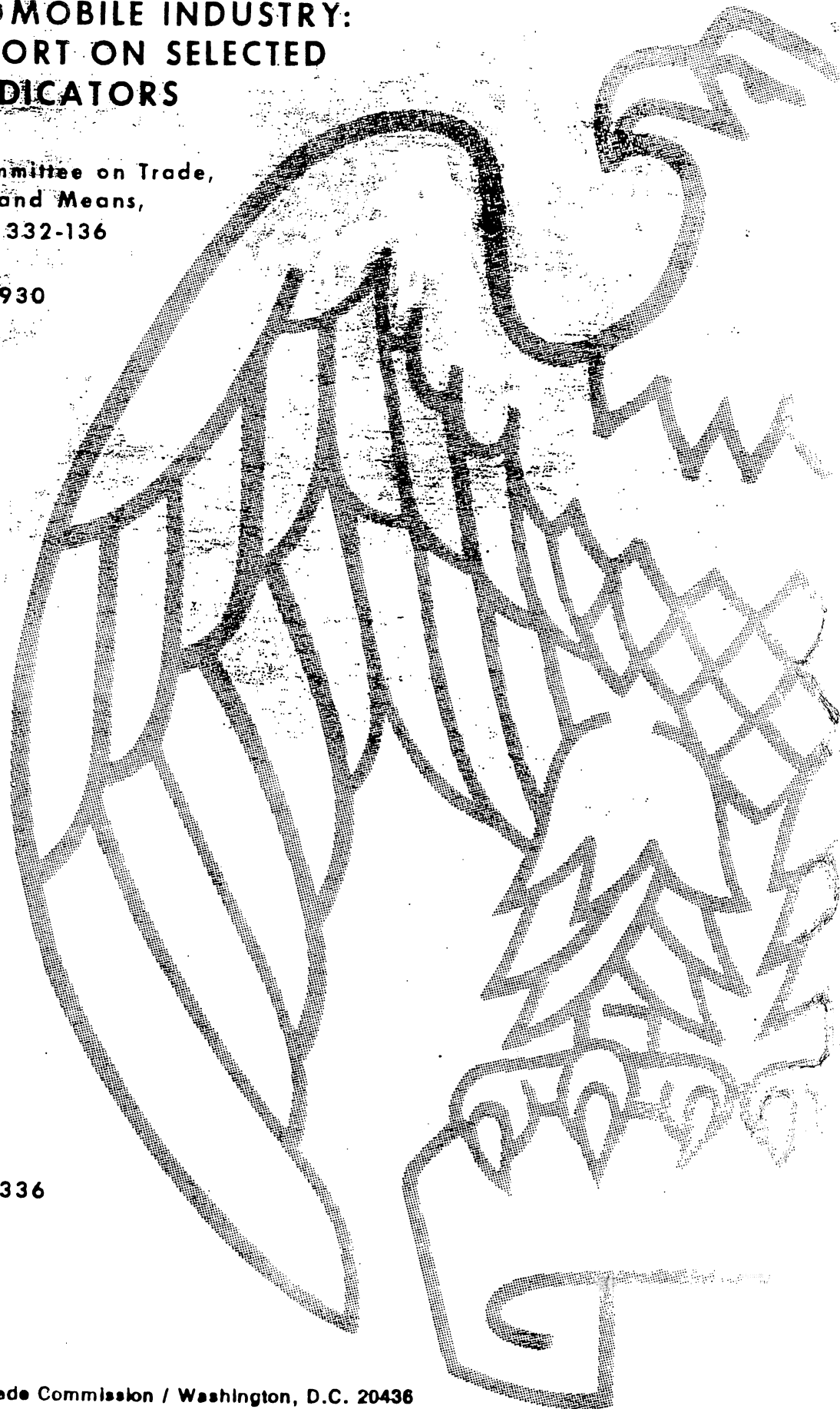


# THE U.S. AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY: MONTHLY REPORT ON SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

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



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

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)						
Item	1982			1981		
	Nov. 1982	Dec. 1982	Jan. 1982- Dec. 1982	Dec. 1981	Jan. 1981- Dec. 1981	
Retail sales of domestic production:						
Subcompact	167	133	1,739	84	1,561	
Compact	97	82	1,104	79	1,523	
Intermediate	167	126	1,618	103	1,742	
Standard	88	72	928	65	952	
Luxury	39	34	367	26	328	
Total	558	448	5,757	358	6,206	
Production:						
Subcompact	119	130	1,607	97	1,851	
Compact	82	67	919	66	1,589	
Intermediate	103	91	1,349	112	1,606	
Standard	63	55	681	42	830	
Luxury	35	30	367	22	350	
Total	402	373	4,923	338	6,227	
Inventory:						
Subcompact	257	230	1/	456	1/	
Compact	305	280	1/	358	1/	
Intermediate	463	402	1/	421	1/	
Standard	190	177	1/	169	1/	
Luxury	81	75	1/	87	1/	
Total	1,296	1,164	1/	1,490	1/	
Days' supply: <sup>2/</sup>						
Subcompact	100	79	1/	117	1/	
Compact	88	55	1/	76	1/	
Intermediate	67	55	1/	84	1/	
Standard	65	59	1/	69	1/	
Luxury	64	44	1/	58	1/	
Total	69	52	1/	83	1/	
Employment: <sup>3/</sup>						
Total employees	4/ 673	5/ 649	1/	6/ 704	1/	
Production workers	4/ 490	5/ 470	1/	6/ 522	1/	
Layoffs <sup>7/</sup>	255	269	1/	213	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 October 1982.

5/ Data are for November 1982.

6/ Data are for November 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; 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	
	Oct. 1982	Nov. 1982	Dec. 1981- Nov. 1982	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980- Nov. 1981
	Quantity (units)				
Japan-----	162,989	131,125	1,803,227	120,920	1,905,097
Canada-----	49,542	56,807	697,995	58,911	561,466
West Germany-----	20,943	18,485	273,453	19,453	235,251
Sweden-----	8,327	4,627	86,454	5,784	68,230
Italy-----	42	127	11,567	1,120	21,406
United Kingdom-----	1,150	1,004	14,755	1,542	14,491
France-----	2,680	4,487	48,406	2,462	45,217
All other-----	9	562	1,797	503	1,561
Total-----	245,682	217,224	2,937,654	210,695	2,852,719
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	899,365	683,141	9,614,134	642,112	9,201,159
Canada-----	440,839	473,439	5,742,915	485,863	4,155,431
West Germany-----	260,513	241,627	3,260,996	231,199	2,563,939
Sweden-----	80,397	45,382	800,711	51,788	561,558
Italy-----	672	1,694	119,466	10,666	172,947
United Kingdom-----	28,920	27,749	358,176	32,275	241,848
France-----	17,188	35,040	311,907	15,514	298,344
All other-----	109	5,387	28,641	8,858	25,502
Total-----	1,728,003	1,513,459	20,236,946	1,478,275	17,220,728

1/ Data include imports into Puerto Rico; data for 1981-82 do not include automobiles assembled in Foreign Trade zones.

2/ January-November 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	
	Oct. 1982	Nov. 1982	Dec. 1981- Nov. 1982	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980- Nov. 1981
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Japan-----	25,726	16,718	378,587	30,266	441,293
Canada-----	19,749	16,332	268,370	29,096	230,762
All other-----	191	197	1,817	4	3,792
Total-----	45,666	33,247	648,774	59,366	675,847
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	103,735	64,085	1,586,856	124,205	1,779,762
Canada-----	164,980	135,512	2,128,771	225,899	1,550,311
All other-----	3,766	1,686	22,733	185	39,270
Total-----	272,481	201,283	3,738,360	350,289	3,369,343

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	
	Oct. 1982	Nov. 1982	Nov. 1981- Dec. 1982	Nov. 1981	Nov. 1980- Dec. 1981
	Quantity (units)				
Canada-----	23,402	23,657	335,485	24,800	485,157
Saudi Arabia-----	1,775	1,318	12,180	1,393	13,592
Kuwait-----	749	632	5,553	866	10,578
Japan-----	191	466	3,327	138	4,560
West Germany-----	167	214	2,594	134	3,784
Belgium-----	135	48	566	82	2,831
Venezuela-----	207	254	3,577	464	8,868
Switzerland-----	8	12	657	13	1,940
All other-----	996	1,162	19,425	2,168	34,119
Total-----	27,630	27,763	383,364	30,058	565,429
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	168,910	176,889	2,359,519	183,700	3,182,568
Saudi Arabia-----	26,078	18,633	166,395	19,618	162,556
Kuwait-----	9,945	7,719	69,623	10,029	110,150
Japan-----	2,825	6,516	46,164	1,860	48,648
West Germany-----	1,839	2,081	26,009	1,490	34,212
Belgium-----	1,145	441	5,601	931	22,085
Venezuela-----	2,262	3,032	38,440	4,528	79,563
Switzerland-----	117	150	44,815	169	15,966
All other-----	11,132	15,156	166,061	20,994	302,987
Total-----	224,253	230,617	2,922,627	243,319	3,958,735

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	
	Oct. 1982	Nov. 1982	Nov. 1981- Dec. 1982	Nov. 1981	Nov. 1980- Dec. 1981
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada-----	3,925	4,158	55,563	3,423	71,141
Saudi Arabia-----	2,166	1,985	16,394	1,441	23,869
Argentina-----	-	-	17	4	3,490
Kuwait-----	358	393	3,369	139	3,759
Ecuador-----	15	18	1,070	109	2,889
Venezuela-----	232	24	2,020	243	3,646
Mexico-----	5	5	1,051	418	4,062
Colombia-----	66	56	535	71	3,893
All other-----	1,063	997	14,999	1,291	25,228
Total-----	7,830	7,636	95,018	7,139	141,977
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	27,875	29,583	369,192	23,753	598,897
Saudi Arabia-----	28,536	25,605	206,296	14,279	202,432
Argentina-----	-	-	187	42	23,328
Kuwait-----	4,561	4,890	37,585	1,292	28,715
Ecuador-----	157	299	9,718	879	23,911
Venezuela-----	2,972	274	21,321	2,013	36,945
Mexico-----	23	79	7,874	3,816	30,459
Colombia-----	1,148	527	5,310	621	35,306
All other-----	10,638	10,620	147,756	13,345	231,177
Total-----	75,910	71,877	805,239	60,040	1,211,170

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

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
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
Oct-----	487,871	491,107	168,379	157,077	656,250	648,184	25.7	24.4
Jan.-Oct--	4,751,066	5,416,137	1,847,874	2,003,872	6,598,940	7,420,009	28.0	27.0
November--	558,146	431,726	183,544	152,264	741,690	583,990	24.7	26.1
Jan.-Nov--	5,309,212	5,847,863	2,031,418	2,156,136	7,340,630	8,003,999	27.7	26.9
December--	448,048	357,580	183,827	165,236	631,875	522,816	29.1	31.6
Jan.-								
Dec.-----	5,757,260	6,205,443	2,215,245	2,321,372	7,972,505	8,526,815	27.8	27.2

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		
	Oct. 1982	Nov. 1982	Percent change	Nov. 1981	Nov. 1982	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted-----	197.7	199.0	+0.7	195.3	199.0	+1.9
Seasonally adjusted-----	199.3	198.4	-0.5	194.5	198.4	+2.0
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted-----	219.6	218.4	-0.5	214.2	218.4	+2.0
Seasonally adjusted-----	215.1	215.6	+0.2	211.5	215.6	+1.9

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

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

Source and size category	Retail price changes in dollars, December 1982 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors-----	No change
Ford-----	No change
Chrysler-----	No change
European Economic Community pro- ducers:	
Subcompact-----	No change
Compact-----	No change
Luxury-----	No change
Japanese producers:	
Subcompact-----	+100 to +260
Compact-----	No change
Luxury-----	+300

Source: Automotive News, December 1982.

Table 9.---Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-January 1983 1/

Company, model, and options 2/	April 1, 1981		Jan. 1, 1983		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model 3/	Optionally equipped model 3/	Base model 3/	Optionally equipped model 3/	Dec. 1982-Jan. 1983	Apr. 1981-Jan. 1983
<b>General Motors:</b>						
Chevette, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)	5,155	5,405	5,469	5,801	0	+7.3
Citation, 4 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, AT)	6,404	7,014	6,934	7,602	0	+8.4
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)	12,131	12,501	12,215	12,535	0	+0.3
<b>Ford:</b>						
Escort, L, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, RS)	5,556	5,857	5,639	6,013	0	+2.7
Fairmont Futura, 4 door (RWD, TG)	6,421	6,953	6,590	7,269	0	+4.5
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, AC, R)	8,519	10,102	10,094	11,973	0	+18.5
<b>Chrysler: 5/</b>						
Plymouth Turismo, 2 door HB (RWD)	5,938	6,188	6,379	6,506	-1.9	+5.1
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, TG, R, AT)	5,980	6,680	6,718	7,477	+0.2	+12.9
Dodge 400, 2 door (RWD, AC) 5/	6,672	7,502	8,014	8,883	0	+18.4
<b>Toyota:</b>						
Corolla, Deluxe, 2 door (R)	5,688	5,793	6,018	6,268	+0.4	+8.2
Cressida, 4 door	11,599	11,599	13,569	13,569	10.8	+17.0
<b>Nissan (Datsum):</b>						
Sentra, Deluxe 2 door 6/	5,369	5,494	5,999	5,999	+0.7	+9.2
Stanza, 4 door (R, AT) 6/	6,839	7,749	8,569	8,919	+5.9	+15.1
Maxima, 4 door	10,379	10,379	10,869	10,869	-1.6	+4.7
<b>Honda:</b>						
Civic, 1300, 2 door HB (R)	4,599	4,694	4,899	4,993	+1.9	+6.4
Accord, 4 door (R, AT)	7,645	7,950	8,345	8,739	+4.9	+9.9
<b>Mazda:</b>						
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.

6/ Sentra replaced the 210; Stanza replaced the 510.

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

Note: Some 1981 and 1982 models have been discontinued, thus some 1981 and 1982 models have been replaced by comparable 1983 models.

