

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 2586

DECEMBER 1992

**United States International Trade Commission
Washington, DC 20436**

Table 1

New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, December 1990-November 1992

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1991-92			1990-91	
	Oct. 1992	Nov. 1992	Dec. 1991- Nov. 1992	Nov. 1991	Dec. 1990- Nov. 1991
Retail sales of domestic production.....	532	461	6,687	454	6,632
Production.....	538	459	6,635	457	6,500
Inventory.....	1,211	1,709	(¹)	1,286	(¹)
Days' supply ²	59	64	(¹)	74	(¹)
Employment: ³					
Total employees.....	811 ⁴	818 ⁵	(¹)	798 ⁶	(¹)
Production workers...	621 ⁴	626 ⁵	(¹)	615 ⁶	(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 1992, revised.

⁵ Data are for October 1992.

⁶ Data are for October 1991.

Source: Production, retail sales, 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. Market classifications discontinued because of the unavailability of data.

Table 2

New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, November 1990-October 1992¹

Source	1991-92			1990-91	
	Sept. 1992	Oct. 1992	Nov. 1991- Oct. 1992	Oct. 1991	Nov. 1990- Oct. 1991
	Quantity (units)				
Japan.....	131,924	149,924	1,633,260	175,059	1,842,607
Canada.....	102,699	99,214	1,190,539	120,792	1,209,601
Germany.....	12,950	23,814	197,918	19,217	172,289
Korea, South.....	8,597	14,906	143,902	13,168	195,514
Sweden.....	6,846	7,231	72,050	7,418	65,860
Mexico.....	21,813	23,642	275,601	28,000	254,974
Yugoslavia.....	0	0	0	0	3,065
United Kingdom...	1,096	1,475	8,613	1,603	19,604
Italy.....	12	297	2,268	95	3,515
France.....	0	2	74	400	1,991
Brazil.....	1,546	1,152	11,168	1,646	10,425
All other.....	1,507	2,599	25,643	2,022	47,704
Total.....	288,990	324,256	3,561,052	369,420	3,827,149
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	1,601,985	1,843,806	19,773,858	1,993,870	20,969,206
Canada.....	1,338,505	1,269,510	14,144,260	1,452,909	14,072,074
Germany.....	408,533	731,160	5,525,169	568,088	4,759,918
Korea, South.....	44,488	86,318	795,441	73,569	1,088,136
Sweden.....	124,318	138,772	1,322,603	135,466	1,165,708
Mexico.....	227,102	208,593	2,697,978	298,360	2,612,352
Yugoslavia.....	0	0	0	0	7,086
United Kingdom...	38,714	54,010	304,400	53,757	681,519
Italy.....	1,320	6,844	98,546	9,460	162,609
France.....	0	53	882	4,944	24,284
Brazil.....	10,976	8,177	73,562	10,831	64,787
All other.....	19,030	39,249	306,467	36,711	582,806
Total.....	3,814,972	4,386,493	45,043,330	4,637,967	46,190,485

¹ Data include imports into Puerto Rico; 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 trucks¹ and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, November 1990-October 1992²

Source	1991-92			1990-91	
	Sept. 1992	Oct. 1992	Nov. 1991- Oct. 1992	Oct. 1991	Nov. 1990- Oct. 1991
	Quantity (units) ³				
Japan.....	10,136	11,564	184,816	23,250	289,723
Canada.....	41,592	41,425	502,653	43,741	366,684
Mexico.....	2,475	2,921	24,004	2,076	9,665
All other.....	1	5	38	38	107
Total.....	54,204	55,915	711,511	69,105	666,180
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	75,622	91,976	1,265,846	147,976	1,726,201
Canada.....	552,483	559,735	6,714,604	623,176	5,018,296
Mexico.....	44,302	54,242	429,054	36,327	150,071
All other.....	1,881	2,059	20,632	2,277	24,536
Total.....	674,288	708,012	8,430,136	809,757	6,919,105

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, November 1990-October 1992

Market	1991-92			1990-91	
	Sept. 1992	Oct. 1992	Nov. 1991- Oct. 1992	Oct. 1991	Nov. 1990- Oct. 1991
	Quantity (units)				
Canada.....	42,153	43,438	452,032	48,037	471,165
Japan.....	3,481	2,906	34,530	1,784	28,903
All other.....	19,348	26,665	306,391	21,800	221,697
Total.....	65,346	73,332	794,417	71,621	721,765
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	560,142	596,815	5,837,121	626,277	5,801,702
Japan.....	56,499	55,470	593,399	33,935	512,546
All other.....	277,822	396,212	4,534,584	334,658	2,973,601
Total.....	898,470	1,052,639	10,983,749	994,819	9,287,848

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 trucks¹ and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, November 1990-October 1992²

Market	1991-92			1990-91	
	Sept. 1992	Oct. 1992	Nov. 1991- Oct. 1992	Oct. 1991	Nov. 1990- Oct. 1991
	Quantity (units) ³				
Canada.....	9,564	8,888	109,609	13,307	122,621
All other.....	1,589	4,171	27,352	1,145	47,643
Total.....	11,154	13,056	136,980	14,452	170,264
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	120,753	108,358	1,375,950	176,874	1,590,616
All other.....	16,748	28,283	423,412	21,252	587,888
Total.....	137,501	136,747	1,799,600	198,126	2,178,504

¹ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gvwt.

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, 1991 and 1992

Period	Sales of-				Total U.S.		Ratio of impor	
	Domestic automobiles ¹		Imported automobiles ²		sales ^{1,2}		sales ^{1,2}	
	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991
	Quantity (units)						--Percent--	
January....	413,605	416,645	146,518	137,733	560,123	554,378	26.2	24.8
February...	492,454	472,524	158,545	149,073	650,999	621,597	24.4	24.0
Jan.-Feb...	905,872	889,169	305,063	286,806	1,210,935	1,175,975	25.2	24.4
March.....	536,932	538,857	183,675	191,105	720,607	729,962	25.5	26.2
Jan.-Mar...	1,442,804	1,428,026	488,738	477,900	1,931,542	1,905,926	25.3	25.1
April.....	540,689	504,998	174,867	185,972	715,867	690,970	24.4	26.9
Jan.-Apr...	1,983,493	1,933,024	663,606	663,872	2,647,099	2,596,896	25.1	25.6
May.....	560,768	576,572	172,891	192,897	733,659	769,469	23.6	25.1
Jan.-May...	2,544,261	2,508,461	836,428	856,769	3,380,689	3,365,230	24.7	25.5
June.....	629,524	587,631	195,294	184,084	824,818	771,715	23.7	23.9
Jan.-Jun...	3,173,785	3,097,227	1,031,769	1,041,034	4,205,554	4,138,261	24.5	25.2
July.....	566,333	578,721	167,016	194,649	733,549	773,370	22.8	25.2
Jan.-July..	3,740,318	3,675,978	1,198,848	1,235,728	4,939,166	4,911,706	24.3	25.2
August.....	476,318	497,238	168,498	193,566	644,816	690,804	26.1	28.0
Jan.-Aug...	4,216,636	4,173,216	1,367,346	1,429,294	5,583,982	5,602,510	24.5	25.5
September..	510,103	491,977	163,731	179,503	673,834	671,500	24.3	26.7
Jan.-Sept..	4,726,739	4,665,183	1,531,072	1,608,602	6,257,811	6,273,785	24.5	25.6
October....	532,174	519,554	161,945	182,646	694,119	702,200	23.3	26.0
Jan.-Oct...	5,258,913	5,184,767	1,693,023	1,791,249	6,951,936	6,976,016	24.3	25.7
November...	460,506	454,116	139,961	152,749	600,467	606,595	23.3	25.1
Jan.-Nov...	5,719,419	5,638,883	1,832,979	1,943,728	7,552,398	7,582,611	24.3	25.6

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, 1991 and 1992¹

Item	1992			1991-92		
	Oct. 1992	Nov. 1992	Percent change	Nov. 1991	Nov. 1992	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	128.2	129.7	+1.2	126.6	129.7	+2.4
Seasonally adjusted..	129.3	129.5	+0.2	126.0	129.5	+2.8
Producer Priced Index:						
Unadjusted..	129.2	129.1	-0.1	129.5	129.1	-0.3
Seasonally adjusted..	124.4	125.6	+1.0	126.1	125.6	-0.4

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 November 1992¹

Country source/make	Retail price changes November 1992 (+ 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.
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, November 1992.

Table 9

Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-December 1992¹

Company, model, and options ²	April 1, 1981		December 1, 1992		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model ³	Optionally equipped model ³	Base model ³	Optionally equipped model ³	Nov. 1992- Dec. 1992	Apr. 1981- Dec. 1992
General Motors:						
Cavalier, 2 door.....	\$6,966 ⁴	\$6,966 ⁴	\$8,620	\$8,620	0.0	+23.7
De Ville, 4 door.....	14,198	14,198	32,990	32,990	0.0	+132.4
Ford:						
Escort Pony 2 door HB (RWD, TG).....	5,556	5,857	8,335	8,455	0.0	+50.9
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) ⁵	6,421	6,953	10,442	11,294	0.0	+64.5
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door.....	8,519	10,102	20,493	20,493	0.0	+102.9
Chrysler:						
Dynasty, 4 door (AC) ⁶	6,672	7,502	14,736	15,536	0.0	+107.1
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R).....	5,688	5,793	12,298	12,528	0.0	+116.3
Nissan (Datsun):						
Sentra E, 2 door ⁷	5,369	5,369	8,725	8,725	0.0	+62.5
Maxima GXE, 4 door.....	10,379	10,379	20,960	20,960	0.0	+101.9
Honda:						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) ⁸	4,599	4,694	8,400	8,801	0.0	+87.5
Accord DX, 4 door (R).....	7,645	7,950	13,950	14,340	0.0	+80.4

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 1981-93 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.