

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**

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CONTENTS

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-----	7
8. New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market, during September 1982-----	7
9. Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-October 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		
	August 1982	September 1982	Oct. 1981- Sept. 1982	September 1981	Oct. 1980- Sept. 1981	
Retail sales of domestic production:						
Subcompact-----	131	159	1,634	146	1,739	
Compact-----	69	73	1,050	115	1,640	
Intermediate-----	118	145	1,618	149	1,885	
Standard-----	66	79	898	81	955	
Luxury-----	25	33	344	28	332	
Total-----	409	488	5,543	519	6,590	
Production:						
Subcompact-----	108	124	1,677	167	1,886	
Compact-----	68	68	958	68	1,805	
Intermediate-----	92	104	1,476	111	1,700	
Standard-----	61	63	660	74	897	
Luxury-----	21	36	348	33	358	
Total-----	350	394	5,119	453	6,646	
Inventory:						
Subcompact-----	391	369	1/	380	1/	
Compact-----	323	345	1/	462	1/	
Intermediate-----	428	413	1/	400	1/	
Standard-----	149	169	1/	162	1/	
Luxury-----	98	83	1/	82	1/	
Total-----	1,377	1,379	1/	1,486	1/	
Days' supply: <u>2/</u>						
Subcompact-----	122	111	1/	73	1/	
Compact-----	82	91	1/	73	1/	
Intermediate-----	101	98	1/	63	1/	
Standard-----	59	72	1/	47	1/	
Luxury-----	92	87	1/	69	1/	
Total-----	83	88	1/	64	1/	
Employment: <u>3/</u>						
Total employees-----	<u>4/</u> 706	<u>5/</u> 663	1/	<u>6/</u> 691	1/	
Production workers--	<u>4/</u> 522	<u>5/</u> 482	1/	<u>6/</u> 500	1/	
Layoffs <u>7/</u> -----	217	232	1/	158	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 July 1982.

5/ Data are for August 1982.

6/ Data are for August 1981.

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

1

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	
	July 1982	Aug. 1982	Sept. 1981- Aug. 1982	Aug. 1981	Sept. 1980- Aug. 1981
	Quantity (units)				
Japan-----	159,684	176,618	1,778,240	183,950	2,015,551
Canada-----	44,097	47,732	683,166	33,783	580,160
West Germany-----	23,563	20,411	264,829	17,727	253,790
Sweden-----	8,105	5,816	87,238	4,049	64,217
Italy-----	493	487	12,963	1,960	24,045
United Kingdom-----	1,309	542	16,270	295	12,693
France-----	3,971	1,685	46,690	3,001	45,454
All other-----	2	5	2,096	54	688
Total-----	241,224	253,296	2,891,492	244,819	2,996,598
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	849,921	941,824	9,417,475	897,442	9,437,075
Canada-----	359,326	447,247	5,537,790	254,543	4,134,455
West Germany-----	277,649	260,914	3,115,338	177,564	2,642,608
Sweden-----	72,916	54,258	794,868	34,574	514,252
Italy-----	5,921	5,189	137,822	13,916	184,582
United Kingdom-----	32,488	15,024	366,302	8,049	192,086
France-----	24,659	12,915	291,848	18,008	303,887
All other-----	38	42	38,639	532	9,978
Total-----	1,622,918	1,737,413	19,700,082	1,404,628	17,418,923

1/ Data include imports into Puerto Rico; data for January-August 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-August 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		
	July	Aug.	Sept. 1981-	Aug.	Sept. 1980-	
	1982	1982	Aug. 1982	1981	Aug. 1981	
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>					
Japan-----	29,422	30,597	422,087	41,992	446,600	
Canada-----	15,856	19,512	279,282	15,339	229,924	
All other-----	215	18	1,176	668	4,183	
Total-----	45,493	50,127	702,545	57,999	680,707	
	Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan-----	126,235	129,355	1,763,521	171,348	1,742,265	
Canada-----	119,223	162,559	2,174,915	116,862	1,452,638	
All other-----	3,980	324	12,457	11,923	61,997	
Total-----	249,438	292,238	3,950,893	300,133	3,256,900	

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

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	
	July	Aug.	Sept. 1981-	Aug.	Sept. 1980-
	1982	1982	Aug. 1982	1981	Aug. 1981
	Quantity (units)				
Canada-----	32,094	18,297	351,782	28,933	524,168
Saudi Arabia-----	198	747	13,536	241	13,358
Kuwait-----	77	553	6,475	216	11,293
Japan-----	154	103	3,284	75	5,087
West Germany-----	223	201	2,416	237	4,399
Belgium-----	26	11	605	80	3,152
Venezuela-----	302	258	4,145	569	8,462
Switzerland-----	30	72	666	19	2,427
All other-----	1,321	1,206	22,328	1,807	37,973
Total-----	34,425	21,448	405,237	32,177	610,319
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	213,853	128,268	2,472,458	182,076	3,381,274
Saudi Arabia-----	2,300	9,981	179,084	3,127	147,040
Kuwait-----	1,053	6,794	79,624	2,549	110,120
Japan-----	2,054	1,236	44,954	1,105	51,534
West Germany-----	2,398	1,921	24,027	2,243	38,393
Belgium-----	297	111	6,166	668	23,778
Venezuela-----	3,246	2,664	42,089	5,241	75,195
Switzerland-----	382	869	44,831	210	20,021
All other-----	13,656	11,632	187,498	17,177	324,492
Total-----	239,239	163,476	3,080,731	214,396	4,171,847

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	
	July 1982	Aug. 1982	Sept. 1981- Aug. 1982	Aug. 1981	Sept. 1980- Aug. 1981
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada-----	4,275	2,591	54,291	2,516	69,491
Saudi Arabia-----	974	901	17,218	893	25,548
Argentina-----	-	5	53	2	5,775
Kuwait-----	232	437	3,199	67	4,176
Ecuador-----	41	138	1,250	391	3,716
Venezuela-----	206	113	2,183	177	4,299
Mexico-----	29	9	1,842	300	4,204
Colombia-----	104	19	643	47	4,341
All other-----	924	1,310	15,990	2,404	26,966
Total-----	6,785	5,523	96,669	6,797	148,516
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	29,216	16,746	363,099	17,554	584,403
Saudi Arabia-----	11,576	11,116	198,478	7,855	201,654
Argentina-----	-	48	454	15	37,346
Kuwait-----	2,835	5,008	32,759	483	29,940
Ecuador-----	413	1,238	10,902	3,048	30,192
Venezuela-----	2,399	1,147	21,732	1,540	41,682
Mexico-----	138	51	14,732	1,958	30,656
Colombia-----	975	166	6,062	380	38,559
All other-----	8,910	12,653	155,606	20,838	239,302
Total-----	56,462	48,173	803,824	53,671	1,233,734

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

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			1982
								—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	
Sept-----	448,452	518,522	182,599	167,691	671,051	686,213	27.2	24.4	
Jan.-									
Sept-----	4,263,195	4,925,030	1,679,495	1,846,795	5,942,690	6,771,825	28.3	27.3	

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		
	July 1982	August 1982	Percent change	August 1981	August 1982	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted-----	198.6	198.7	+0.1	191.9	198.7	+3.5
Seasonally adjusted-----	198.8	199.7	+0.5	193.4	199.7	+3.3
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted-----	215.0	216.2	+0.6	205.3	216.2	+5.3
Seasonally adjusted-----	215.4	220.6	+2.4	209.1	220.6	+5.5

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

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

Source and size category	Retail price changes in :	
	dollars, September 1982 : (+ or -)	Percent change
U.S. producers:		
General Motors <u>1</u> /-----	+212	+1.9
Ford <u>1</u> /-----	+39	+0.4
Chrysler <u>1</u> /-----	+3	no change
European Economic Community producers:		
Subcompact-----	No change	-
Compact-----	No change	-
Luxury-----	+612 to + 1,614	Not available
Japanese producers <u>2</u> /-----	No change	-

1/ Nonweighted average price changes including optional equipment for entire 1983 model line.

2/ Most Japanese models will not be introduced until late October; Japanese model price changes will be included in the November report.

Source: Automotive News, September 1982.

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

Company, model, and options 2/	April 1, 1981		Oct. 1, 1982		Percent change in	
	Base	Option-ally	Base	Option-ally	optionally equipped	model
	model 3/	: equipped	model 3/	: equipped	Sept. 1982- Oct. 1982	: Apr. 1981- Oct. 1982
		: model 3/		: model 3/		
General Motors:						
Chevette, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	5,155	: 5,405	: 5,513	: 5,801	: +0.4	: +7.3
Citation, 4 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, AT)-----	6,404	: 7,014	: 6,899	: 7,602	: +0.6	: +8.4
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)-----	4/ 12,131	: 4/ 12,501	: 12,215	: 12,620	: +0.5	: +1.0
Ford:						
Escort, L, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, RS)-----	5,556	: 5,857	: 5,639	: 6,013	: -6.1	: +2.7
Fairmont Futura, 4 door (RWD, TG,)-----	6,421	: 6,953	: 6,590	: 7,269	: +3.2	: +4.5
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, AC, R)-----	8,519	: 10,102	: 10,094	: 11,973	: +8.6	: +18.5
Chrysler: 5/						
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) 6/-----	6,672	: 7,502	: 8,043	: 8,844	: 0	: +17.9
Toyota: 7/						
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): 7/						
Sentra, Deluxe 2 door (R) 6/-----	5,369	: 5,494	: 5,879	: 5,959	: 0	: +8.5
Stanzaxe, 4 door (R, AT) 6/-----	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: 7/						
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: 7/						
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/ Chrysler suggested retail price changes not available.