The U.S. Automobile Industry Monthly Report on Selected Economic Indicators

Investigation No. 332-207

Publication 2774 April 1994

U.S. International Trade Commission



U.S. International Trade Commission

COMMISSIONERS

Don E. Newquist, Chairman
Peter S. Watson, Vice Chairman
David B. Rohr
Carol T. Crawford
Janet A. Nuzum
Lynn M. Bragg

Robert A. Rogowsky Director of Operations

Vem Simpson
Director of Industries

This report was prepared principally by

Michael Hagey

Machinery and Transportation Division

Address all communications to Secretary to the Commission United States International Trade Commission Washington, DC 20436

PREFACE

In November 1980, the U.S. International Trade Commission, under section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974, determined that certain motor vehicles and certain chassis and bodies therefor were not being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or threat thereof, to the domestic industry producing articles like or directly competitive with the imported articles (inv. No. TA-201-44). In December 198D, the Subcommittee on Trade, Committee on Ways and Means of the U.S. House of Representatives, requested that the Commission provide it with monthly data on U.S. automobile imports, sales, production, and prices. In late December 1980, the Commission instituted inv. No. 332-121, U.S. Automobile Industry Monthly Report on Selected Economic Indicators. The request by the Subcommittee on Trade of the House Committee on Ways and Means for monthly data on the automobile industry was renewed four time between 1981-85, with the final request in 1985 (inv. No. 332-207) having no fixed date for termination.

The report uses trade data compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Sales, production, and certain price data are derived from <u>Automotive News</u>. The U.S. Department of Labor provides employment and consumer and producer price data, while quarterly financial results for U.S.-owned automakers are from various public sources.

CONTENTS

		<u>Page</u>
Pref	ace	
	Tables	
1.	New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and	
2.	employment, by specified periods, April 1992-March 1994 New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources	1
3.	and by specified periods, March 1992-February 1994 Lightweight automobile trucks and bodies and cab/chassis for	2
J.	lightweight automobile trucks and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, March 1992-February 1994	3
4.	New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods,	4
5.	March 1992-February 1994 Lightweight automobile trucks and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods,	4
6.	March 1992-February 1994 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	5
_	periods, 1993 and 1994	6
7.	New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1993 and 1994	6
8.	New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during March 1994	7
9.	Sales and profits (loss) on major U.S. automobile manufacturers'	7
10.	operations, by specified periods, 1994 and 1993 Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and	7
	Japanese automobiles, April 1981-April 1994	8

Table 1
New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, April 1992-March 1994

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

	1993-94			1992-93	
Item	Feb. 1993	Mar. 1994	Apr. 1993- Mar. 1994	Mar. 1993	Apr. 1992- Mar. 1993
Retail sales of domes-					
tic production	564	695	6 , 742	577	6 , 225
Production	584	659	6,071	592	5 , 666
Inventory	1,475	1,487	(1)	1,418	(1)
Days' supply ² ·····	63	58	(1)	67	(1)
Employment: Total employees Production workers	850 ⁴ 654	5 855 ₅ 659	(1) (1)	820 6296	(1) (1)

¹ Not applicable.

Source: Production, retail sales, days' supply, and inventory, <u>Automotive News</u>; 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.

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 February 1992, revised.

 $^{^{5}}$ Data are for March 1994.

⁶ Data are for March 1993.

Table 2 New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, March 1992-February 1994 $^{\prime}$

	1993-94		1992-93			
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. 1993-	Feb.	Mar. 1992-	
Source	1994	1994	Feb. 1994	1993	Feb. 1993	
			Ouantity (unit	- a)		
,			<u> </u>			
Japan	112,066	116,650	1,556,461	136,804	1,605,223	
Canada	86,137	97,684	1,454,615	110,557	1,212,545	
Germany	7,753	14,882	170,031	22,734	222,756	
Korea, South	13,770	16,702	134,830	7,724	135,161	
Sweden	4,253	4,454	58 , 207	4,282	73 , 684	
Mexico	19,353	21,682	308,149	22 , 282	261,501	
United Kingdom	1,052	1,748	20,344	1,376	12,431	
Italy	37	50	1,226	27	1,635	
France	0	2	28	0	32	
Brazil	0	2	4,907	0	12,067	
All other	5,645	4,798	51,311	2,708	31,907	
Total	250,066	278 , 654	3,760,113	308,494	3 , 568 , 978	
			77-1 (1 000 -1	- 1 1 \		
			Value (1,000 do	Ollars)		
Japan	1,696,983	1,807,515	21,980,633	1,730,984	19,935,295	
Canada	1,076,217	1,195,978	18,198,496	1,347,786	14,639,060	
Germany	267,460	427,069	5,156,485	590 , 051	6,240,400	
Korea, South	92 , 832	108,117	803 , 198	44,977	753 , 716	
Sweden	79,466	84 , 551	1,134,932	77 , 395	1,367,690	
Mexico	212,674	229,932	3,205,804	208,463	2,528,198	
United Kingdom	43,910	72 , 655	779 , 420	53 , 109	454,837	
Italy	2,153	4,376	63,033	2,873	52 , 283	
France	0	31	436	0	401	
Brazil	0	18	35,002	0	80,908	
All other	116,853	102,649	944,209	54,160	468,786	
TITE OCHCE						

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.

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, March 1992-February 1994 2

	1993-94				
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. 1993-	Feb.	Mar. 1992-
Source	1994	1994	Feb. 1994	1993	Feb. 1993
			Quantity (u	nits) ³	
Japan	9,431	7,768	118,251	11,400	158,192
Canada	25,206	36,293	467,960	45,813	499,279
Mexico	3,498	3,185	33,101	2,821	27,191
All other	327	323	2,334	0	51
Total	38,462	47,569	621.645	60,035	684,474
			Value (1,000	dollars)	
Japan	79,462	66 , 227	946,592	97 , 735	1,188,815
Canada	335,486	507,917	6,338,712	608,910	6,615,345
Mexico	50,233	46,151	542,834	52,188	490,783
All other	8,565	10,129	89,086	1,674	21,665
Total	473,745	630,423	7,917,223	760,507	8,316,608

¹ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gvw.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce, except as noted.

² Partially estimated, all data include imports into Puerto Rico.

³ Quantity data include complete trucks and cab/chassis, but exclude bodies.

Table 4

New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, March 1992-February 1994

	1993-94			1992-93	
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. 1993-	Feb.	Mar. 1992-
<u>Market</u>	1994	1994	Feb. 1994	1993	Feb. 1993
			O	(
			<u> Ouantity</u>	(units)	
Canada	34,734	51,435	504,473	40,015	466,423
Japan	4,237	8,316	60 , 157	5 , 615	44,621
All other	26,766	26,815	329 , 527	25,947	348,534
Total	65,737	86,566	894,157	72,008	862,641
			Value (1,	000 dollars)	
Canada	427,420	602,000	6,586,163	530,988	6,099,844
Japan	67 , 630	136,724	1,035,219	93,420	753 , 937
All other	414,786	436,429	5,177,899	396,670	5,243,153
Total	909,835	1,175,153	12,799,281	1,027,253	12,140,186

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 5 Lightweight automobile trucks $^{\rm l}$ and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, March 1992-February 1994 $^{\rm 2}$

	1993-94			1992-93	
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. 1993-	Feb.	Mar. 1992-
Marke t	1994	1994	Feb. 1994	1993	Feb. 1993
			Quantity' (u:	nits) ³	
Canada	9,584	12,984	132,363	9 , 750	109,833
All other	3,184	3 , 576	35,960	2,437	34,201
Total	12,768	16,560	168,323	12,206	144,088
			Value (1.00	0 dollars)	
Canada	125,231	168,800	1,672,171	125,862	1,328,206
All other	<u>66,459</u>	71,724	669.506	28 , 559	559 , 456
Total	191,690	240,524	2,341,677	154 , 752	1,888,457

¹ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gvw.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce, except as noted.

² Partially estimated.

³ Quantity data include complete trucks and cab/chassis, but exclude bodies.

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, 1993 and 1994

	Sales of- Domestic automobile	es ¹	Imported automobil	es ²	Total U.S. sales 1,2			of import to total
Period	1994	1993	1994	1993	1994	1993	1994	1993
			<u>Ouantitv</u>	(units)	-		Perc	ent
January	480,435	430,255	125,876	129,802	606,311	560,057	20.1	23.2
February	563,715	462,409	135,894	131,088	698,809	593,489	19.4	22.1
JanFeb	1,048,076	893,931	257,044	268 , 879	1,305,120	1,154,810	19.7	23.3
March	695,170	576 , 959	181,198	158,219	876,368	735,178	20.7	21.5
JanMar	1,743,246	1,470,890	438,242	427,098	2,181,488	1,889,988	20.1	22.6

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

Source: <u>Automotive News.</u>

Table 7 New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1993 and 1994 $^{\rm 1}$

	1994			1993-94		
Item	Feb. 1994	Mar. 1994	Percent change	Mar. 1993	Mar. 1994	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted Seasonally	135.0	135.3	+0.2	130.9	135.3	+3.4
adjusted Producer Price Index:	133.9	134.5	+0.4	130.1	134.5	+3.4
Unadjusted Seasonally	133.9	133.7	-0.1	129.4	133.7	+3.3
adjusted	132.8	133.0	+0.2	129.1	133.0	+3.0

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

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

² Does not include automobiles imported from Canada and Mexico.

Table 8 New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during March $1994^{\,\mathrm{l}}$

Country source/make	Retail price changes <u>March 1994 (+ or -)</u>
U.S. producers:	
General Motors	No change.
Ford	No change.
Chrysler	
Japanese producers:	
Toyota Motors	No change.
Mazda	No change.
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: <u>Automotive News</u>, March 1994.

Table 9 Sales and profits (loss) on major U.S. automobile manufacturers' operations, by specified periods, 1994 and 1993 1

	1994	<u>1993</u>
Item and firm	January-March	January-March
Sales:		
General Motors	37,500	34,960
Ford	30,400	26,760
Chrysler	13,200	<u>10,900</u>
Total	81,100	72,620
Profits:		
General Motors	854	513
Ford	904	572
Chrysler	938	
Total	2,696	

¹ Data are for world operations.

Source: New York Times and The Wall Street Journal.

 π оо Ξ Ξ $\uparrow \uparrow \xi \beta$ = suggested retail prices of selected U.S.

April 1981-April 19941

		0 4) r4 p, T		Option-	Percent change equipmed model	in optionally
a)	In 4D m O O a	001 04 H 11 a) T O	m cd m'O cd O E	equipped model ³	Mar. 1994- Apr. 1994	Apr. 1981- Apr. 1994
14 W 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	\$6,966 ⁴ 14,198	\$6,966 ⁴ 14,198	UN 0 01 0 411 CO 11	\$8,995 34,500	o o o o	O O O O1 CO CN + H
**CD 0	10 H 01 N ri iII 1 an	N M N I/1 1/1 0 03 ON H in 10 O	411 L11 L(1 (41 CO NCI CO CO N CO CO N CO CO C	L(1 ON 111 411 H NO ON CO N CO H r-1 CN1	000	+51.2 +70.0 +105.6
T	co 69° 's	N E 1	CO U1 ON H N 01	VI O1 N H		и о 471.3
	64,1 01 11 01 11 01 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	643 ¹ 01 01 01 r-	и В и и и и и и и и и и и и и и и и и и	1/1 6.1 8 6 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1	0 0 0 0 0 0	+105.5 +109.0 +83.3
H	• E-1 ··· 4.11 ···· 1.4 Q M M M O • 0) • 0 1 1.1 • 10 0 0 4 j • 1 10 0 ca • 34 V 4,4 111	O 4.3 O H O A 4.1 O WW	9 M 43 M 43 M 44 M 44 M 44 M 44 M 44 M 4	O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	E 00 04 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	td A a) cd ri U +1 O
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	• m Q	.44°C0 a)	0 \$4 4 0 ft	4.) • 4.) • Q:	2 2	
O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	VPi 34 OO.) O E 0 +4 E 14 m E 20 a) 10 40	aj 6 ai 0 4 m id H	O O U r4 04 04 41 0 H E ri A-4.4	M N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	3 & 04 00 -4-1 00 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	ai 00 +4 00 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0