

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

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Committee on Ways and Means,
on Investigation No. 332-207
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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, March 1984–February 1986

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)						
Item	1985–86			1984–85		
	Jan. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985–Jan. 1986	Feb. 1985	Mar. 1984–Feb. 1985	
Retail sales of domestic production:						
Subcompact	174	165	2,243	181	2,186	
Compact	119	111	1,483	128	1,379	
Intermediate	221	211	2,650	191	2,445	
Standard	54	58	887	79	1,103	
Luxury	71	72	998	74	1,002	
Total	640	616	8,261	653	8,114	
Production:						
Subcompact	138	140	1,573	116	1,588	
Compact	187	170	2,020	164	1,920	
Intermediate	241	209	3,003	263	2,782	
Standard	54	31	644	65	931	
Luxury	72	67	850	78	809	
Total	692	618	8,090	686	8,030	
Inventory:						
Subcompact	269	294	1/	321	1/	
Compact	358	392	1/	365	1/	
Intermediate	648	671	1/	454	1/	
Standard	188	227	1/	275	1/	
Luxury	167	183	1/	150	1/	
Total	1,630	1,767	1/	1,565	1/	
Days' supply: 2/						
Subcompact	59	66	1/	73	1/	
Compact	66	69	1/	64	1/	
Intermediate	88	71	1/	54	1/	
Standard	84	106	1/	87	1/	
Luxury	62	72	1/	61	1/	
Total	73	72	1/	65	1/	
Employment: 3/						
Total employees	4/ 878	5/ 864	1/	6/ 886	1/	
Production workers	4/ 683	5/ 667	1/	6/ 686	1/	
Layoffs 7/	37	37	1/	51	1/	

1/ Not applicable.

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

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

4/ Data are for December 1985, revised.

5/ Data are for January 1986.

6/ Data are for January 1985, revised.

7/ Layoffs are the number of UAW members on indefinite layoff from U.S. auto plants as of the end of each specified period.

Source: Retail sales and production, Data Resources, Inc. Auto Information Bank; days' supply and 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 by specified periods, February 1984–January 1986 1/

Source	1985–86			1984–85	
	Dec. 1985	Jan. 1986	Feb. 1985– Jan. 1986	Jan. 1985	Feb. 1984– Jan. 1985
Quantity (units)					
Japan	261,286	237,773	2,569,252	196,000	1,977,667
Canada	100,040	89,764	1,152,067	82,467	1,072,350
West Germany	41,884	42,404	454,355	61,159	346,945
Sweden	12,909	13,249	139,121	16,768	120,217
Italy	694	1,320	9,212	892	9,006
United Kingdom	1,484	2,499	25,437	1,509	20,014
France	1,507	1,106	20,090	21,130	56,081
Mexico	2,976	4,136	17,023	760	6,777
Yugoslavia	5,815	2,490	9,881	—	—
All other	683	450	12,260	716	15,241
Total	429,278	395,191	4,408,698	381,401	3,624,298
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan	1,722,496	1,671,058	16,708,418	1,138,737	12,454,427
Canada	985,644	881,338	11,268,031	775,314	10,090,682
West Germany	682,466	682,090	6,204,213	699,993	4,648,639
Sweden	154,479	158,736	1,616,004	193,095	1,304,074
Italy	7,557	22,229	131,826	11,617	131,634
United Kingdom	39,319	63,112	618,604	39,714	470,798
France	16,285	11,978	197,553	51,838	337,452
Mexico	16,432	48,280	112,386	4,895	43,728
Yugoslavia	14,538	6,225	24,673	—	—
All other	8,438	5,892	156,792	8,773	88,418
Total	3,647,654	3,550,938	36,039,105	2,923,976	29,569,852

1/ Data include imports into Puerto Rico and TSUSA item 692.1005; data do not include automobiles assembled in Foreign-Trade Zones.

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 by specified periods, February 1964–January 1986 ^{2/}

Source	1985–86			1984–85	
	Dec. : 1985	Jan. : 1986	Feb. 1985– : Jan. 1986	Jan. : 1985	Feb. 1984– : Jan. 1985
	Quantity (units) ^{3/}				
Japan	76,195	97,632	836,032	65,606	588,342
Canada	36,576	23,723	327,872	27,098	351,199
Mexico	3,317	1,261	28,605	19	5,561
All other	16	5	1,950	2,004	3,733
Total	116,104	122,621	1,194,459	94,727	948,835
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan	347,459	448,772	3,620,806	276,199	2,450,060
Canada	240,812	216,541	2,654,805	279,305	2,845,189
Mexico	23,010	9,269	204,355	181	41,698
All other	6,608	7,183	49,291	15,627	31,885
Total	617,889	681,765	6,520,257	571,312	5,368,832

^{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, except as noted.

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 by specified periods, February 1984–January 1986

Market	1985–86			1984–85	
	Dec. 1985	Jan. 1986	Feb. 1985–Jan. 1986	Jan. 1985	Feb. 1984–Jan. 1985
	Quantity (units)				
Canada	39,316	55,342	681,546	49,855	598,370
Japan	93	111	1,171	230	2,102
All other	3,006	1,896	22,268	3,089	25,026
Total	42,415	57,349	704,985	53,174	625,498
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada	345,326	496,337	5,808,164	409,378	4,671,577
Japan	1,581	2,024	17,876	3,268	28,720
All other	38,077	23,652	268,885	34,535	289,998
Total	384,984	522,013	6,094,925	447,181	4,990,295

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 by specified periods, February 1984–January 1986 2/

Market	1985–86			1984–85	
	Dec. 1985	Jan. 1986	Feb. 1985– Jan. 1986	Jan. 1985	Feb. 1984– Jan. 1985
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada	12,746	10,924	140,631	7,866	105,907
All other	1,234	711	10,230	1,001	15,922
Total	13,980	11,635	150,861	8,867	121,829
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada	108,411	101,152	1,193,927	66,797	826,835
All other	16,254	10,064	110,582	11,805	196,096
Total	124,665	111,216	1,304,509	78,602	1,022,931

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, except as noted.

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, 1985 and 1986

Period	Sales of—				Total U.S. sales		Ratio of imported sales to total sales	
	Domestic automobiles 1/		Imported automobiles 2/		1986	1985	1986	1985
	1986	1985	1986	1985				
January	635,904	628,037	237,281	208,184	873,185	836,221	27.2	26.8
February	613,371	645,317	219,096	193,290	832,467	838,607	26.3	26.8
Jan-Feb	1,249,275	1,273,354	456,377	401,474	1,705,652	1,674,828	26.8	26.8

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, 1985 and 1986

(1967 = 100)

Item	1985-86			1985 and 1986		
	Dec. 1985	Jan. 1986	Percent change	Jan. 1985	Jan. 1986	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted	219.4	219.9	+0.2	213.1	219.9	+3.2
Seasonally adjusted	218.3	218.6	+0.1	211.6	218.6	+3.3
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted	232.5	230.1	-1.0	227.2	230.1	+1.3
Seasonally adjusted	229.1	227.8	-0.6	225.0	227.8	+1.2

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 8.—New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during February 1986

Source and size category	Retail price changes, in dollars, February 1986 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors	No change.
Ford	No change.
Chrysler	No change.
European Community producers:	
Subcompact	No change.
Compact	+245 to +765
Luxury	+4,970 to +13,000
Japanese producers:	
Subcompact	No change.
Compact	No change.
Luxury	+1,432

Source: Automotive News, February 1986.

Table 9.—Sales and profits (loss) on major U.S. automobile manufacturers' operations, by specified periods, 1984 and 1985 ^{1/}

(In millions of dollars)

Item and firm	1985		1984	
	October–December	January–December	October–December	January–December
Sales:				
General Motors	24,641	86,372	20,878	83,880
Ford	14,096	52,774	13,417	52,366
Chrysler	5,383	21,256	5,341	19,573
American Motors	1,128	4,040	1,061	4,215
Total	45,248	174,442	40,697	160,044
Profits:				
General Motors	1,252	3,999	877	4,517
Ford	720	2,515	721	2,907
Chrysler	215	1,635	610	2,380
American Motors	(7)	(125)	3	15
Total	2,180	8,024	2,211	9,819

^{1/} Data are for world operations.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 10.—Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981–March 1986 ^{1/}

Company, model, and options ^{2/}	April 1, 1981		March 1, 1986		Percent change in optionally equipped model		
	Base model ^{3/}	Optionally equipped model ^{3/}	Base model ^{3/}	Optionally equipped model ^{3/}	February 1986–March 1986	April 1981–March 1986	
General Motors:							
Chevette CS, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	\$5,155	\$5,405	\$5,645	\$5,979		0	+10.6
Citation, 4 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, AT) ^{4/} -----	6,404	7,014	7,232	7,042	NA		+14.7
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)----- ^{5/}	12,131	12,501	13,128	13,518		0	+8.1
Ford:							
Escort I, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	5,556	5,857	6,327	6,561		0	+12.7
Tempo GL, 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) ^{6/} -----	6,421	6,333	7,508	8,214		0	+18.1
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, ILG, AC)-----	8,519	10,102	13,784	14,691		0	+45.4
Chrysler:							
Plymouth Turismo, 2 door HB (RWD)-----	5,938	6,188	6,741	6,882		0	+11.2
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, TG, R, AT)-----	5,980	6,680	7,179	7,967		0	+19.3
Dodge 600, 4 door (RWD, AC) ^{7/} -----	6,672	7,502	10,022	10,500		0	+40.0
Toyota:							
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)-----	5,688	5,793	7,148	7,408		0	+27.9
Cressida, 4 door-----	11,599	11,599	16,130	16,130		0	+39.1
Nissan (Datsun):							
Sentra Deluxe 2 door ^{8/} -----	5,369	5,494	6,699	6,699		0	+21.9
Stanza GL, 4 door (AT) ^{8/} -----	6,839	7,749	9,649	10,179		0	+31.4
Maxima, 4 door-----	10,379	10,379	13,699	13,699		0	+32.0
Honda:							
Civic 1300, 2 door HB (R)-----	4,599	4,634	5,835	6,000		0	+27.8
Accord, 4 door (R, AT)-----	7,645	7,950	9,650	10,315		0	+29.7
Mazda:							
323, 2 door HB (R) ^{9/} -----	5,495	5,650	6,645	7,020		0	+24.2

^{1/} Suggested retail prices 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; ILG = interior luxury group.

^{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/} Citation discontinued after 1985 model year.

^{5/} Cimarron not sold until May 21, 1981.

^{6/} Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

^{7/} Dodge 600 replaced the Diplomat.

^{8/} Sentra replaced the 210; Stanza replaced the 510.

^{9/} 323 replaced the GLC Deluxe.

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

Note: Some 1981-86 models have been discontinued; these models have been replaced by comparable models where possible. 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.