

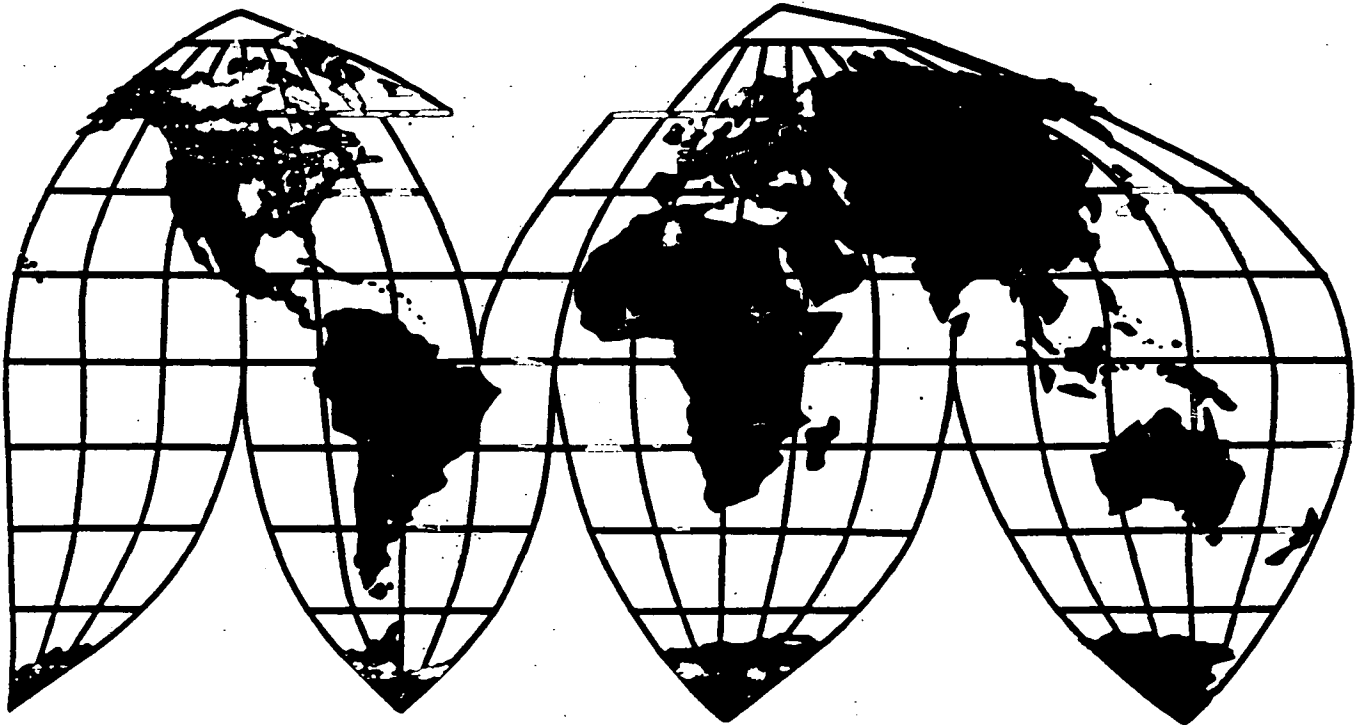
The U.S. Automobile Industry Monthly Report on Selected Economic Indicators

Investigation No. 332-207

Publication 2929

September 1995

U.S. International Trade Commission



Washington, DC 20436

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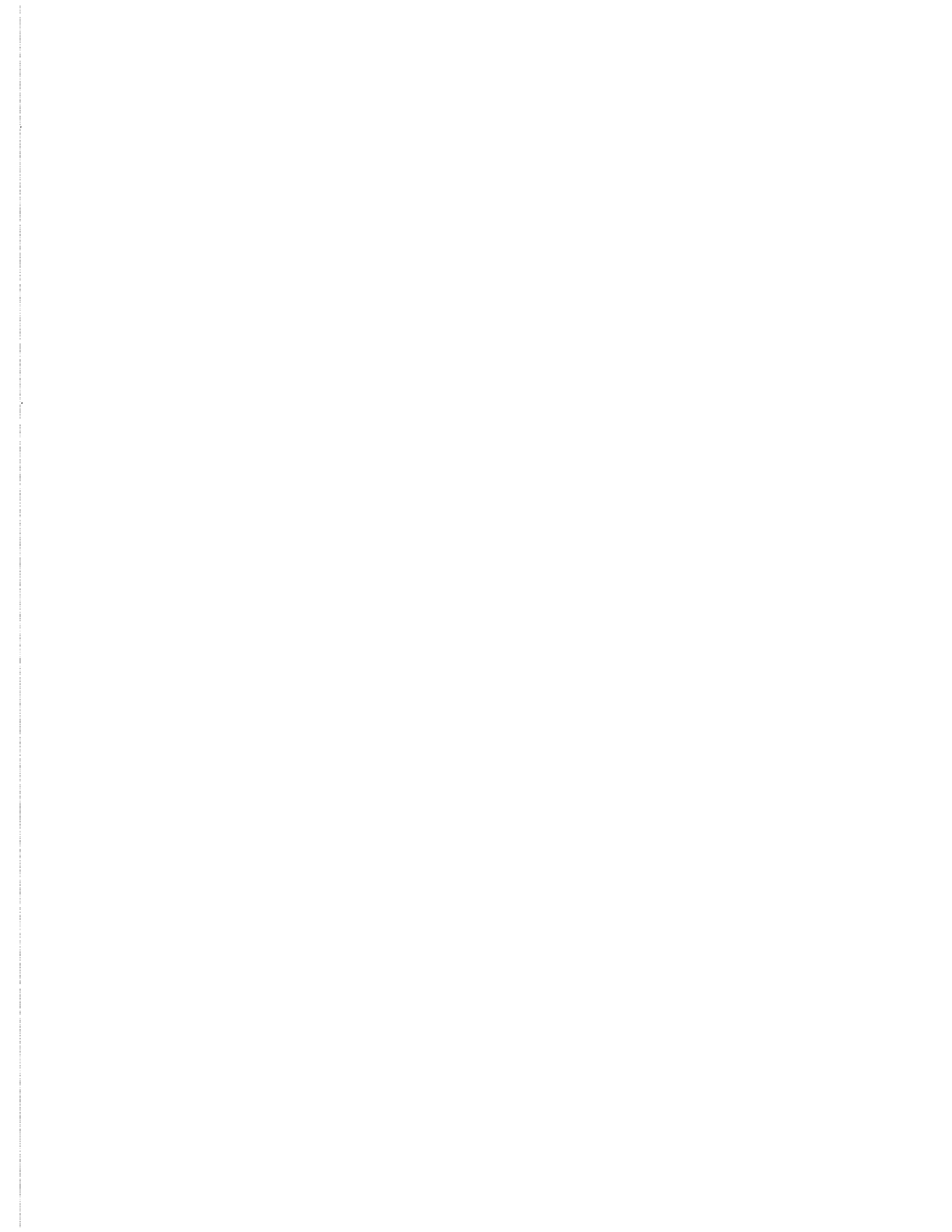
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PREFACE

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 therefore 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 1980, 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 times 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 *Automotive News*. 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.

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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, September 1993-August 1995

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1994-95			1993-94	
	July 1995	Aug. 1995	Sept. 1994-Aug. 1995	Aug. 1994	Sept. 1993-Aug. 1994
Retail sales of domestic production	585	648	7,027	597	7,344
Production	293	575	6,340	541	6,810
Inventory	1,499	1,473	(¹)	1,196	(¹)
Days' supply ²	64	61	(¹)	54	(¹)
Employment: ³					
Total employees	⁴ 940	⁵ 914	(¹)	⁶ 880	(¹)
Production workers	⁴ 738	⁵ 709	(¹)	⁶ 679	(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 June 1995, revised.

⁵ Data are for July 1995.

⁶ Data are for July 1994.

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.

Table 2

New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, August 1993-July 1995¹

Source	1994-95			1993-94	
	June 1995	July 1995	Aug. 1994- July 1995	July 1994	Aug. 1993- July 1994
	<i>Quantity (units)</i>				
Japan	115,245	110,612	1,605,487	140,383	1,590,246
Canada	143,818	59,747	1,714,614	86,056	1,464,573
Germany	18,848	29,155	203,933	14,557	178,729
Korea, South	16,972	18,628	225,028	21,576	186,501
Sweden	5,927	4,489	87,371	2,686	54,596
Mexico	36,507	42,177	411,691	28,732	333,718
United Kingdom	3,264	2,861	37,685	1,556	23,231
Italy	53	72	1,064	48	1,129
France	3	4	21	0	59
Brazil	0	3	49	6	1,611
All other	1,772	3,213	40,570	2,846	53,421
Total	342,409	270,961	4,327,514	298,446	3,887,817
	<i>Value (1,000 dollars)</i>				
Japan	1,811,876	1,767,887	24,703,050	2,130,310	23,630,732
Canada	2,176,919	902,175	24,882,974	1,228,923	19,499,928
Germany	623,059	899,639	6,589,680	430,797	5,436,867
Korea, South	126,034	143,878	1,674,109	136,202	1,197,810
Sweden	127,283	98,486	1,824,219	51,196	1,029,893
Mexico	470,680	507,098	4,854,778	312,163	3,517,085
United Kingdom	107,079	87,023	1,299,900	54,222	856,231
Italy	4,537	4,427	71,346	5,470	65,258
France	75	7	385	0	1,011
Brazil	0	700	1,776	73	11,671
All other	37,654	71,706	843,163	36,767	1,033,789
Total	5,485,196	4,483,077	66,745,398	4,386,123	56,280,303

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, August 1993-July 1995²

Source	1994-95			1993-94	
	June 1995	July 1995	Aug. 1994- July 1995	July 1994	Aug. 1993- July 1994
	<i>Quantity (units)³</i>				
Japan	4,290	4,393	118,353	13,979	117,023
Canada	37,577	14,937	431,532	20,608	441,468
Mexico	8,982	9,088	66,863	2,734	33,974
All other	15	33	1,491	407	3,394
Total	50,864	28,450	618,239	37,728	595,858
	<i>Value (1,000 dollars)</i>				
Japan	50,441	55,141	1,100,451	108,898	951,097
Canada	572,535	243,904	6,440,885	296,864	6,120,788
Mexico	149,674	148,251	1,176,542	42,597	490,336
All other	3,824	4,750	78,977	10,500	105,095
Total	776,474	452,046	8,796,855	458,858	7,667,316

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, August-1993-July 1995

Market	1994-95			1993-94	
	June 1995	July 1995	Aug. 1994-July 1995	July 1994	Aug. 1993-July 1994
	<i>Quantity (units)</i>				
Canada	41,070	21,357	515,963	25,607	547,275
Japan	6,879	7,383	111,073	7,643	74,216
All other	24,114	17,740	396,675	25,113	342,358
Total	72,063	46,480	1,023,711	58,363	963,854
	<i>Value (1,000 dollars)</i>				
Canada	596,412	300,386	7,350,849	339,854	7,280,232
Japan	140,857	144,661	2,026,378	136,399	1,283,389
All other	356,210	230,393	5,140,546	366,241	5,186,971
Total	1,093,479	675,440	14,517,773	842,493	13,750,666

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, August
1993-July 1995²

Market	1994-95			1993-94	
	June 1995	July 1995	Aug. 1994- July 1995	July 1994	Aug. 1993- July 1994
	<i>Quantity (units)³</i>				
Canada	12,192	7,741	156,044	8,892	158,410
All other	3,574	3,417	61,441	2,301	35,754
Total	15,766	11,159	217,485	11,193	194,219
	<i>Value (1,000 dollars)</i>				
Canada	178,461	110,122	2,148,819	114,942	2,032,994
All other	62,454	65,790	796,903	41,730	696,651
Total	240,914	175,912	2,945,722	156,671	2,730,605

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, 1994 and 1995

Period	Sales of- Domestic automobiles ¹		Imported automobiles ²		Total U.S. sales ^{1,2}		Ratio of import sales to total sales ^{1,2}	
	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994
	Quantity (units)						Percent	
January	468,400	484,545	113,236	121,910	581,636	606,364	19.5	20.1
February	523,833	563,715	125,360	135,054	649,193	698,769	19.3	19.3
Jan-Feb	992,233	1,048,089	238,598	256,964	1,230,831	1,305,053	19.4	19.7
March	642,971	695,170	155,674	181,158	798,645	876,328	19.5	20.7
Jan-Mar	1,635,204	1,743,246	393,202	438,122	2,028,406	2,181,368	19.4	20.1
April	551,342	632,267	134,626	153,627	685,968	785,889	19.6	19.5
Jan-Apr	2,186,546	2,375,521	527,829	591,748	2,714,375	2,967,269	19.4	19.9
May	660,299	655,359	164,972	159,224	825,271	814,583	19.9	19.5
Jan-May	2,846,845	3,030,871	692,801	750,972	3,539,646	3,781,843	19.6	19.9
June	687,389	694,783	165,486	176,848	852,875	871,631	19.4	20.3
Jan-June	3,534,234	3,725,654	858,287	927,820	4,392,521	4,653,474	19.5	19.4
July	585,421	557,344	135,955	155,963	721,376	713,307	18.9	21.9
Jan-July	4,119,655	4,283,005	994,242	1,083,640	5,113,897	5,366,645	19.4	20.2
August	647,970	596,788	158,453	185,514	806,423	782,302	19.6	23.7
Jan.-Aug	4,767,625	4,879,793	1,152,695	1,269,154	5,920,320	6,148,947	19.5	20.6

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, 1994 and 1995¹

Item	1995			1994-95		
	July 1995	Aug. 1995	Percent change	Aug. 1994	Aug. 1995	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted	140.3	137.9	-1.7	135.6	137.9	+1.7
Seasonally adjusted ...	139.0	139.3	+0.2	136.9	139.3	+1.7
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted	132.2	131.4	-0.6	134.0	131.4	-2.0
Seasonally adjusted ...	133.1	133.3	+0.2	136.7	133.3	-2.6

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 August 1995¹

Country source/make	Retail price changes Aug. 1995 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors	No change.
Ford	No change.
Chrysler	No change.
Japanese producers:	
Toyota Motors	+1.9 percent.
Mazda	No change.
Honda	No change.
Nissan	No change.
European producers:	
Volkswagen	No change.
BMW	No change.
Mercedes-Benz	No change.
Korean producer:	
Hyundai	+1.0 percent.

¹ Average retail price change for all models.

Source: *Automotive News*, Aug. 1995.

Table 9

Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-September 1995¹

Company, model, and options ²	April 1, 1981		September 1995		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model ³	Optionally equipped model ³	Base model ³	Optionally equipped model ³	Aug. 1995-Sept. 1995	Apr. 1981-Sept. 1995
General Motors:						
Cavalier, 2 door	⁴ \$6,966	⁴ \$6,966	\$10,060	\$10,060	0.0	+44.4
De Ville, 4 door	14,198	14,198	34,990	34,990	0.0	+146.4
Ford:						
Escort Pony 2 door HB (RWD, TG)	5,556	5,857	9,680	9,800	0.0	+67.3
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)	5,688	5,793	13,618	13,853	0.0	+139.1
Nissan:						
Sentra E, 2 door ⁶	5,369	5,369	9,610	9,610	0.0	+79.0
Maxima GXE, 4 door	10,379	10,379	19,999	19,999	0.0	+92.7
Honda:						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) ⁷	4,599	4,694	9,890	10,290	0.0	+119.2
Accord DX, 4 door (R)	7,645	7,950	14,940	15,190	0.0	+91.1

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 June 21, 1981.

⁵ Sentra replaced the 210; Stanza replaced the 510.

⁶ Civic 1500 replaced the Civic 1300.

Source: *Automotive News*.

Note: Some 1981-95 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.