

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. 332-207
Under Section 332 of the
Tariff Act of 1930



USITC PUBLICATION 2244

DECEMBER 1989

United States International Trade Commission
Washington, DC 20436

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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, December 1987-November 1989

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1988-89			1987-88	
	Oct. 1989	Nov. 1989	Dec. 1988- Nov. 1989	Nov. 1988	Dec. 1987- Nov. 1988
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact.....	87	78	1,330	90	1,306
Compact.....	132	108	1,965	131	1,723
Intermediate.....	174	157	2,710	208	2,882
Standard.....	82	75	1,082	64	991
Luxury.....	50	55	693	54	611
Total.....	524	474	7,779	548	7,514
Production:					
Subcompact.....	126	100	1,220	100	1,192
Compact.....	163	143	1,914	164	1,738
Intermediate.....	184	179	2,418	249	2,756
Standard.....	76	55	849	61	713
Luxury.....	73	63	778	72	707
Total.....	622	540	7,179	646	7,105
Inventory:					
Subcompact.....	263	281	1/	275	1/
Compact.....	288	308	1/	297	1/
Intermediate.....	680	728	1/	707	1/
Standard.....	191	204	1/	198	1/
Luxury.....	129	138	1/	135	1/
Total.....	1,550	1,659	1/	1,612	1/
Days' supply: 2/					
Subcompact.....	76	90	1/	55	1/
Compact.....	55	71	1/	53	1/
Intermediate.....	98	116	1/	74	1/
Standard.....	58	68	1/	70	1/
Luxury.....	65	63	1/	60	1/
Average.....	77	88	1/	73	1/
Employment: 3/					
Total employees.....	4/ 850	5/ 836	1/	6/ 830	1/
Production workers...	4/ 654	5/ 641	1/	6/ 645	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 September 1989, revised.

5/ Data are for October 1989.

6/ Data are for October 1988.

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, by principal sources and by specified periods, November 1987-October 1989 1/

Source	1988-89			1987-88	
	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1989	Nov. 1988- Oct. 1989	Oct. 1988	Nov. 1987- Oct. 1988
Quantity (units)					
Japan.....	159,891	191,137	2,124,805	216,155	2,132,717
Canada.....	93,360	103,201	1,131,006	101,543	1,197,244
West Germany.....	12,106	21,274	238,249	20,193	276,861
Korea.....	9,423	17,671	308,412	27,679	453,146
Sweden.....	5,289	8,242	104,660	12,285	108,915
Mexico.....	5,763	5,866	142,437	15,113	148,022
Yugoslavia.....	0	0	4,825	1,001	33,547
United Kingdom...	1,994	1,533	27,637	3,238	34,358
Italy.....	525	526	9,198	123	6,314
France.....	119	5	6,562	849	15,584
Brazil.....	3,139	0	44,300	0	65,521
All other.....	1,661	2,663	25,865	1,952	18,416
Total.....	293,270	352,118	4,167,956	400,131	4,490,645
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan.....	1,583,404	1,924,129	20,665,420	2,032,008	19,637,509
Canada.....	1,027,774	1,167,313	12,630,464	1,149,601	13,303,348
West Germany.....	314,568	421,731	5,528,154	497,553	6,692,406
Korea.....	64,181	103,849	1,826,885	152,720	2,429,556
Sweden.....	89,461	144,549	1,695,106	198,401	1,698,411
Mexico.....	51,300	55,890	1,241,588	131,370	1,268,360
Yugoslavia.....	0	0	12,561	2,237	89,412
United Kingdom...	65,470	47,523	901,538	106,720	995,122
Italy.....	12,316	13,091	252,271	6,962	151,327
France.....	1,315	185	78,399	9,757	168,198
Brazil.....	19,512	0	268,229	0	368,145
All other.....	25,661	44,352	405,337	29,612	288,080
Total.....	3,254,963	3,922,612	45,505,952	4,316,941	47,089,875

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, by principal sources and by specified periods, November 1987-October 1989 2/

Source	1988-89			1987-88	
	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1989	Nov. 1988- Oct. 1989	Oct. 1988	Nov. 1987- Oct. 1988
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Japan.....	25,165	31,375	458,447	45,569	564,693
Canada.....	36,576	44,841	421,630	26,694	282,901
Mexico.....	1,462	2,959	5,961	0	36
All other.....	104	125	630	11	2,642
Total.....	63,307	79,300	886,668	72,274	850,272
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	142,101	187,350	2,846,368	297,788	3,271,245
Canada.....	446,997	567,632	5,194,536	307,120	3,177,971
Mexico.....	18,142	36,512	76,352	505	7,829
All other.....	20,500	3,762	68,969	5,933	153,302
Total.....	627,740	795,256	8,186,225	611,346	6,610,347

1/ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gvwt.

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, November 1987-October 1989

Market	1988-89			1987-88	
	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1989	Nov. 1988- Oct. 1989	Oct. 1988	Nov. 1987- Oct. 1988
	Quantity (units)				
Canada.....	24,779	24,373	351,482	50,084	627,719
Japan.....	471	2,265	17,016	2,216	17,719
All other.....	5,519	16,029	144,876	13,955	123,369
Total.....	30,769	42,667	513,374	66,255	769,003
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	315,886	312,519	4,043,446	675,773	6,384,089
Japan.....	9,233	40,084	234,418	52,236	223,212
All other.....	67,293	215,569	1,956,605	89,054	1,581,247
Total.....	392,412	568,172	6,234,469	817,063	8,188,548

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, November 1987-October 1989 2/

Market	1988-89			1987-88	
	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1989	Nov. 1988- Oct. 1989	Oct. 1988	Nov. 1987- Oct. 1988
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada.....	15,832	11,655	141,737	12,809	166,294
All other.....	736	640	18,803	3,289	28,779
Total.....	16,568	12,295	160,540	16,098	195,073
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	194,726	145,174	1,637,527	136,238	1,675,767
All other.....	10,389	8,359	237,631	43,184	358,607
Total.....	205,115	153,533	1,875,158	179,422	2,034,373

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 1/ 2/		Ratio of import sales to total sales 1/ 2/	
	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
February...	552,042	649,059	198,825	235,212	750,867	884,271	26.5	26.6
Jan.-Feb...	1,061,802	1,180,284	407,681	464,671	1,469,483	1,644,955	27.7	28.2
March.....	639,631	733,738	245,161	269,433	884,792	1,003,171	27.7	26.9
Jan.-Mar...	1,701,433	1,914,022	652,842	734,104	2,354,275	2,648,126	27.7	27.7
April.....	667,444	651,560	242,555	247,020	909,999	898,580	26.7	27.5
Jan.-Apr...	2,368,877	2,565,582	895,397	981,124	3,264,274	3,546,706	27.4	27.7
May.....	710,478	701,987	259,737	268,906	970,215	970,893	26.8	27.7
Jan.-May...	3,079,355	3,267,569	1,155,134	1,250,030	4,234,489	4,517,599	27.3	27.7
June.....	640,673	722,364	258,179	284,200	898,852	1,006,564	28.7	28.2
Jan.-June..	3,720,028	3,989,933	1,413,313	1,534,230	5,133,341	5,524,163	27.5	27.8
July.....	603,409	602,546	242,762	257,590	846,171	860,055	28.7	29.9
Jan.-July..	4,323,437	4,592,479	1,656,075	1,791,820	5,979,512	6,384,218	27.7	28.1
August.....	685,365	600,026	287,978	281,989	973,343	882,015	29.6	32.0
Jan.-Aug...	5,008,802	5,192,505	1,944,053	2,073,728	6,952,855	7,266,233	28.0	28.5
September..	609,742	576,535	249,300	248,727	859,042	825,262	27.7	30.1
Jan.-Sept..	5,618,544	5,769,040	2,193,353	2,322,455	7,811,897	8,091,495	27.9	28.7
October....	524,166	589,815	223,571	242,448	747,737	832,263	29.9	29.1
Jan.-Oct...	6,142,710	6,358,855	2,416,924	2,564,903	8,559,634	8,923,758	28.2	29.6
November...	473,613	552,049	209,188	238,722	682,801	790,711	30.6	30.2
Jan.-Nov...	6,616,323	6,910,904	2,626,112	2,803,625	9,242,435	9,714,469	28.4	28.9

1/ Domestic automobile sales include U.S.-, Canadian- and Mexican-built automobiles sold in the United States.

2/ Does not include automobiles imported from Canada and Mexico.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 7.--New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1988 and 1989 1/

Item	1989			1988 and 1989		
	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1989	Percent change	Oct. 1988	Oct. 1989	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted...	117.0	118.6	+1.4	117.7	118.6	+0.8
Seasonally adjusted...	118.0	118.7	+0.6	118.0	118.7	+0.6
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted...	111.5	120.7	+8.3	117.3	120.7	+2.9
Seasonally adjusted...	118.1	116.4	-1.4	113.7	116.4	+2.4

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

Table 8.--New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the
U.S. market during November 1989 1/

Country source/make	Retail price changes November 1989 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors.....	No change.
Ford.....	No change.
Chrysler.....	No change.
Japanese producers:	
Toyota Motors.....	No change.
Mazda.....	No change.
American Honda.....	No change.
Acura Division.....	No change.
Subaru.....	No change.
European producers:	
Volkswagen.....	No change.
BMW.....	No change.
Audi.....	No change.
Porsche.....	No change.
Mercedes-Benz.....	No change.
Korean producer:	
Hyundai.....	No change.

Source: Automotive News, November 1989.

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

Company, model, and options ^{2/}	April 1, 1981		December 1, 1989		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model ^{3/}	Option-ally equipped model ^{3/}	Base model ^{3/}	Option-ally equipped model ^{3/}	Nov. 1989- Dec. 1989	Apr. 1981- Dec. 1989
General Motors:						
Cavalier, 2 door	^{4/} \$6,966	^{4/} \$6,966	\$8,002	\$8,052	0.0	+15.6
De Ville, 4 door	14,198	14,198	26,310	26,310	0.0	+85.3
Ford:						
Escort Pony 2 door HB (RWD, TG).....	5,556	5,857	7,742	8,550	0.0	+46.0
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) ^{5/}	6,421	6,953	10,063	10,888	0.0	+56.6
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door	8,519	10,102	17,767	17,937	0.0	+77.6
Chrysler:						
Reliant America, 4 door (RWD, R, AT).....	5,980	6,680	8,049	9,549	0.0	+42.9
Dynasty, 4 door (RWD, AC) ^{6/}	6,672	7,502	12,800	14,475	0.0	+92.9
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R).....	5,688	5,793	9,488	11,100	0.0	+91.6
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	7,299	8,124	0.0	+51.3
Stanza GXE, 4 door (AT) ^{7/}	6,839	7,749	15,575	16,109	0.0	+107.9
Maxima GXE, 4 door.....	10,379	10,379	17,959	18,584	0.0	+71.1
Honda:						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) ^{8/}	4,599	4,694	6,635	6,866	0.0	+46.3
Accord DX, 4 door (R).....	7,645	7,950	12,345	12,595	0.0	+58.4

^{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.