

# **HEAVYWEIGHT MOTORCYCLES: SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS, FIRST QUARTER 1984**

**Report to the President on  
Investigation No. 332-164  
Under Section 332 of the  
Tariff Act of 1930**

**USITC PUBLICATION 1533**

**MAY 1984**



# UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

## COMMISSIONERS

Alfred E. Eckes, Chairman

Paula Stern

Veronica A. Haggart

Seeley G. Lodwick

Susan W. Liebeler

David B. Rohr

---

Kenneth R. Mason, Secretary to the Commission

---

This report was prepared principally by

Jim McElroy and Deborah Lodomirak

Machinery and Transportation Equipment Branch  
Machinery and Equipment Division

---

Office of Industries  
Norris A. Lynch, Director

---

Address all communications to  
Office of the Secretary  
United States International Trade Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20436

## Highlights

The following are highlights of the economic data collected on the heavyweight motorcycle industry for the first quarter of 1984, compared with data collected for the first quarter of 1983. Since most data obtained by the Commission regarding the domestic heavyweight motorcycle industry are business confidential (even in the aggregate), little information concerning the domestic industry is available in the public report.

- o U.S. production of heavyweight motorcycles increased to 38,047 units during January–March 1984, and U.S. shipments of heavyweight motorcycles increased to 27,634 units valued at \$109 million during the same period. In addition, retail sales, exports, and inventories also increased during January–March 1984 when compared with the corresponding 1983 period.
- o The average net selling price for U.S.–produced heavyweight motorcycles decreased from \$4,064 during January–March 1983, to \$4,001 during January–March 1984.
- o Total average employment increased from 3,153 persons during January–March 1983, to 3,463 persons during January–March 1984, and total hours worked by production and related workers also increased during the comparative period.
- o U.S. imports of heavyweight motorcycles declined from 67,301 units valued at \$156 million in January–March 1983, to 8,267 units valued at \$33 million in January–March 1984 (table 1).
- o Import shipments dropped from 57,197 units in January–March 1983, to 26,936 units in January–March 1984, or by 53 percent (table 2).
- o Retail sales of imported heavyweight motorcycles decreased from 28,116 units in January–March 1983, to 17,601 units in January–March 1984, or by 37 percent (table 3).
- o Inventories of imported heavyweight motorcycles decreased from 266,806 units as of March 31, 1983, to 170,367 units as of March 31, 1984, or by 36 percent (tables 4 and 5).



Table 1.—Heavyweight motorcycles: U.S. imports for consumption,  
January–March 1983, and January–March 1984

(Quantity in units; value in thousands of dollars)		
Period	Quantity	Value
January–March 1983	67,301	155,848
January–March 1984	8,267	32,619

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 2.—Heavyweight motorcycles: U.S. import shipments,  
January–March 1983, and January–March 1984

(Quantity in units; value in thousands of dollars)		
Period	Quantity	Value
January–March 1983	57,197	164,401
January–March 1984	26,936	77,070

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 3.—Heavyweight motorcycles: U.S. importers' retail sales, by  
engine sizes, January–March 1983, and January–March 1984

(In units)		
Item	January– March 1983	January– March 1984
Over 700 cc but not over 790 cc	16,885	8,619
Over 790 cc but not over 970 cc	2,116	2,872
Over 970 cc	9,115	6,110
Total	28,116	17,601

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 4.—Heavyweight motorcycles: U.S. importers' end-of-period inventories, by engine sizes, March 31, 1983, and March 31, 1984

(In units)		
Item	March 31, 1983	March 31, 1984
Over 700 cc but not over 790 cc	83,112	44,785
Over 790 cc but not over 970 cc	25,313	18,856
Over 970 cc	29,511	14,958
Total	137,936	78,599

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 5.—Heavyweight motorcycles: Dealers' end-of-period inventories of imported motorcycles, by engine sizes, March 31, 1983, and March 31, 1984

(In units)		
Item	March 31, 1983	March 31, 1984
Over 700 cc but not over 790 cc	79,858	48,726
Over 790 cc but not over 970 cc	15,320	12,854
Over 970 cc	33,692	30,188
Total	128,870	91,768

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

