compared with the Pontiac Sunfire.....	42
Honda Civic compared with the Pontiac Vibe	46
Honda Civic compared with the Saturn Ion.....	48
Honda Civic compared with the Scion tC.....	51
Honda Civic compared with the Scion xA	53
Honda Civic compared with the Subaru Impreza.....	56
Honda Civic compared with the Suzuki Aerio.....	59
Honda Civic compared with the Suzuki Forenza.....	62
Honda Civic compared with the Toyota Corolla.....	65
Honda Civic compared with the Toyota Echo	67
Honda Civic compared with the Toyota Matrix.....	71
Honda Civic compared with the Volkswagen Beetle.....	73
Honda Civic compared with the Volkswagen Golf	77
Honda Civic compared with the Chevrolet Cobalt	79
Honda Civic Hybrid compared with the Toyota Prius.....	81
Honda Civic Hybrid compared with the Volkswagen Golf TDI.....	83
Honda Civic Hybrid compared with the Volkswagen Jetta TDI.....	85
Honda Civic Hybrid compared with the Volkswagen Passat TDI.....	87

Table of Contents Continued on Back

Honda Civic Hybrid compared with the Volkswagen Beetle TDI	89
Honda Civic Si compared with the Chevrolet Cobalt.....	91
Honda Civic Si compared with the Dodge Neon SRT-4.....	92
Honda Civic Si compared with the Hyundai Tiburon.....	94
Honda Civic Si compared with the MINI.....	96
Honda Civic Si compared with the Mitsubishi Eclipse.....	98
Honda Civic Si compared with the Saturn Ion Red Line.....	101
Honda Civic Si compared with the Scion tC	102
Honda Civic Si compared with the Subaru Impreza WRX.....	103
Honda Civic Si compared with the Toyota Celica	105
Honda Civic Si compared with the Volkswagen Beetle.....	107
Honda Civic Si compared with the Volkswagen GTI.....	110

Honda Civic compared with the Chevrolet Aveo

Safety

The Civic offers optional front seat side-impact airbags, which act as a forgiving barrier between the passengers and the door. Combined with high-strength steel door beams this system increases protection from broadside collisions. The Aveo doesn't offer side-impact airbags.

Using vehicle speed sensors and seat sensors, smart airbags in the Civic deploy with different levels of force to help better protect passengers of all sizes in different collisions. The Civic's side airbags will shut off if a child is leaning against the door. The Aveo's airbags don't have smart features and will always deploy full force.

Both the Civic and the Aveo have standard driver and passenger frontal airbags, front seatbelt pretensioners, front wheel drive, plastic fuel tanks and available four wheel antilock brakes.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration does 35 MPH front crash tests on new cars. In this test, results indicate that the Honda Civic Sedan is safer than the Aveo Sedan:

	Civic	Aveo
	Driver	
STARS	5 Stars	5 Stars
<i>Head Injury Index</i>	303	372
<i>Chest forces</i>	40 g's	44 g's
<i>Leg injuries (L/R)</i>	410 / 573	603 / 1602
	Passenger	
STARS	5 Stars	5 Stars
<i>Head Injury Index</i>	249	449
<i>Chest forces</i>	37 g's	39 g's
<i>Leg injuries (L/R)</i>	840 / 526	1148 / 387

More stars indicate a better overall result. Lower numbers indicate better individual test results.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration does 38.5 MPH side impact tests on new cars. In this test, results indicate that the Civic is safer than the Aveo:

	Civic	Aveo
	Front Seat	
STARS	4 Stars	3 Stars
<i>Thoracic Trauma</i>	62	85
<i>Pelvis Deceleration</i>	58 G's	149 G's
	Rear Seat	
STARS	4 Stars	3 Stars
<i>Thoracic Trauma</i>	72	86
<i>Pelvis Deceleration</i>	85 G's	91 G's

More stars indicate a better chance of avoiding serious injuries. Lower numbers indicate better actual numeric test results.

Instrumented handling tests conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and analysis of its dimensions indicate that the Civic is 1.3% to 2.3% less likely to roll over than the Aveo.

Warranty

The Civic's corrosion warranty is unlimited miles longer than the Aveo's (unlimited vs. 100,000 miles).

Reliability

The engines in the Civic have a single overhead cam for simplicity. The engine in the Aveo has dual overhead cams, which add to the number of moving parts and the complexity of the cylinder heads.

J.D. Power and Associates rated the Civic third among compact cars in their 2004 Initial Quality Study. The Aveo isn't in the top three in its category.

J.D. Power and Associates' 2004 Initial Quality Study of new car owners surveyed provide the statistics that show that Honda vehicles are better in initial quality than Chevrolet vehicles. J.D. Power ranks Honda fourth in initial quality. With 20 more problems per 100 vehicles, Chevrolet is ranked 16th.

J.D. Power and Associates' surveys of the owners of three-year-old cars provide the long-term dependability statistics which show that Honda vehicles are more reliable than Chevrolet vehicles. J.D. Power ranks Honda 6th in reliability, above the industry average. With 53 more problems per 100 vehicles, Chevrolet is ranked 11th.

Engine

The Civic DX/LX's standard 1.7 SOHC 4 cyl. produces 12 more horsepower (115 vs. 103) and 3 lbs.-ft. more torque (110 vs. 107) than the Aveo's 1.6 DOHC 4 cyl. The Civic EX's standard 1.7 VTEC 4 cyl. produces 24 more horsepower (127 vs. 103) and 7 lbs.-ft. more torque (114 vs. 107) than the Aveo's 1.6 DOHC 4 cyl.

As tested in *Motor Trend* the Civic DX/LX is faster than the Chevrolet Aveo (manual transmissions tested):

	Civic	Aveo
Zero to 60 MPH	8.3 sec	10.9 sec
Quarter Mile	16.4 sec	17.6 sec
Speed in 1/4 Mile	84.3 MPH	78 MPH

As tested in *Consumer Reports* the Civic EX is faster than the Chevrolet Aveo (automatics tested):

	Civic	Aveo
Zero to 60 MPH	10.3 sec	11.7 sec
45 to 65 MPH Passing	6.2 sec	7.3 sec
Quarter Mile	18 sec	18.8 sec

Fuel Economy and Range

On the EPA test cycle the Civic HX Coupe gets higher fuel mileage than the Aveo:

	Civic	Aveo
Manual	36 city/44 hwy	27 city/35 hwy
Auto	35 city/40 hwy	26 city/34 hwy

The Honda Civic gets better fuel mileage than the Aveo:

	Civic	Aveo
Std. 4 cyl./Manual	32 city/38 hwy	27 city/35 hwy
EX 4 cyl./Manual	32 city/37 hwy	n/a
Std. 4 cyl./Auto	29 city/38 hwy	26 city/34 hwy
EX 4 cyl./Auto	31 city/38 hwy	n/a

The Civic has 1.3 gallons more fuel capacity than the Aveo (13.2 vs. 11.9 gallons), for longer range between fill-ups.

Transmission

The Civic offers an available continuously variable transmission (CVT). With no "steps" between gears, it can keep the engine at the most efficient speed for fuel economy, or keep it at its peak horsepower indefinitely for maximum acceleration. The Aveo doesn't offer a CVT.

Brakes and Stopping

For better stopping power the Civic's brake rotors are larger than those on the Aveo:

	Civic	Aveo
Front Rotors	10.3 inches	10.1 inches

The Civic with optional antilock brakes stops shorter than the Aveo with antilock brakes:

	Civic	Aveo	
60 to 0 MPH	134 feet	137 feet	<i>Consumer Reports</i>

The Civic with its standard brakes stops shorter than the Aveo:

	Civic	Aveo	
60 to 0 MPH	144.1 feet	145 feet	<i>Motor Trend</i>

Tires and Wheels

For better traction, the Civic LX/EX's tires are larger than the largest tires available on the Aveo (195/60R15 vs. 185/60R14).

For better ride, handling and brake cooling the Civic LX/EX has standard 15 inch wheels. The Aveo's largest wheels are only 14 inches.

Suspension and Handling

For superior ride and handling, the Honda Civic has fully independent front and rear suspensions. An independent suspension allows the wheels to follow the road at the best angle for gripping the pavement, without compromising ride comfort. The Chevrolet Aveo has a rear torsion beam axle, with a semi-independent rear suspension.

The Civic has standard front gas-charged shocks for better control over choppy roads. The Aveo's suspension doesn't offer gas-charged shocks.

The Civic LX/EX has front and rear stabilizer bars, which help keep the Civic LX/EX flat and controlled during cornering. The Aveo's suspension doesn't offer a rear stabilizer bar.

The Civic has engine speed sensitive variable-assist power steering, for low-effort parking, better control at highway speeds and during hard cornering, and a better feel of the road. The Aveo doesn't offer variable-assist power steering.

For a smoother ride and more stable handling, the Civic's wheelbase is 5.5 inches longer than on the Aveo (103.1 vs. 97.6 inches).

For better handling and stability, the track (width between the wheels) on the Civic is .7 inches wider in the front and 2.3 inches wider in the rear than on the Aveo.

The Civic's front to rear weight distribution is more even (59.1% to 40.9%) than the Aveo's (62.4% to 37.6%). This gives the Civic more stable handling and braking.

The Civic EX Sedan goes through *Motor Trend's* slalom 2.3 MPH faster than the Aveo LS 5-door (62.6 vs. 60.3 MPH).

Chassis

To almost totally eliminate engine vibration in the passenger area, the Civic has a liquid-filled front engine mount. The liquid helps further dampen engine harshness. The Aveo uses conventional solid rubber engine mounts.

Passenger Space

The Civic Sedan has .5 inches more front headroom, 1 inch more front legroom and .7 inches more rear legroom than the Aveo Sedan.

Ergonomics

The Civic's entire steering wheel hub sounds the horn, facilitating hitting the horn in an emergency. The Aveo has two small spoke buttons. These buttons can be hard to reach in an emergency.

The Civic offers an optional center folding armrest for the driver and front passenger. A center armrest helps combat driver fatigue. The Aveo doesn't offer a front seat center armrest.

For greater rear passenger comfort, the Civic Sedan has standard rear heat vents to keep rear occupants more comfortable. The Aveo doesn't offer rear vents.

Economic Advantages

Insurance will cost less for the Civic owner. *The Car Book* rates the Civic with a number 1 insurance rate while the Aveo is rated higher at a number 5 rate.

The Civic will cost the buyer less in the long run because of its superior resale value. *The Complete Car Cost Guide* estimates that the Civic will retain 54.68% to 62.19% of its original price after five years, while the Aveo only retains 32.38% to 33.22%.