

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

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Committee on Ways and Means,
on Investigation No. 332-152
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of the Tariff Act of 1930**



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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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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, 1982, and 1983

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	September: 1983	October 1983	Nov. 1982- Oct. 1983	October 1982	Nov. 1981- Oct. 1982
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact-----	147	192	1,974	130	1,635
Compact-----	71	85	951	86	1,114
Intermediate-----	197	231	2,170	152	1,539
Standard-----	87	113	1,128	84	904
Luxury-----	36	43	429	36	348
Total-----	538	664	6,652	488	5,540
Production:					
Subcompact-----	193	230	1,887	116	1,617
Compact-----	110	104	1,067	88	939
Intermediate-----	198	217	2,106	118	1,444
Standard-----	95	97	949	66	658
Luxury-----	36	40	432	33	350
Total-----	632	688	6,441	420	5,006
Inventory:					
Subcompact-----	186	205	1/	340	1/
Compact-----	243	267	1/	346	1/
Intermediate-----	436	480	1/	406	1/
Standard-----	105	116	1/	171	1/
Luxury-----	116	128	1/	87	1/
Total-----	1,086	1,196	1/	1,350	1/
Days' supply: 2/					
Subcompact-----	77	73	1/	81	1/
Compact-----	81	75	1/	89	1/
Intermediate-----	54	52	1/	69	1/
Standard-----	55	48	1/	65	1/
Luxury-----	57	53	1/	66	1/
Total-----	55	55	1/	69	1/
Employment: 3/					
Total employees-----	4/ 764	5/ 8,167	1/	6/ 705	1/
Production workers--	4/ 580	5/ 6,231	1/	6/ 520	1/
Layoffs 7/-----	133	123	1/	243	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 August 1983, revised.

5/ Data are for September 1983.

6/ Data are for September 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 1/ 2/

Source	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982- Sept. 1983	Sept. 1982	Oct. 1981- Sept. 1982
	Quantity (units)				
Japan-----	161,362	116,038	1,814,837	129,742	1,795,691
Canada-----	44,284	49,564	755,501	61,045	699,367
West Germany-----	22,033	8,478	212,805	10,443	268,075
Sweden-----	3,803	9,057	105,727	1,674	85,904
Italy-----	672	644	3,614	399	12,674
United Kingdom-----	787	1,044	15,750	922	15,977
France-----	1,549	1,395	47,614	1,588	46,418
All other-----	475	77	6,579	11	1,745
Total-----	234,965	186,297	2,962,427	205,824	2,925,851
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	932,044	661,163	10,116,168	666,181	9,538,625
Canada-----	347,415	419,972	6,459,252	534,596	5,717,627
West Germany-----	313,554	173,800	3,123,403	138,853	3,179,733
Sweden-----	37,343	38,089	991,506	16,496	785,682
Italy-----	8,476	7,694	51,643	3,690	132,093
United Kingdom-----	19,248	25,417	374,109	22,417	366,197
France-----	12,849	13,333	334,247	12,071	291,760
All other-----	4,018	573	50,066	150	32,430
Total-----	1,674,947	1,340,041	21,500,394	1,394,454	20,044,147

1/ Data include imports into Puerto Rico; data do not include automobiles assembled in Foreign Trade Zones.

2/ 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, 1981, 1982, and 1983 2/

Source	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982- Sept. 1983	Sept. 1982	Oct. 1981- Sept. 1982
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Japan-----	42,380	23,548	357,766	25,042	412,522
Canada-----	17,240	25,391	236,449	23,162	281,454
All other-----	42	3	2,421	265	1,433
Total-----	59,662	48,942	596,636	48,469	695,409
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	172,597	92,511	1,443,327	106,241	1,734,365
Canada-----	170,460	212,362	1,988,589	185,119	2,209,763
All other-----	386	203	35,834	5,224	17,476
Total-----	343,443	305,076	3,467,750	296,584	3,961,604

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, 1981, 1982, and 1983

Market	1982 and 1983			1981 and 1982	
	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982- Sept. 1983	Sept. 1982	Oct. 1981- Sept. 1982
	Quantity (units)				
Canada-----	30,570	41,780	452,917	23,512	341,284
Saudi Arabia-----	262	2,950	11,895	843	12,922
Kuwait-----	246	327	3,372	300	6,115
Japan-----	133	46	2,258	54	3,233
West Germany-----	151	234	2,478	296	2,510
Venezuela-----	9	19	879	366	4,025
All other-----	594	790	11,243	1,000	23,125
Total-----	31,965	46,146	485,042	26,371	393,214
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	220,719	322,680	3,301,915	174,254	2,401,069
Saudi Arabia-----	2,964	36,728	159,153	12,006	173,976
Kuwait-----	3,236	3,820	43,488	4,000	75,854
Japan-----	1,625	577	29,839	737	44,167
West Germany-----	1,657	2,429	25,317	2,986	25,202
Venezuela-----	63	196	9,605	4,020	41,471
All other-----	6,652	8,882	128,267	11,002	235,826
Total-----	236,916	375,312	3,697,584	209,005	2,997,565

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	
	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982- Sept. 1983	Sept. 1982	Oct. 1981- Sept. 1982
	Quantity (units) ^{3/}				
Canada-----	6,050	5,712	72,591	3,349	56,136
Saudi Arabia-----	1,709	1,393	18,819	337	15,558
Kuwait-----	177	117	1,932	235	3,058
Venezuela-----	2	-	456	146	2,121
All other-----	921	509	10,145	919	19,186
Total-----	8,859	7,731	103,943	4,986	96,059
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	46,303	41,941	536,744	22,170	365,803
Saudi Arabia-----	18,856	18,306	239,729	4,300	184,989
Kuwait-----	2,399	1,347	22,511	2,886	32,286
Venezuela-----	11	-	5,644	1,513	21,155
All other-----	9,262	4,433	104,826	9,509	183,900
Total-----	76,831	66,027	909,454	40,378	788,133

^{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
Oct.-----	664,194	487,871	196,124	168,379	860,318	656,250	22.8	25.7
Jan.-	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Oct.-----	5,644,180	4,751,066	2,000,665	1,847,874	7,644,845	6,598,940	26.2	28.0

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		
	August 1983	September 1983	Percent change	September 1982	September 1983	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted-----	202.1	202.7	+0.3	197.7	202.7	+2.5
Seasonally adjusted-----	202.5	204.5	+1.0	199.6	204.5	+2.5
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted-----	218.4	208.0	-0.5	199.9	208.0	+4.1
Seasonally adjusted-----	220.4	215.8	-0.2	207.4	215.8	+4.1

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

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

Source and size category	Retail price changes in dollars, October 1983 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors-----	No change.
Ford-----	No change.
Chrysler-----	No change.
European Economic Community producers:	
Subcompact-----	-650 to +890.
Compact-----	+210 to +565.
Luxury-----	+210 to +2,035.
Japanese producers:	
Subcompact-----	+390 to +650.
Compact-----	No change.
Luxury-----	+600 to +1,200.

Source: Automotive News, October 1983.

Table 9.--Sales and profits (loss) on major U.S. automobile manufacturers' operations, by specified periods, 1982 and 1983 1/

(In millions of dollars)					
Item and firm	1983			1982	
	April- June	July- Sept.	April- June	July- Sept.	
Sales:					
General Motors-----	19,400	17,619	17,100	14,300	
Ford-----	11,730	10,287	10,900	8,050	
Chrysler-----	3,600	2,796	2,860	2,460	
American Motors-----	762	776	667	754	
Total -----	35,492	31,478	31,527	25,564	
Profits:					
General Motors-----	1,040	737	560	129	
Ford-----	542	333	205	(325)	
Chrysler-----	310	100	107	9	
American Motors-----	(79)	(9)	(69)	(31)	
Total -----	1,813	1,168	803	(281)	

1/ Data are for world operations.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 10.--Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-November 1983 1/

Company, model, and options <u>2/</u>	April 1, 1981		November 1, 1983		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base	Option-	Base	Option-	October 1983-	April 1981-
	model <u>3/</u>	ally equipped model <u>3/</u>	model <u>3/</u>	ally equipped model <u>3/</u>	November 1983	November 1983
General Motors:						
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	0	+11.5
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)----- <u>4/</u>	12,131	12,501	12,215	12,535	0	+0.3
Ford:						
Escort, L, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	5,556	5,857	5,629	5,949	0	+1.6
Tempo, GL, 4 door (RWD, TG) <u>5/</u> -----	6,421	6,953	7,557	7,807	0	+12.3
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, AC, R)-----	8,519	10,102	11,434	12,539	0	+24.1
Chrysler:						
Plymouth Turismo, 2 door HB (RWD)-----	5,938	6,188	6,494	6,626	0	+7.1
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, TG, R, AT)-----	5,980	6,680	6,949	7,754	0	+16.1
Dodge 600, 2 door (RWD, AC) <u>6/</u> -----	6,672	7,502	8,376	9,256	0	+23.4
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)-----	5,688	5,793	6,498	6,758	0	+16.7
Cressida, 4 door-----	11,599	11,599	14,195	14,195	0	+22.4
Nissan (Datsun):						
Sentra, Deluxe 2 door <u>7/</u> -----	5,369	5,494	6,349	6,349	+4.1	+15.6
Stanza, GL 4 door (AT) <u>7/</u> -----	6,839	7,749	9,099	9,449	+4.8	+21.9
Maxima, 4 door-----	10,379	10,379	11,399	11,399	0	+9.8
Honda:						
Civic, 1300, 2 door HB (R)-----	4,599	4,694	5,249	5,343	0	+13.8
Accord, 4 door (R, AT)-----	7,645	7,950	8,549	9,042	0	+13.7
Mazda:						
GLC Custom, 2 door HB (R)-----	5,495	5,650	5,895	6,055	0	+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 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.

