

THE U.S. AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY: MONTHLY REPORT ON SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

**Report to the Subcommittee on Trade,
Committee on Ways and Means,
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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, November 1984–October 1986

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)					
Item	1985–86			1984–85	
	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1986	Nov. 1985–Oct. 1986	Oct. 1985	Nov. 1984–Oct. 1985
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact.....	177	105	1,849	162	2,239
Compact.....	202	141	1,654	108	1,536
Intermediate.....	322	228	2,748	194	2,619
Standard.....	139	93	1,028	55	976
Luxury.....	84	65	767	85	1,019
Total.....	924	633	8,046	604	8,388
Production:					
Subcompact.....	123	166	1,588	141	1,526
Compact.....	170	168	2,009	180	1,978
Intermediate.....	199	222	2,683	280	3,109
Standard.....	83	102	653	58	802
Luxury.....	65	75	752	77	890
Total.....	640	733	7,685	737	8,304
Inventory:					
Subcompact.....	293	269	1/	228	1/
Compact.....	317	313	1/	261	1/
Intermediate.....	542	477	1/	448	1/
Standard.....	222	189	1/	138	1/
Luxury.....	183	164	1/	169	1/
Total.....	1,557	1,413	1/	1,242	1/
Days' supply: 2/					
Subcompact.....	51	55	1/	33	1/
Compact.....	64	74	1/	35	1/
Intermediate.....	59	55	1/	36	1/
Standard.....	65	68	1/	34	1/
Luxury.....	71	59	1/	42	1/
Average.....	62	60	1/	36	1/
Employment: 3/					
Total employees.....	4/ 804	5/ 812	1/	6/ 844	1/
Production workers...	4/ 601	5/ 610	1/	6/ 646	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 August 1986, revised.

5/ Data are for September 1986.

6/ Data are for September 1985.

Source: Retail sales and production, 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 for consumption, by principal sources and by specified periods, October 1984–September 1986 ^{1/}

Source	1985–86			1984–85	
	Aug. 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1985– Sept. 1986	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1984– Sept. 1985
Quantity (units)					
Japan.....	203,583	166,242	2,640,192	240,785	2,298,502
Canada.....	60,004	97,547	1,156,960	110,355	1,098,466
West Germany.....	32,265	27,408	447,222	28,000	447,006
Sweden.....	3,526	6,674	148,665	6,307	129,258
Italy.....	1,569	391	11,385	1,421	7,865
United Kingdom...	2,054	1,888	27,701	1,560	22,990
France.....	1,630	1,101	13,278	1,539	45,980
Mexico.....	1,980	1,739	30,733	124	12,048
Yugoslavia.....	3,230	3,653	32,157	506	512
Korea.....	18,404	15,142	114,891	0	0
All other.....	691	728	12,247	336	10,346
Total.....	328,936	322,513	4,635,431	390,933	4,072,973
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan.....	1,735,321	1,410,776	19,845,288	1,508,539	14,589,622
Canada.....	632,506	1,015,211	11,551,564	1,087,497	10,541,716
West Germany.....	659,376	503,778	7,474,520	395,854	5,740,597
Sweden.....	43,974	87,142	1,780,351	70,867	1,475,937
Italy.....	17,961	5,962	162,468	19,180	115,714
United Kingdom...	54,005	51,556	708,658	38,543	555,395
France.....	19,556	13,325	146,597	14,330	258,588
Mexico.....	21,991	21,235	301,775	654	77,788
Yugoslavia.....	8,170	9,202	79,832	1,265	1,280
Korea.....	84,565	69,616	519,807	—	—
All other.....	9,148	9,608	161,195	4,560	105,141
Total.....	3,286,573	3,197,321	42,732,055	3,141,109	33,461,778

^{1/} Data include imports into Puerto Rico and TSUSA item 692.1005; 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 for consumption, by principal sources and by specified periods, October 1984–September 1986 2/

Source	1985–86			1984–85	
	Aug. 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1985– Sept. 1986	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1984– Sept. 1985
Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>					
Japan.....	79,996	53,143	953,964	69,846	746,275
Canada.....	31,248	18,431	318,389	29,441	319,657
Mexico.....	1,995	1,050	21,628	2,236	24,925
All other.....	3	3	1,219	9	3,146
Total.....	113,212	72,627	1,295,200	101,532	1,094,003
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Japan.....	441,065	277,048	4,589,809	292,114	3,162,514
Canada.....	290,909	166,248	2,605,924	275,534	2,880,897
Mexico.....	14,904	7,836	156,336	16,186	182,909
All other.....	4,518	6,329	78,924	259	25,016
Total.....	721,396	457,461	7,430,993	584,093	6,251,336

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, October 1984–September 1986

Market	1985–86			1984–85	
	Aug. 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1985– Sept. 1986	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1984– Sept. 1985
Quantity (units)					
Canada.....	18,916	58,871	659,262	57,464	651,996
Japan.....	153	45	2,098	38	1,525
All other.....	1,708	790	25,137	1,510	23,981
Total.....	20,777	59,706	686,497	59,012	677,502
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Canada.....	183,199	556,199	5,942,276	487,331	5,477,790
Japan.....	1,999	666	33,646	414	20,667
All other.....	22,379	9,472	334,548	18,358	282,659
Total.....	207,577	566,337	6,310,470	506,103	5,781,116

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, October 1984–September 1986 2/

	1985-86			1984-85	
Market	Aug. 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1985- Sept. 1986	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1984- Sept. 1985
	Quantity (units) 3/				
Canada.....	4,941	19,994	168,108	11,959	139,393
All other.....	374	409	8,042	1,062	14,068
Total.....	5,315	20,403	176,150	13,021	153,461
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	43,026	187,300	1,495,780	108,471	1,033,045
All other.....	2,995	3,294	81,428	14,999	166,141
Total.....	46,021	190,594	1,577,208	123,470	1,199,186

1/ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gvw.

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, 1985 and 1986

Period	Sales of—		Imported		Total U.S.		Ratio of im-	
	Domestic		automobiles 2/		sales		port sales to	
	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985
							Percent	
January....	635,904	628,037	237,281	208,184	873,185	836,221	27.2	24.9
February...	613,371	645,317	219,096	193,290	832,467	838,607	26.3	23.0
Jan-Feb....	1,249,275	1,273,354	456,377	401,474	1,705,652	1,674,828	26.8	24.0
March.....	649,351	768,927	247,487	201,341	896,838	970,268	27.6	20.8
Jan-Mar....	1,898,626	2,042,281	703,864	602,815	2,602,490	2,645,096	27.0	22.8
April.....	719,563	788,282	252,609	198,241	972,172	986,523	26.0	20.1
Jan-Apr....	2,618,189	2,830,563	956,473	801,056	3,574,662	3,631,619	26.8	22.1
May.....	786,268	807,590	286,194	262,344	1,072,462	1,069,934	26.7	24.5
Jan-May....	3,404,457	3,638,153	1,242,667	1,063,400	4,647,124	4,701,553	26.7	22.6
June.....	736,261	676,675	264,954	248,659	1,001,215	925,334	26.5	26.9
Jan-June...	4,140,718	4,314,828	1,507,621	1,312,059	5,648,339	5,623,887	26.7	23.3
July.....	648,667	633,527	305,188	266,803	953,855	900,330	32.0	29.6
Jan-July...	4,789,385	4,948,355	1,812,809	1,578,862	6,602,194	6,524,217	27.5	24.2
August.....	673,311	1,000,695	278,951	255,931	952,262	1,256,626	29.3	20.4
Jan-Aug....	5,462,696	5,949,050	2,091,760	1,834,793	7,554,456	7,780,843	27.7	23.6
September..	924,829	839,382	291,952	236,669	1,216,781	1,076,051	24.0	22.0
Jan-Sept...	6,387,525	6,788,432	2,383,712	2,071,462	8,771,237	8,856,894	27.2	23.4
October....	632,546	598,399	272,552	266,278	905,098	864,677	30.1	30.8
Jan-Oct....	7,020,071	7,386,831	2,656,264	2,377,740	9,676,335	9,724,571	27.4	24.0

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

2/ Does not include automobiles imported from Canada.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 7.—New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1985 and 1986

Item	(1967 = 100)					
	1986			1985 and 1986		
	Aug. 1986	Sept. 1986	Percent change	Sept. 1985	Sept. 1986	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted....	224.7	224.5	-0.1	214.5	224.5	+4.7
Seasonally adjusted....	225.8	226.3	+0.2	216.4	226.3	+4.6
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted....	232.5	223.1	-4.0	227.0	223.1	-1.7
Seasonally adjusted....	233.2	235.1	+0.8	237.2	235.1	-0.9

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 8.—New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the
U.S. market during October 1986 ^{1/}

Source and size of category	Retail price changes in dollars, October 1986 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors.....	No change.
Ford.....	No change.
Chrysler.....	No change.
European Community producers:	
Subcompact.....	No change.
Compact.....	No change.
Luxury.....	No change.
Japanese producers:	
Subcompact.....	No change.
Compact.....	No change.
Luxury.....	No change.
Korean producers:	
Subcompact.....	No change.
Source: <u>Automotive News</u> , October 1986.	

Table 9.—Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981–November 1986 1/

Company, model, and options 2/	April 1, 1981		November 1, 1986		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Option—		ally equipped		Oct. 1986–Nov. 1986	
	Base model 3/	ally equipped model 3/	Base model 3/	ally equipped model 3/	Oct. 1986–Nov. 1986	April 1981–Nov. 1986
General Motors:						
Chevette CS, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG).....	\$5,155	\$5,405	\$4,995	\$5,350	0.0	-1.0
Cimarron, 4 door (AT).....	4/ 12,131	4/ 12,501	15,032	15,447	0.0	+23.6
Ford:						
Escort GL 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG).....	5,556	5,857	6,949	7,199	0.0	+22.9
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) 5/.....	6,421	6,953	8,310	9,057	0.0	+30.3
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, ILG, AC).....	8,519	10,102	15,410	15,555	0.0	+54.0
Chrysler:						
Plymouth Turismo, 2 door HB (RWD).....	5,938	6,188	7,199	7,199	0.0	+16.3
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, TG, R, AT).....	5,980	6,680	8,364	9,161	0.0	+37.1
Dodge 600, 4 door (RWD, AC) 6/.....	6,672	7,502	10,672	11,646	0.0	+55.2
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R).....	5,688	5,793	8,178	8,454	0.0	+45.9
Cressida, 4 door.....	11,599	11,599	19,350	19,350	0.0	+66.8
Nissan (Datsun):						
Sentra E, 2 door 7/.....	5,369	5,369	7,499	7,499	0.0	+39.7
Stanza GXE, 4 door (AT) 7/.....	6,839	7,749	11,849	12,549	0.0	+61.9
Maxima GXE, 4 door.....	10,379	10,379	16,099	16,099	0.0	+55.1
Honda:						
Civic 1300, 2 door HB (R).....	4,599	4,694	5,799	5,966	0.0	+27.1
Accord DX, 4 door (R, AT).....	7,645	7,950	10,625	11,283	0.0	+41.9
Mazda:						
323 Deluxe, 2 door HB (R) 8/.....	5,495	5,650	7,649	8,029	0.0	+42.1

1/ Suggested retail prices do not include any dealer incentives, below-market financing or rebates offered by manufacturers or importers.

2/ The following codes apply: PB = power brakes; RWD = rear window defroster; TG = tinted glass; HB = hatchback; AT = automatic transmission; AC = air conditioning; R = radio; ILG = interior luxury group.

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/ Cimarron not sold until May 21, 1981.

5/ Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

6/ Dodge 600 replaced the Diplomat.

7/ Sentra replaced the 210; Stanza replaced the 510. (Both are 1987 models.)

8/ 323 replaced the GLC.

Source: Compiled from data supplied by U.S. manufacturers, Japanese importers, and Automotive News.

Note: Some 1981–86 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.

