

THE U.S. AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY: MONTHLY REPORT ON SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Report to the Subcommittee on Trade,
Committee on Ways and Means,
on Investigation No. 332-136
Under Section 332
of the Tariff Act of 1930



USITC PUBLICATION 1285

SEPTEMBER 1982

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

Alfred E. Eckes, Chairman

Paula Stern

Michael J. Calhoun

Eugene J. Frank

Veronica A. Haggart

Kenneth R. Mason, Secretary to the Commission

This report was prepared principally by

Jim McElroy and Charles West

**Machinery and Transportation Equipment Branch
Machinery and Equipment Division**

**Office of Industries
Norris A. Lynch, Director**

**Address all communications to
Office of the Secretary
United States International Trade Commission
Washington, D.C. 20436**

C O N T E N T S

Page

Tables

1. New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982-----	1
2. New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources and specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982-----	2
3. Lightweight automobile trucks and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources and specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982-----	3
4. New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982---	4
5. Lightweight automobile trucks and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982---	5
6. New passenger automobiles: Sales of domestic and imported passenger automobiles and sales of imported passenger automobiles as a percent of total U.S. sales, by specified periods, 1981 and 1982-----	6
7. New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1981 and 1982-----	6
8. New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market, during August 1982-----	7
9. Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-September 1982-----	8

Table 1.--New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1981 and 1982			1980 and 1981	
	July : 1982	August : 1982	Sept. 1981- : Aug. 1982	August : 1981	Sept. 1980- : Aug. 1981
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact-----	136	131	1,621	165	1,728
Compact-----	66	69	1,092	150	1,639
Intermediate-----	130	118	1,621	165	1,879
Standard-----	73	66	900	94	985
Luxury-----	25	25	339	28	327
Total-----	430	409	5,573	602	6,557
Production:					
Subcompact-----	147	108	1,720	175	1,873
Compact-----	87	68	958	105	1,867
Intermediate-----	139	92	1,483	76	1,750
Standard-----	55	61	671	41	1,412
Luxury-----	19	21	346	11	352
Total-----	447	350	5,178	407	7,255
Inventory:					
Subcompact-----	396	391	1/	374	1/
Compact-----	305	323	1/	512	1/
Intermediate-----	415	428	1/	477	1/
Standard-----	150	149	1/	208	1/
Luxury-----	97	98	1/	105	1/
Total-----	1,364	1,377	1/	1,615	1/
Days' supply: <u>2/</u>					
Subcompact-----	115	122	1/	90	1/
Compact-----	76	82	1/	88	1/
Intermediate-----	89	101	1/	87	1/
Standard-----	63	59	1/	71	1/
Luxury-----	98	92	1/	103	1/
Total-----	79	83	1/	88	1/
Employment: <u>3/</u>					
Total employees-----	<u>4/</u> 710	<u>5/</u> 712	1/	<u>6/</u> 730	1/
Production workers---	<u>4/</u> 526	<u>5/</u> 528	1/	<u>6/</u> 544	1/
Layoffs <u>7/</u> -----	213	217	1/	159	1/

1/ Not applicable.

2/ Days' supply is an average for each class size which is determined by dividing total inventory by the previous month's retail sales.

3/ Employment data are for SIC 371 (motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment).

4/ Data are for June 1982.

5/ Data are for July 1982.

6/ Data are for July 1981.

7/ Layoffs are the number of UAW members on indefinite layoff as of the end of each specified period.

Source: Retail sales, production, and days' supply, Ward's Auto Information Bank; inventory, Automotive News; and employment, U.S. Department of Labor.

Note.--Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

Table 2.—New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources and specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982 1/ 2/

Source	1981 and 1982			1980 and 1981	
	June 1982	July 1982	Aug. 1981- July 1982	July 1981	Aug. 1980- July 1981
Quantity (units)					
Japan-----	150,013	159,684	1,785,572	162,730	1,983,769
Canada-----	83,280	44,097	669,217	41,039	568,138
West Germany-----	22,428	23,563	262,145	21,099	258,829
Sweden-----	8,847	8,105	85,471	4,213	66,874
Italy-----	763	493	14,436	374	25,569
United Kingdom-----	841	1,309	16,023	674	15,316
France-----	3,009	3,971	48,006	2,562	45,326
All other-----	1	2	2,145	485	761
Total-----	269,182	241,224	2,883,015	233,176	2,964,582
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan-----	762,430	849,921	9,373,093	808,200	9,178,745
Canada-----	652,395	359,326	5,345,086	293,137	4,013,353
West Germany-----	268,565	277,649	3,031,988	230,895	2,696,122
Sweden-----	81,715	72,916	775,184	36,319	528,901
Italy-----	8,511	5,921	146,549	5,084	193,860
United Kingdom-----	21,852	32,488	359,327	16,439	208,681
France-----	21,860	24,659	296,941	18,822	303,033
All other-----	7	38	39,129	8,558	10,116
Total-----	1,817,335	1,622,918	19,367,297	1,417,454	17,132,811

1/ Data include imports into Puerto Rico; data for January-July 1982 and full year 1981 do not include Volkswagens assembled in the United States. All other data, however, do include U.S.-built Volkswagens.

2/ January-July 1982 and July-December 1981 data include TSUSA number 692.1005.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Note.--Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

Table 3.--Lightweight automobile trucks 1/ and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources and specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982 2/

Source	1981 and 1982			1980 and 1981	
	June	July	Aug. 1981-	July	Aug. 1980-
	1982	1982	July 1982	1981	July 1981
Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>					
Japan-----	22,916	29,422	433,482	37,574	451,205
Canada-----	37,436	15,856	275,109	14,848	222,593
All other-----	243	215	1,826	362	3,564
Total-----	60,595	45,493	710,417	52,784	677,362
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan-----	97,226	126,235	1,805,514	151,911	1,747,163
Canada-----	285,207	119,223	2,129,218	101,236	1,382,704
All other-----	4,896	3,980	24,056	6,165	50,932
Total-----	387,329	249,438	3,958,788	259,312	3,180,799

1/ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gw.

2/ Partially estimated, all data include imports into Puerto Rico.

3/ Quantity data include complete trucks and cab/chassis, but exclude bodies.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Note.--Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

Table 4.--New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982

Market	1981 and 1982			1980 and 1981	
	June 1982	July 1982	Aug. 1981- July 1982	July 1981	Aug. 1980- July 1981
	Quantity (units)				
Canada-----	35,609	32,094	362,418	45,911	513,964
Saudi Arabia-----	313	198	13,030	485	13,911
Kuwait-----	371	77	6,138	517	11,551
Japan-----	103	154	3,256	87	5,161
West Germany-----	334	223	2,452	260	4,393
Belgium-----	23	26	674	100	3,187
Venezuela-----	386	302	4,456	1,127	8,122
Switzerland-----	66	30	613	42	2,469
All other-----	1,717	1,321	22,929	2,062	38,349
Total-----	38,922	34,425	415,966	50,591	601,107
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	248,746	213,853	2,526,266	306,553	3,310,954
Saudi Arabia-----	3,970	2,300	172,230	5,627	151,339
Kuwait-----	4,600	1,053	75,379	5,566	112,100
Japan-----	1,351	2,054	44,823	1,002	52,002
West Germany-----	3,295	2,398	24,349	2,466	38,061
Belgium-----	294	297	6,723	849	24,054
Venezuela-----	4,079	3,246	44,666	10,118	71,886
Switzerland-----	773	382	44,172	400	20,424
All other-----	16,497	13,656	193,043	17,037	324,937
Total-----	283,605	239,239	3,131,651	349,618	4,105,757

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Note.--Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

Table 5.--Lightweight automobile trucks 1/ and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and specified periods, 1980, 1981, and 1982 2/

Market	1981 and 1982			1980 and 1981	
	June 1982	July 1982	Aug. 1981- July 1982	July 1981	Aug. 1980- July 1981
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada-----	7,475	4,275	54,216	3,295	68,925
Saudi Arabia-----	1,107	974	17,210	1,674	26,648
Argentina-----	-	-	50	36	7,588
Kuwait-----	175	232	2,829	430	4,927
Ecuador-----	39	41	1,503	205	3,694
Venezuela-----	200	206	2,247	108	4,467
Mexico-----	47	29	2,133	467	4,137
Colombia-----	45	104	671	183	4,462
All other-----	6,703	924	17,084	2,029	26,532
Total-----	15,791	6,785	97,943	8,427	151,380
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	50,314	29,216	363,907	23,715	578,791
Saudi Arabia-----	13,596	11,576	195,217	15,059	206,489
Argentina-----	-	-	421	322	48,060
Kuwait-----	1,757	2,835	28,234	3,250	34,981
Ecuador-----	334	413	12,712	1,591	29,970
Venezuela-----	2,059	2,399	22,125	918	42,670
Mexico-----	331	138	16,639	3,479	30,250
Colombia-----	382	975	6,276	1,470	39,294
All other-----	16,957	8,910	163,791	20,047	233,747
Total-----	85,730	56,462	809,322	69,851	1,244,252

1/ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gwv.

2/ Partially estimated.

3/ Quantity data include complete trucks and cab/chassis, but exclude bodies.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Note.--Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

Table 6.—New passenger automobiles: Sales of domestic and imported passenger automobiles and sales of imported passenger automobiles as a percent of total U.S. sales, by specified periods, 1981 and 1982

Period	Sales of--				Total U.S. sales		Ratio of import sales to total sales	
	Domestic automobiles 1/		Imported automobiles 2/		1982	1981	1982	1981
	1982	1981	1982	1981				
	--Percent--							
January---	368,138	469,832	166,172	177,365	534,310	647,197	31.1	27.4
February--	456,942	543,593	175,261	219,164	632,203	762,757	27.7	28.7
Jan.-Feb--	825,080	1,013,425	341,433	396,529	1,166,513	1,409,954	29.3	28.1
March-----	575,608	719,044	200,741	242,558	776,349	961,602	25.9	25.2
Jan.-Mar--	1,400,688	1,732,469	542,174	639,087	1,942,862	2,371,556	27.9	26.9
April-----	498,630	533,724	169,833	216,852	668,463	750,576	25.4	28.9
Jan.- Apr.:	1,899,318	2,266,193	712,007	855,939	2,611,325	3,122,132	27.3	27.4
May-----	584,676	524,021	187,091	209,742	771,767	733,763	24.2	28.6
Jan.-May--	2,483,994	2,790,214	899,098	1,065,681	3,383,092	3,855,895	26.6	27.6
June-----	451,430	517,402	199,093	205,550	650,523	722,952	30.6	28.4
Jan.-June-	2,935,424	3,307,616	1,098,191	1,271,231	4,033,615	4,578,847	27.2	27.8
July-----	429,908	497,151	199,364	208,889	629,272	706,040	31.7	29.6
Jan.-								
July-----	3,365,332	3,804,767	1,297,555	1,480,120	4,662,887	5,284,887	27.8	28.0
August-----	409,411	601,741	199,341	198,984	608,752	800,725	32.7	24.9
Jan.-Aug--	3,774,743	4,406,508	1,496,896	1,679,104	5,271,639	6,085,612	28.4	27.6

1/ Domestic automobile sales include U.S. and Canadian-built automobiles sold in the United States.

2/ Does not include automobiles imported from Canada.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 7.--New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1981 and 1982

(1967 = 100)

Item	1982			1981 and 1982		
	June	July	Percent	July	July	Percent
	1982	1982	change	1981	1982	change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted----	198.1	198.6	+0.3	192.5	198.6	+3.2
Seasonally adjusted----	197.9	198.8	+0.5	193.3	198.8	+2.8
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted----	214.6	215.0	+0.2	205.0	215.0	+4.9
Seasonally adjusted----	214.8	215.4	+0.3	205.4	215.4	+4.9

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 8.—New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the
U.S. market, during August 1982

(In dollars)

Source and size category	:	Retail price changes, August 1982
	:	(+ or -)
U.S. producers:	:	
General Motors-----	:	No change
Ford Motor-----	:	No change
Chrysler-----	:	No change
European Economic Community pro-	:	
ducers-----	:	No change
Japanese producers-----	:	No change
	:	

Source: Automotive News, August 1982.

Table 9.--Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-September 1982 ^{1/}

Company, model, and options ^{2/}	April 1, 1981		Sept. 1, 1982		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base	Option-	Base	Option-	Aug. 1982-	Apr. 1981-
	model ^{3/}	equipped model ^{3/}	model ^{3/}	equipped model ^{3/}	Sept. 1982:	Sept. 1982:
General Motors:						
Chevette, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	5,155	5,405	5,513	5,778	0	+6.9
Citation, 4 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, AT)-----	6,404	7,014	6,899	7,554	0	+7.7
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)----- ^{4/}	12,131	12,501	12,181	12,551	0	+0.4
Ford:						
Escort, L, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, RS)----	5,556	5,857	6,046	6,406	0	+9.4
Fairmont Futura, 4 door (RWD, TG,)-----	6,421	6,953	6,419	7,042	0	+1.3
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, AC, R)-----	8,519	10,102	9,294	11,022	0	+9.1
Chrysler:						
Plymouth TC3, 2 door HB (PB, RWD)-----	5,938	6,188	6,421	6,634	0	+7.2
Reliant, 4 door (PB, RWD, TG, R, AT)-----	5,980	6,680	6,629	7,464	0	+11.7
Dodge 400, 2 door (RWD, AC) ^{5/} -----	6,672	7,502	8,043	8,844	0	+17.9
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 2 door (R)-----	5,688	5,793	6,018	6,129	0	+5.8
Corona LE, 4 door (R, AT)-----	8,254	8,254	8,939	8,939	0	+8.3
Cressida, 4 door-----	11,599	11,599	12,249	12,249	0	+5.6
Nissan (Datsun):						
Sentra, Deluxe 2 door (R) ^{5/} -----	5,369	5,494	5,879	5,959	0	+8.5
Stanza XE, 4 door (R, AT) ^{5/} -----	6,839	7,749	7,999	8,419	0	+8.7
Maxima, 4 door-----	10,379	10,379	11,049	11,049	0	+6.5
Honda:						
Civic, 1300, 2 door HB (R)-----	4,599	4,694	4,799	4,894	0	+4.3
Accord, 4 door (R, AT)-----	7,645	7,950	8,245	8,592	0	+8.1
Mazda:						
GLC Custom, 2 door HB (R)-----	5,495	5,650	5,695	5,850	0	+3.5

^{1/} Suggested retail prices, East Coast, do not include any dealer incentives, below-market financing or rebates offered by manufacturers or importers.

^{2/} The following codes apply: PB = power brakes; RWD = rear window defroster; TG = tinted glass; HB = hatchback; AT = automatic transmission; AC = air conditioning; R = radio; RS = reclining front seats.

^{3/} Base models are 2 door or 2 door hatchback and 4 door or 4 door hatchback models. Optionally equipped models are base models which have been equipped with the options listed in parenthesis.

^{4/} Cimarron not sold until May 21, 1981.

^{5/} Dodge 400 has replaced the Diplomat; Stanza has replaced the 510; Sentra has replaced the 210.

Source: Compiled from data supplied by U.S. manufacturers, Japanese importers, and Automotive News.

Note: Some 1981 models have been discontinued, thus some 1981 models have been replaced by comparable 1982 models.

UNITED STATES
INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20436

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Postage And Fees Paid
U.S. International Trade Commission



ADDRESS CHANGE

- Remove from List
 - Change as Shown
- Please detach address label and mail to address shown above.