

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
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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, October 1988-September 1990

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1989-90			1988-89	
	Aug. 1990	Sept. 1990	Oct. 1989-Sept. 1990	Sept. 1989	Oct. 1988-Sept. 1989
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact.....	96	87	1,164	97	1,355
Compact.....	130	139	1,743	126	2,002
Intermediate.....	193	192	2,384	222	2,802
Standard.....	93	104	1,261	103	1,060
Luxury.....	52	56	669	62	698
Total.....	564	579	7,204	610	7,917
Production:					
Subcompact.....	91	89	994	113	1,200
Compact.....	156	154	1,814	135	1,942
Intermediate.....	172	176	2,303	199	2,556
Standard.....	54	59	1,545	71	847
Luxury.....	50	58	754	58	784
Total.....	524	536	6,413	576	7,389
Inventory					
Subcompact.....	227	228	1/	244	1/
Compact.....	247	248	1/	267	1/
Intermediate.....	584	586	1/	631	1/
Standard.....	164	165	1/	177	1/
Luxury.....	112	113	1/	120	1/
Total.....	1,337	1,340	1/	1,439	1/
Days' supply: 2/					
Subcompact.....	81	66	1/	65	1/
Compact.....	51	45	1/	55	1/
Intermediate.....	84	76	1/	74	1/
Standard.....	46	40	1/	45	1/
Luxury.....	59	50	1/	50	1/
Average.....	66	58	1/	59	1/
Employment: 3/					
Total employees.....	4/ 804	5/ 798	1/	6/ 847	1/
Production workers...	4/ 612	5/ 606	1/	6/ 649	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 July 1989, revised.

5/ Data are for August 1990.

6/ Data are for August 1989.

Source: Production and retail sales, 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, September 1988-August 1990 ^{1/}

Source	1989-90			1988-89	
	July 1990	Aug. 1990	Sept. 1989- Aug. 1990	Aug. 1989	Sept. 1988- Aug. 1989
Quantity (units)					
Japan.....	128,769	161,876	1,889,498	161,584	2,136,193
Canada.....	84,625	63,224	1,201,016	70,629	1,136,495
West Germany.....	22,698	20,860	253,144	14,684	251,270
Korea.....	12,014	17,004	188,998	9,741	356,756
Sweden.....	6,817	1,544	95,557	2,134	111,257
Mexico.....	20,408	25,445	139,972	9,484	159,007
Yugoslavia.....	0	0	1,132	0	5,862
United Kingdom...	1,587	1,211	27,603	1,638	28,946
Italy.....	1,543	779	10,338	1,165	8,385
France.....	593	73	1,219	77	8,315
Brazil.....	2,620	3	21,524	6,952	47,282
All other.....	6,608	5,974	37,511	887	24,728
Total.....	288,282	297,993	3,867,512	278,972	4,274,496
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan.....	1,311,880	1,667,106	19,268,134	1,595,741	2,290,066
Canada.....	985,385	769,252	13,471,205	781,769	12,721,385
West Germany.....	503,606	488,526	5,678,703	333,157	5,531,324
Korea.....	65,377	87,066	1,070,393	63,756	20,075,642
Sweden.....	113,008	25,407	1,575,495	35,183	1,785,737
Mexico.....	208,533	252,116	1,385,309	77,124	1,377,353
Yugoslavia.....	0	0	3,891	0	14,905
United Kingdom...	51,871	35,009	874,092	58,304	949,195
Italy.....	29,933	21,519	264,513	31,647	238,315
France.....	7,328	1,028	15,742	881	98,509
Brazil.....	16,246	24	133,441	42,784	284,913
All other.....	86,080	61,749	543,372	12,787	383,238
Total.....	3,379,246	3,481,804	44,284,290	3,033,127	46,298,887

^{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,
 September 1988-August 1990 2/

Source	1989-90			1988-89	
	July 1990	Aug. 1990	Sept. 1989- Aug. 1990	Aug. 1989	Sept. 1988- Aug. 1989
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Japan.....	27,257	29,857	319,692	34,234	476,403
Canada.....	33,014	22,896	445,570	24,527	393,705
Mexico.....	1,883	444	22,110	1,125	1,542
All other.....	61	100	789	64	1,593
Total.....	62,216	53,298	788,161	59,950	873,243
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	149,413	163,974	1,817,325	196,287	2,992,505
Canada.....	433,579	321,286	5,758,204	297,323	4,794,013
Mexico.....	23,168	5,422	272,158	13,768	23,504
All other.....	8,651	5,443	54,379	1,537	66,924
Total.....	614,811	496,125	7,902,057	508,915	7,876,946

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, September 1988-August 1990 ^{1/}

Market	1989-90			1988-89	
	July 1990	Aug. 1990	Sept. 1989- Aug. 1990	Aug. 1989	Sept. 1988- Aug. 1989
	Quantity (units)				
Canada.....	22,906	38,258	558,931	39,583	583,352
Japan.....	1,247	2,107	29,390	548	33,025
All other.....	<u>11,819</u>	<u>11,892</u>	<u>216,995</u>	<u>8,894</u>	<u>204,083</u>
Total.....	<u>35,972</u>	<u>52,257</u>	<u>805,316</u>	<u>49,025</u>	<u>820,460</u>
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	281,329	436,144	6,440,707	429,100	6,537,486
Japan.....	23,171	34,915	490,119	10,340	503,169
All other.....	<u>138,443</u>	<u>115,237</u>	<u>2,663,266</u>	<u>97,839</u>	<u>2,456,658</u>
Total.....	<u>442,942</u>	<u>586,295</u>	<u>9,594,092</u>	<u>537,279</u>	<u>9,497,316</u>

^{1/} 1989 data revised.

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, September 1988-August 1990 2/

Market	1989-90			1988-89	
	July 1990	Aug. 1990	Sept. 1989- Aug. 1990	Aug. 1989	Sept. 1988- Aug. 1989
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada.....	6,184	6,026	129,383	10,750	141,041
All other.....	1,926	1,132	15,061	708	22,113
Total.....	8,110	7,159	144,444	11,458	163,154
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	71,458	66,489	1,540,506	131,889	1,579,405
All other.....	25,100	17,485	166,294	11,821	276,636
Total.....	96,558	83,974	1,706,800	143,710	1,856,042

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, 1989 and 1990 ^{1/}

Period	Sales of-		Imported		Total U.S.		Ratio of	
	Domestic		automobiles 3/		sales 2/ 3/		import sales	
	automobiles 2/		1990	1989	1990	1989	to total	
	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989
	Quantity (units)				--Percent--			
January....	544,605	509,760	208,694	208,856	753,299	718,616	27.7	29.1
February...	531,546	552,042	193,912	198,825	725,458	750,867	26.7	26.5
Jan.-Feb...1,	1,076,151	1,061,802	402,606	407,681	1,478,757	1,469,483	27.2	27.7
March.....	622,949	639,631	228,221	245,161	851,170	884,792	26.8	27.7
Jan.-Mar...1,	1,699,100	1,701,433	630,827	652,842	2,329,927	2,354,275	27.1	27.7
April.....	596,428	667,444	242,661	242,555	839,089	909,999	28.9	26.7
Jan.-Apr...2,	2,295,528	2,368,877	873,488	895,395	3,169,016	3,264,274	27.6	27.4
May.....	641,749	710,478	230,273	259,737	872,022	970,215	26.4	26.8
Jan.-May...2,	2,937,277	3,079,355	1,103,761	1,154,132	4,041,038	4,234,489	27.3	27.3
June.....	628,781	640,673	227,891	258,179	856,672	898,852	25.4	28.7
Jan.-June..3,	3,566,058	3,720,028	1,331,652	1,413,313	4,897,716	5,133,341	27.2	27.5
July.....	590,476	596,725	218,643	239,774	809,119	836,499	27.0	28.7
Jan.-July..4,	4,156,534	4,316,753	1,550,295	1,653,087	5,706,835	5,969,840	27.2	27.7
August.....	564,411	678,948	221,546	282,964	785,957	961,912	28.2	29.4
Jan.-Aug...4,	4,720,964	4,964,088	1,714,794	1,928,589	6,435,758	6,892,677	26.6	28.0
September..	578,958	605,207	193,152	223,003	772,110	828,210	25.0	26.9
Jan.-Sept..5,	5,303,033	5,569,295	1,899,714	2,151,592	7,202,747	7,720,887	26.4	27.9

^{1/} Monthly totals may not sum to the year-to-date totals because Automotive News may make revisions to its monthly totals.

^{2/} Domestic automobile sales include U.S.-, Canadian- and Mexican-built automobiles sold in the United States.

^{3/} Does not include automobiles imported from Canada and Mexico.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 7

New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1989 and 1990 ^{1/}

Item	1990			1989-90		
	July 1990	Aug. 1990	Percent change	Aug. 1989	Aug. 1990	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	120.2	119.9	-0.2	117.7	119.9	+1.2
Seasonally adjusted..	120.7	120.7	0.0	118.5	120.7	+1.9
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	116.9	116.3	-0.5	112.1	116.3	+3.7
Seasonally adjusted..	117.5	118.4	+0.8	113.8	118.4	+4.0

^{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 September 1990 1/

Country source/make	Retail price changes September 1990 (+ 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.

1/ Average retail price change for all models.

Source: Automotive News, September 1990.

Table 9

Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-October 1990 ^{1/}

Company, model, and options ^{2/}	April 1, 1981		Sept. 1, 1990		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Option-ally Base model ^{3/}	Option-ally equipped model ^{3/}	Option-ally Base model ^{3/}	Option-ally equipped model ^{3/}	Jan. 1990- Oct. 1990	Apr. 1981- Oct. 1990
General Motors:						
Cavalier, 2 door..... ^{4/}	\$6,966	\$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:						
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	+58.5

^{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 1981-90 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.