

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

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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, February 1987-January 1989

Item	(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)				
	1988-89			1987-88	
	Dec. 1988	Jan. 1989	Feb. 1988- Jan. 1989	Jan. 1988	Feb. 1987- Jan. 1988
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact.....	92	88	1,405	81	1,382
Compact.....	145	115	1,863	120	1,645
Intermediate.....	218	192	3,086	206	2,578
Standard.....	49	67	1,031	76	996
Luxury.....	63	47	672	49	581
Total.....	567	509	8,057	531	7,184
Production:					
Subcompact.....	100	111	1,309	94	1,177
Compact.....	146	157	1,916	125	1,715
Intermediate.....	243	246	2,992	153	2,765
Standard.....	60	53	775	57	831
Luxury.....	66	71	789	49	662
Total.....	615	638	7,781	477	7,150
Inventory:					
Subcompact.....	271	293	1/	285	1/
Compact.....	292	319	1/	336	1/
Intermediate.....	696	753	1/	717	1/
Standard.....	195	212	1/	213	1/
Luxury.....	133	145	1/	126	1/
Total.....	1,586	1,724	1/	1,677	1/
Days' supply: 2/					
Subcompact.....	77	87	1/	88	1/
Compact.....	52	72	1/	70	1/
Intermediate.....	83	102	1/	87	1/
Standard.....	104	82	1/	70	1/
Luxury.....	55	80	1/	64	1/
Average.....	73	88	1/	79	1/
Employment: 3/					
Total employees.....	4/ 869	5/ 872	1/	6/ 844	1/
Production workers...	4/ 681	5/ 683	1/	6/ 657	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 November 1988, revised.

5/ Data are for Dec. 1988.

6/ Data are for Dec. 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, January 1987-December 1988 1/

Source	1988			1987	
	Nov. 1988	Dec. 1988	Jan. 1988- Dec. 1988	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1987- Dec. 1987
	Quantity (units)				
Japan.....	212,784	216,717	2,123,051	219,217	2,417,509
Canada.....	101,018	88,887	1,191,357	92,719	926,927
West Germany.....	28,013	34,125	264,249	37,410	377,542
Korea.....	34,136	44,434	455,741	46,721	399,856
Sweden.....	9,800	10,469	108,006	11,422	138,565
Mexico.....	9,725	12,069	148,065	10,116	126,266
Yugoslavia.....	2,493	0	28,431	4,027	49,445
United Kingdom...	2,147	2,854	31,636	4,575	50,059
Italy.....	426	638	6,053	253	8,648
France.....	1,073	616	15,990	636	26,707
Brazil.....	4,903	2,922	59,401	7,900	48,169
All other.....	2,698	1,940	18,233	2,543	19,317
Total.....	409,216	415,671	4,450,213	437,539	4,589,010
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	2,005,280	2,045,165	19,877,699	1,923,355	21,304,737
Canada.....	1,129,208	997,530	13,255,226	1,023,194	10,185,353
West Germany.....	602,957	790,566	6,441,720	778,168	8,901,850
Korea.....	189,661	266,930	2,486,510	244,498	2,061,457
Sweden.....	160,649	167,046	1,698,197	179,238	1,941,488
Mexico.....	85,217	103,630	1,270,947	86,475	1,176,374
Yugoslavia.....	5,618	0	75,794	10,210	126,242
United Kingdom...	78,216	97,104	941,406	136,609	1,193,837
Italy.....	12,466	19,713	152,152	10,899	177,965
France.....	12,667	7,250	171,178	8,473	255,998
Brazil.....	28,672	17,034	341,274	41,511	239,201
All other.....	44,233	32,165	292,592	35,074	293,501
Total.....	4,354,842	4,544,134	47,004,697	4,477,704	47,858,003

1/ 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, January 1987-December 1988 ^{2/}

Source	1988			1987	
	Nov. 1988	Dec. 1988	Jan. 1988- Dec. 1988	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1987- Dec. 1987
Quantity (units) ^{3/}					
Japan.....	46,697	46,381	548,356	55,129	772,758
Canada.....	21,131	33,589	299,351	25,918	226,538
Mexico.....	0	0	29	0	11,296
All other.....	5	6	2,536	52	486
Total.....	67,833	79,796	850,272	81,099	1,011,078
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan.....	296,737	302,095	3,241,138	326,419	4,278,125
Canada.....	224,024	402,264	3,400,302	228,476	2,231,020
Mexico.....	1,333	617	9,428	212	90,089
All other.....	5,299	2,557	143,291	11,393	71,946
Total.....	527,393	707,533	6,794,160	626,500	6,671,181

^{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, January 1987-December 1988

Market	1988			1987	
	Nov. 1988	Dec. 1988	Jan. 1988- Dec. 1988	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1987- Dec. 1987
	Quantity (units)				
Canada.....	48,983	40,493	616,910	41,637	560,453
Japan.....	2,768	2,440	21,720	656	4,721
All other.....	18,036	16,555	140,343	6,882	66,235
Total.....	69,735	59,488	778,973	49,175	631,409
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	536,369	432,393	6,259,139	427,401	5,727,152
Japan.....	39,169	30,600	271,412	8,973	72,290
All other.....	234,688	201,813	1,781,216	90,168	889,772
Total.....	810,227	664,806	8,311,767	526,542	6,689,214

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, January 1987-December 1988 2/

Market	1988			1987	
	Nov. 1988	Dec. 1988	Jan. 1988- Dec. 1988	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1987- Dec. 1987
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada.....	7,954	10,200	152,686	14,975	163,842
All other.....	3,681	3,098	31,914	1,362	16,617
Total.....	11,634	13,298	184,600	16,337	180,460
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	84,732	108,586	1,543,344	156,005	1,595,619
All other.....	46,626	33,409	39,296	14,548	207,113
Total.....	131,358	141,993	1,936,310	170,553	1,802,732

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, 1988 and 1989

Period	Sales of- Domestic automobiles 1/		Imported automobiles 2/		Total U.S. sales		Ratio of im- port sales to total sales	
	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988
	Quantity (units)						--Percent---	
January....	509,760	531,225	208,856	229,459	718,616	760,684	29.1	30.2

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		
	Nov. 1988	Dec. 1988	Percent change	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1988	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted...	118.4	119.1	+0.6	116.6	119.1	+2.1
Seasonally adjusted...	117.5	118.2	+0.6	115.7	118.2	+2.2
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted...	116.1	116.3	+0.2	112.7	116.3	+3.2
Seasonally adjusted...	113.6	114.1	+0.4	110.1	114.1	+3.6

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 January 1989 ^{1/}

<u>Country source/make</u>	<u>Retail price changes in dollars, Jan. 1989 (+ or -)</u>
U.S. producers:	
General Motors.....	No change.
Ford.....	No change.
Chrysler.....	No change.
Japanese producers:	
Toyota Motors.....	No change.
American Honda.....	No change.
Acura Division.....	No change.
Nissan.....	No change.
Mazda.....	No change.
European producers:	
Volvo.....	No change.
Volkswagen.....	No change.

^{1/} Average retail price change for all models.

Source: Automotive News, January 1989.

Table 9.--Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-February 1989 1/

Company, model, and options 2/	April 1, 1981		February 1, 1989		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model 3/	Option-ally equipped model 3/	Base model 3/	Option-ally equipped model 3/	Jan. 1989-Feb. 1989	April 1981-Feb. 1989
General Motors:						
Cavalier, 2 door 4/	\$6,966	\$6,966	\$7,375	\$7,375	0.0	+5.9
De Ville, 4 door	14,198	14,198	25,435	25,435	0.0	+90.2
Ford:						
Escort Pony 2 door HB (RWD, TG).....	5,556	5,857	6,964	7,660	0.0	+30.8
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) 5/.....	6,421	6,953	9,207	9,834	0.0	+41.1
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door	8,519	10,102	16,767	16,767	0.0	+66.0
Chrysler:						
Reliant America, 4 door (RWD, R, AT).....	5,980	6,680	7,595	9,034	0.0	+35.2
Dynasty, 4 door (RWD, AC) 6/.....	6,672	7,502	12,350	13,310	0.0	+77.4
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R).....	5,688	5,793	9,198	9,528	0.0	+64.5
Cressida, 4 door.....	11,599	11,599	21,498	21,498	0.0	+85.3
Nissan (Datsun):						
Sentra E, 2 door 7/.....	5,369	5,369	7,999	7,999	0.0	+49.0
Stanza GXE, 4 door (AT) 7/.....	6,839	7,749	13,799	14,514	0.0	+87.3
Maxima GXE, 4 door.....	10,379	10,379	17,859	17,859	0.0	+72.1
Honda:						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) 8/.....	4,599	4,694	6,385	6,554	0.0	+39.6
Accord DX, 4 door (R).....	7,645	7,950	11,770	11,939	0.0	+50.2

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 not sold until May 21, 1981.

5/ Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

6/ Dynasty 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 1981-89 models have been discontinued; these models have been replaced by comparable models where possible.