

# THE U.S. AUTOMOTIVE 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, June 1986-May 1988

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)					
Item	1987-88			1986-87	
	Apr. 1988	May 1988	June 1987- May 1988	May 1987	June 1986- May 1987
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact.....	108	114	1,311	135	1,478
Compact.....	155	164	1,651	140	1,839
Intermediate.....	248	276	2,772	211	2,713
Standard.....	84	91	1,028	83	1,123
Luxury.....	56	57	601	54	634
Total.....	652	702	7,368	622	7,787
Production:					
Subcompact.....	110	135	1,155	110	1,485
Compact.....	136	157	1,670	142	1,897
Intermediate.....	233	274	2,697	255	2,868
Standard.....	67	64	762	63	869
Luxury.....	64	68	677	54	726
Total.....	610	697	6,963	623	7,843
Inventory:					
Subcompact.....	270	275	1/	357	1/
Compact.....	292	297	1/	368	1/
Intermediate.....	685	697	1/	742	1/
Standard.....	192	195	1/	248	1/
Luxury.....	132	134	1/	197	1/
Total.....	1,571	1,598	1/	1,912	1/
Days' supply: 2/					
Subcompact.....	65	60	1/	73	1/
Compact.....	49	45	1/	58	1/
Intermediate.....	72	63	1/	78	1/
Standard.....	59	54	1/	60	1/
Luxury.....	61	59	1/	87	1/
Average.....	63	57	1/	72	1/
Employment: 3/					
Total employees.....	4/ 840	5/ 848	1/	6/ 874	1/
Production workers...	4/ 654	5/ 661	1/	6/ 680	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 March 1988, revised.

5/ Data are for April 1988.

6/ Data are for April 1987.

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, May 1986-April 1988 <sup>1/</sup>

Source	1987-88			1986-87	
	Mar. 1988	Apr. 1988	May 1987- Apr. 1988	Apr. 1987	May 1986- Apr. 1987
	Quantity (units)				
Japan.....	145,343	171,586	2,368,144	180,825	2,535,842
Canada.....	113,957	117,789	1,016,694	76,342	1,073,142
West Germany.....	27,757	19,512	330,950	37,489	425,710
Korea.....	30,037	43,988	483,947	29,303	224,946
Sweden.....	8,841	8,609	113,824	16,773	151,074
Mexico.....	11,368	10,806	148,021	7,524	39,854
Yugoslavia.....	5,386	5,186	54,773	4,397	48,294
United Kingdom...	4,962	3,343	48,986	3,704	32,493
Italy.....	1,194	467	8,450	981	24,361
France.....	2,149	2,394	19,784	3,817	21,488
Brazil.....	3,168	10,022	64,587	4,452	7,120
All other.....	1,061	967	18,236	2,068	14,295
Total.....	355,223	394,651	4,676,396	367,675	4,598,619
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	1,352,140	1,672,681	21,261,666	1,643,906	21,464,089
Canada.....	1,265,418	1,305,026	11,186,536	810,112	11,225,655
West Germany.....	653,077	529,034	8,115,147	823,233	8,504,623
Korea.....	164,627	239,605	2,534,553	148,008	1,085,436
Sweden.....	137,378	131,789	1,680,168	225,017	1,935,534
Mexico.....	102,775	92,175	1,326,478	76,622	414,873
Yugoslavia.....	14,074	15,139	139,915	13,223	278,433
United Kingdom...	129,886	79,441	1,227,811	83,214	712,025
Italy.....	23,171	11,710	186,390	17,865	285,051
France.....	19,794	26,356	201,398	32,791	148,837
Brazil.....	17,921	56,597	338,168	20,021	33,306
All other.....	17,318	16,005	284,529	30,917	207,125
Total.....	3,897,579	4,175,557	48,482,758	3,924,929	46,294,987

<sup>1/</sup> Data include imports into Puerto Rico and TSUSA items 692.1005-692.1008; data do not include automobiles assembled in U.S. 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, May 1986-April 1988 2/

Source	1987-88			1986-87	
	Mar. 1988	Apr. 1988	May 1987-Apr. 1988	Apr. 1987	May 1986-Apr. 1987
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Japan.....	62,901	51,978	655,471	90,853	967,233
Canada.....	24,566	24,991	219,295	16,327	221,858
Mexico.....	2	8	6,132	1,275	17,276
All other.....	173	679	1,487	6	1,010
Total.....	87,642	77,656	882,385	108,461	1,207,377
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	350,059	285,988	3,652,506	500,429	5,108,183
Canada.....	287,772	284,286	2,273,410	147,371	2,040,046
Mexico.....	230	554	51,113	10,126	131,196
All other.....	20,446	17,473	114,083	1,938	55,943
Total.....	658,506	588,302	6,091,111	659,864	7,335,368

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, 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, May 1986-April 1988

Market	1987-88			1986-87	
	Mar. 1988	Apr. 1988	May 1987- Apr. 1988	Apr. 1987	May 1986- Apr. 1987
	Quantity (units)				
Canada.....	70,483	57,287	592,746	53,792	574,459
Japan.....	2,150	1,268	8,322	497	2,989
All other.....	11,881	11,181	86,922	5,564	41,962
Total.....	84,514	69,736	687,990	59,853	619,410
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	719,892	573,151	6,114,947	543,217	5,417,260
Japan.....	24,367	16,747	115,438	7,995	47,731
All other.....	154,713	142,708	1,147,586	77,536	556,079
Total.....	898,972	732,606	7,377,971	628,748	6,021,070

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, May 1986-April 1988 2/

Market	1987-88			1986-87	
	Mar. 1988	Apr. 1988	May 1987-Apr. 1988	Apr. 1987	May 1986-Apr. 1987
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada.....	18,432	14,344	175,520	12,753	163,105
All other.....	3,133	3,394	21,023	1,852	12,150
Total.....	21,565	17,738	196,544	14,605	175,255
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	183,606	142,028	1,744,449	116,031	1,481,516
All other.....	43,105	39,724	262,639	22,689	144,800
Total.....	226,711	181,752	2,007,088	138,720	1,626,316

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, 1987 and 1988

Period	Sales of- Domestic automobiles 1/		Imported automobiles 2/		Total U.S. sales		Ratio of im- port sales to total sales	
	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987
	--Percent--							
January....	531,225	427,678	229,459	197,941	760,684	625,619	30.2	31.6
February...	649,059	556,953	235,212	220,162	884,271	777,115	26.6	28.3
Jan.-Feb...	1,180,284	984,631	464,671	418,103	1,644,955	1,402,734	28.2	29.8
March.....	733,738	682,117	269,433	247,966	1,003,171	930,083	26.9	26.7
Jan.-Mar...	1,914,022	1,666,748	734,104	666,069	2,648,126	2,332,817	27.7	28.6
April.....	651,560	691,803	247,020	242,374	898,580	934,197	27.5	25.9
Jan.-Apr...	2,565,582	2,358,551	981,124	908,443	3,546,706	3,267,014	27.7	27.8
May.....	701,987	622,303	268,906	260,514	970,893	882,817	27.7	29.6
Jan.-May...	3,267,569	2,980,854	1,250,030	1,168,977	4,517,599	4,149,831	27.7	28.2

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, 1987 and 1988 1/

Item	1988			1987 and 1988		
	Mar. 1988	Apr. 1988	Percent change	Apr. 1987	Apr. 1988	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted....	116.0	115.9	-0.1	113.6	115.9	+2.0
Seasonally adjusted....	116.2	116.2	-	113.6	116.2	+2.3
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted....	111.5	111.7	+0.2	113.0	111.7	-1.2
Seasonally adjusted....	112.1	111.5	-0.5	113.0	111.5	-1.3

1/ Consumer price index, 1982-1984 = 100. Producer price index, 1982 = 100.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 8.--New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during May 1988

Country source/make	Retail price changes in dollars, May 1988 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors.....	No change.
Ford.....	No change.
Chrysler.....	+150 to +956
Japanese producers:	
Nissan <u>1</u> /.....	+167
Mitsubishi Motors.....	+163 to +173
European producers:	
Austin Rover.....	+935 to +988
Volkswagen.....	+100 to +390
Korean producers.....	No change.

1/ Average retail price change for all models.

Source: Automotive News, May 1988.

Table 9.--Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-June 1988 1/

Company, model, and options 2/	April 1, 1981		June 1, 1988		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model 3/	Option-ally equipped model 3/	Base model 3/	Option-ally equipped model 3/	May 1988-June 1988	April 1981-June 1988
<b>General Motors:</b>						
Cavalier, 2 door .....	4/ \$6,966	4/ \$6,966	\$6,995	\$6,995	0.0	+0.4
Cimarron, 4 door (AT).....	4/ 12,131	4/ 12,501	16,071	16,486	0.0	+31.9
<b>Ford:</b>						
Escort GL 2 door HB (RWD, TG).....	5,556	5,857	6,949	7,199	0.0	+22.9
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) 5/.....	6,421	6,953	8,808	9,435	0.0	+35.7
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD),.....	8,519	10,102	16,157	16,302	0.0	+61.4
<b>Chrysler:</b>						
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, R, AT).....	5,980	6,680	6,995	8,434	0.0	+26.3
Dodge 600, 4 door (RWD, AC) 6/.....	6,672	7,502	10,659	11,619	0.0	+54.9
<b>Toyota:</b>						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R).....	5,688	5,793	8,998	9,328	0.0	+61.0
Cressida, 4 door.....	11,599	11,599	20,998	20,998	0.0	+81.0
<b>Nissan (Datsun):</b>						
Sentra E, 2 door 7/.....	5,369	5,369	7,599	7,599	+4.1	+41.5
Stanza GXE, 4 door (AT) 7/.....	6,839	7,749	13,449	14,164	+4.2	+82.8
Maxima GXE, 4 door.....	10,379	10,379	17,499	17,499	+3.2	+68.6
<b>Honda:</b>						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) 8/.....	4,599	4,694	6,285	6,454	0.0	+37.5
Accord DX, 4 door (R).....	7,645	7,950	11,570	11,739	0.0	+47.7

1/ Suggested retail prices do not include any dealer incentives, below-market financing or rebates.

2/ The following codes apply: 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/ Cavalier and Cimarron not sold until May 21, 1981.

5/ Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

6/ Dodge 600 replaced the Diplomat.

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

8/ Civic 1500 replaced the Civic 1300.

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 or equipment that was standard has been deleted, making price comparisons of prior-year models difficult.



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