

1983 no. 1438

Cap. 2

# 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. 332-152  
Under Section 332  
of the Tariff Act of 1930



USITC PUBLICATION 1438

OCTOBER 1983

United States International Trade Commission / Washington, D.C. 20436

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# 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, 1981, 1982, and 1983-----	1
2. New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources and specified periods, 1981, 1982, and 1983-----	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, 1981, 1982, and 1983-----	3
4. New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and specified periods, 1981, 1982, and 1983----	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, 1981, 1982, and 1983----	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, 1982 and 1983-----	6
7. New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1982 and 1983-----	6
8. New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market, during September 1983-----	7
9. Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-October 1983-----	8

Pub. # 1438

Table 1.--New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, 1981, 1982, and 1983

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	August 1983	September 1983	Oct. 1982- Sept. 1983	September 1982	Oct. 1981- Sept. 1982
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact-----	147	147	1,911	159	1,634
Compact-----	71	71	962	73	1,050
Intermediate-----	190	197	2,079	145	1,618
Standard-----	89	87	1,099	79	898
Luxury-----	35	36	423	33	344
Total-----	531	538	6,474	488	5,543
Production:					
Subcompact-----	168	193	1,930	124	1,677
Compact-----	66	110	907	68	958
Intermediate-----	170	198	2,025	104	1,476
Standard-----	77	95	917	63	660
Luxury-----	29	36	425	36	348
Total-----	510	632	6,206	394	5,119
Inventory:					
Subcompact-----	164	186	1/	369	1/
Compact-----	246	243	1/	345	1/
Intermediate-----	430	436	1/	413	1/
Standard-----	175	105	1/	169	1/
Luxury-----	87	116	1/	83	1/
Total-----	1,102	1,086	1/	1,379	1/
Days' supply: 2/					
Subcompact-----	49	77	1/	111	1/
Compact-----	52	79	1/	91	1/
Intermediate-----	55	54	1/	98	1/
Standard-----	50	55	1/	72	1/
Luxury-----	56	57	1/	87	1/
Total-----	48	55	1/	88	1/
Employment: 3/					
Total employees-----	4/ 770	5/ 763	1/	6/ 663	1/
Production workers---	4/ 578	5/ 568	1/	6/ 482	1/
Layoffs 7/-----	186	133	1/	236	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 1983, revised.

5/ Data are for August 1983.

6/ Data are for August 1982, revised.

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, 1981, 1982, and 1983 <sup>1/</sup> <sub>2/</sub>

Source	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	July 1983	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1982- Aug 1983	Aug. 1982	Sept. 1981- Aug. 1982
	Quantity (units)				
Japan-----	160,055	161,362	1,828,541	176,618	1,778,240
Canada-----	56,040	44,284	766,982	47,732	683,201
West Germany-----	22,985	22,033	214,770	20,411	264,829
Sweden-----	8,653	3,803	98,344	5,816	87,238
Italy-----	302	672	3,369	487	12,963
United Kingdom-----	1,611	787	15,628	542	16,270
France-----	2,296	1,549	47,807	1,685	46,690
All other-----	805	475	6,513	5	2,095
Total-----	252,747	234,965	2,981,954	253,296	2,891,526
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	901,153	932,044	10,121,186	941,824	9,417,476
Canada-----	477,078	347,415	6,573,876	447,247	5,537,791
West Germany-----	300,542	313,554	3,088,456	260,914	3,130,839
Sweden-----	85,766	37,343	969,913	54,258	794,868
Italy-----	3,660	8,476	47,639	5,189	137,823
United Kingdom-----	39,077	19,248	371,109	15,024	366,302
France-----	17,430	12,849	332,985	12,915	291,849
All other-----	7,826	4,018	49,643	42	38,637
Total-----	1,832,532	1,674,947	21,554,807	1,737,413	19,715,585

<sup>1/</sup> Data include imports into Puerto Rico; data do not include automobiles assembled in Foreign Trade zones.

<sup>2/</sup> 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 <sup>1/</sup> and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources and specified periods, 1981, 1982, and 1983 <sup>2/</sup>

Source	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	July 1983	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1982- Aug. 1983	Aug. 1982	Sept. 1981- Aug. 1982
	Quantity (units) <sup>3/</sup>				
Japan-----	37,507	42,380	359,260	30,597	422,087
Canada-----	16,942	17,240	234,220	19,512	279,282
All other-----	82	42	2,683	18	1,176
Total-----	54,531	59,662	596,163	50,127	702,545
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	150,324	172,597	1,457,057	129,355	1,763,521
Canada-----	138,001	170,460	1,961,346	162,559	2,174,915
All other-----	1,574	386	40,855	324	12,457
Total-----	289,899	343,443	3,459,258	292,238	3,950,893

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

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

<sup>3/</sup> 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, 1981, 1982, and 1983

Market	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	July 1983	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1982- Aug. 1983	Aug. 1982	Sept. 1981- Aug. 1982
	Quantity (units)				
Canada-----	32,671	30,570	434,649	18,297	351,782
Saudi Arabia-----	455	262	9,788	747	13,536
Kuwait-----	106	246	3,345	553	6,475
Japan-----	120	133	2,266	103	3,284
West Germany-----	248	151	2,540	201	2,416
Venezuela-----	15	9	1,226	258	4,145
All other-----	720	594	11,453	1,289	23,599
Total-----	34,335	31,965	465,267	21,448	405,237
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	232,533	220,719	3,153,489	128,268	2,472,488
Saudi Arabia-----	5,652	2,964	134,431	9,981	179,084
Kuwait-----	1,698	3,236	43,668	6,794	79,624
Japan-----	1,675	1,625	29,999	1,236	44,954
West Germany-----	2,481	1,657	25,874	1,921	24,026
Venezuela-----	114	63	13,429	2,664	42,090
All other-----	7,966	6,652	130,387	12,612	238,465
Total-----	252,119	236,916	3,531,277	163,476	3,080,731

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, 1981, 1982, and 1983 2/

Market	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	July 1983	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1982- Aug. 1983	Aug. 1982	Sept. 1981- Aug. 1982
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada-----	5,444	6,050	70,228	2,591	55,191
Saudi Arabia-----	2,307	1,709	17,763	901	17,218
Kuwait-----	255	177	2,050	437	3,199
Venezuela-----	3	2	602	113	2,183
All other-----	762	921	10,555	1,481	19,778
Total-----	8,771	8,859	101,198	5,523	97,569
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	41,733	46,303	516,973	16,746	363,099
Saudi Arabia-----	29,753	18,856	225,723	11,116	198,478
Kuwait-----	2,722	2,399	24,050	5,008	32,759
Venezuela-----	20	11	7,157	1,147	21,732
All other-----	8,059	9,262	109,902	14,156	187,756
Total-----	82,287	76,831	883,805	48,173	803,824

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, 1982 and 1983

Period	Sales of--				Total U.S. sales		Ratio of import sales to total sales	
	Domestic automobiles 1/		Imported automobiles 2/		1983	1982	1983	1982
	1983	1982	1983	1982				
								--Percent--
January----	412,893	368,138	182,853	166,172	595,746	534,310	30.7	31.1
February----	442,479	456,942	186,374	175,261	628,853	632,203	29.6	27.7
Jan.-Feb----	855,372	825,080	369,227	341,433	1,224,599	1,166,513	30.2	29.3
March-----	600,303	575,608	220,479	200,741	820,782	776,349	26.9	25.9
Jan.-Mar----	1,455,675	1,400,688	589,706	542,174	2,044,538	1,942,862	28.8	27.9
April-----	579,991	488,630	183,464	169,833	763,455	668,463	24.0	25.4
Jan.-Apr----	2,035,666	1,899,318	773,170	712,007	2,808,993	2,611,325	27.5	27.2
May-----	630,044	584,676	206,457	187,091	836,501	771,767	24.7	24.2
Jan.-May----	2,665,710	2,483,994	979,627	899,098	3,645,494	3,383,092	26.9	26.6
June-----	688,145	451,430	235,282	199,093	903,427	650,523	26.0	30.6
Jan.-								
June-----	3,333,855	2,935,424	1,214,909	1,098,191	4,548,764	4,033,615	26.7	27.2
July-----	576,864	429,908	214,356	199,364	791,220	629,272	27.1	31.7
Jan.-								
July-----	3,910,719	3,365,332	1,429,265	1,297,555	5,339,984	4,662,887	26.8	27.8
August-----	530,960	409,411	209,113	199,341	740,073	608,752	28.3	32.7
Jan.-								
August-----	4,441,679	3,774,743	1,638,378	1,496,896	6,080,057	5,271,639	26.9	28.4
Sept.-----	538,307	488,452	166,163	182,599	704,470	671,051	23.6	27.2
Jan.-								
Sept.-----	4,979,986	4,263,195	1,804,541	1,679,495	6,784,527	5,942,690	26.6	28.3

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, 1982 and 1983

(1967 = 100)

Item	1983			1982 and 1983		
	July 1983	August 1983	Percent change	August 1982	August 1983	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted----	201.4	202.1	+0.3	198.7	202.1	+1.7
Seasonally adjusted----	200.8	202.5	+0.8	199.7	202.5	+1.4
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted----	217.5	218.4	+0.4	216.2	218.4	+1.0
Seasonally adjusted----	217.5	220.4	+1.3	220.6	220.4	-0.1

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 8.--New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market, during September 1983

Source and size category	Retail price changes in dollars, September 1983 (+ or -)	Percent change
U.S. producers:		
General Motors <u>1/</u> -----	+232	+2.0
Ford <u>1/</u> -----	+254	+2.3
Chrysler <u>1/</u> -----	+191	+1.9
European Economic Community producers: <u>2/</u>		
Subcompact-----	No change	-
Compact-----	-495 to -565	N/A
Luxury-----	+170 to -1,668	N/A
Japanese producers: <u>2/</u>		
Subcompact-----	+200 to +650	N/A
Compact-----	+430 to +626	N/A
Luxury-----	No change	-

1/ Nonweighted average price changes including optional equipment for entire 1984 model line (adjusted to reflect equipment additions or deletions).

2/ Many Japanese and European models will not be introduced until late October or November.

Source: Automotive News, September 1983.

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

Company, model, and options 2/	April 1, 1981		October 1, 1983		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model 3/	Option-ally equipped model 3/	Base model 3/	Option-ally equipped model 3/	September 1983-October 1983	April 1981-October 1983
<b>General Motors:</b>						
Chevette, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	5,155	5,405	5,469	5,779	0	+6.9
Citation, 4 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, AT)----	6,404	7,014	7,046	7,821	+1.6	+11.5
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)-----4/	12,131	12,501	12,215	12,535	0	+0.3
<b>Ford:</b>						
Escort, L, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	5,556	5,857	5,629	5,949	-1.1	+1.6
Tempo, GL, 4 door (RWD, TG) 5/-----	6,421	6,953	7,557	7,807	+7.4	+12.3
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, AC, R)-----	8,519	10,102	11,434	12,539	+4.4	+24.1
<b>Chrysler:</b>						
Plymouth Turismo, 2 door HB (RWD)-----	5,938	6,188	6,494	6,626	+1.8	+7.1
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, TG, R, AT)-----	5,980	6,680	6,949	7,754	+3.7	+16.1
Dodge 600, 2 door (RWD, AC) 6/-----	6,672	7,502	8,376	9,256	+4.2	+23.4
<b>Toyota:</b>						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)-----	5,688	5,793	6,498	6,758	+7.8	+16.7
Cressida, 4 door-----	11,599	11,599	14,195	14,195	+4.6	+22.4
<b>Missan (Datsun):</b>						
Sentra, Deluxe 2 door 7/-----	5,369	5,494	6,099	6,099	0	+10.0
Stanza, XE 4 door (AT) 7/-----	6,839	7,749	8,669	9,019	0	+16.4
Maxima, 4 door-----	10,379	10,379	11,399	11,399	+3.9	+9.8
<b>Honda:</b>						
Civic, 1300, 2-door HB (R)-----	4,599	4,694	5,249	5,343	+7.0	+13.8
Accord, 4 door (R, AT)-----	7,645	7,950	8,549	9,042	+3.5	+13.7
<b>Mazda:</b>						
GLC Custom, 2 door HB (R)-----	5,495	5,650	5,895	6,055	+3.5	+7.2

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.

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/ Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

6/ Dodge 600 has replaced the Diplomat.

7/ 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, 1982, and 1983 models were discontinued; these models were replaced by comparable 1984 models. In addition, some equipment that was optional on prior models is now included in the base price, making price comparisons of prior-year models difficult.