

# **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. 332-177  
Under Section 332  
of the Tariff Act of 1930**



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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, June 1982-May 1984

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)						
Item	1983 and 1984			1982 and 1983		
	April 1984	May 1984	June 1983- May 1984	May 1983	June 1982- May 1983	
Retail sales of domestic production:						
Subcompact-----	231	266	2,382	197	1,782	
Compact-----	86	96	990	85	952	
Intermediate-----	239	260	2,538	202	1,795	
Standard-----	113	123	1,246	107	1,016	
Luxury-----	52	58	491	39	389	
Total-----	721	803	7,647	630	5,940	
Production:						
Subcompact-----	246	254	2,553	187	1,775	
Compact-----	103	115	1,169	68	944	
Intermediate-----	195	202	2,413	214	1,782	
Standard-----	81	97	1,084	86	823	
Luxury-----	44	46	483	42	405	
Total-----	669	714	7,702	597	5,729	
Inventory:						
Subcompact-----	298	301	1/	236	1/	
Compact-----	424	429	1/	237	1/	
Intermediate-----	532	489	1/	424	1/	
Standard-----	192	193	1/	206	1/	
Luxury-----	133	130	1/	90	1/	
Total-----	1,579	1,542	1/	1,193	1/	
Days' supply: 2/						
Subcompact-----	56	59	1/	59	1/	
Compact-----	71	66	1/	49	1/	
Intermediate-----	58	48	1/	50	1/	
Standard-----	56	48	1/	47	1/	
Luxury-----	58	44	1/	53	1/	
Total-----	56	53	1/	53	1/	
Employment: 3/						
Total employees-----	4/ 863	5/ 855	1/	6/ 707	1/	
Production workers--	4/ 669	5/ 660	1/	6/ 526	1/	
Layoffs 7/-----	98	87	1/	208	1/	

1/ Not applicable.

2/ Days' supply is an average for each class size which is determined by dividing total inventory by the previous month's retail sales.

3/ Employment data are for SIC 371 (motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment).

4/ Data are for March 1984, revised.

5/ Data are for April 1984.

6/ Data are for April 1983, revised.

7/ Layoffs are the number of UAW members on indefinite layoff from U.S. auto plants as of the end of each specified period.

Source: Retail sales and production, Ward's 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, May 1982-April 1984 <sup>1/</sup>

Source	1983 and 1984			1982 and 1983	
	March 1984	April 1984	May 1983- April 1984	April 1983	May 1982- April 1983
	Quantity (units)				
Japan-----	163,000	136,699	1,867,050	121,343	1,828,312
Canada-----	87,499	109,396	935,493	76,833	738,759
West Germany-----	42,338	38,887	327,680	18,537	234,073
Sweden-----	16,469	11,967	122,779	11,351	96,021
Italy-----	1,044	1,128	7,808	325	5,037
United Kingdom-----	2,664	1,957	18,071	1,645	14,950
France-----	3,813	3,829	34,201	4,548	49,076
All other-----	1,020	1,378	10,044	340	3,743
Total-----	317,847	305,241	3,323,126	234,922	2,969,971
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	1,062,228	852,053	11,146,059	691,752	9,829,459
Canada-----	819,352	1,011,588	8,342,129	676,160	6,290,867
West Germany-----	549,926	540,342	4,370,259	281,120	3,150,561
Sweden-----	173,285	127,817	1,211,580	110,906	924,897
Italy-----	13,495	16,182	102,709	6,297	60,752
United Kingdom-----	50,293	48,207	423,119	38,276	359,403
France-----	31,507	34,423	281,553	32,134	338,888
All other-----	9,536	13,181	91,374	3,162	26,260
Total-----	2,709,622	2,643,793	25,968,782	1,839,807	20,981,087

<sup>1/</sup> Data include imports into Puerto Rico and TSUSA item 692.1005; data do not include automobiles assembled in 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, May 1982-April 1984 2/

Source	1983 and 1984			1982 and 1983	
	March 1984	April 1984	May 1983- April 1984	April 1983	May 1982- April 1983
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Japan-----	43,476	49,324	469,657	32,670	318,621
Canada-----	29,305	39,263	318,572	23,439	248,296
All other-----	5	15	1,215	111	2,317
Total-----	72,786	88,602	789,444	56,220	569,234
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan-----	183,184	200,106	1,916,504	135,739	1,309,498
Canada-----	247,826	331,252	2,738,496	204,189	2,010,365
All other-----	473	644	18,453	2,462	39,746
Total-----	431,483	532,002	4,673,453	342,390	3,359,609

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

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.

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, May 1982-April 1984

Market	1983 and 1984			1982 and 1983	
	March 1984	April 1984	May 1983- April 1984	April 1983	May 1982- April 1983
	Quantity (units)				
Canada-----	68,341	63,157	569,763	52,044	375,231
Saudi Arabia-----	995	432	11,457	608	10,976
Kuwait-----	277	324	2,774	83	4,512
Japan-----	164	411	2,330	288	1,902
West Germany-----	328	299	3,081	215	2,410
Venezuela-----	6	1	153	9	2,539
All other-----	704	706	9,755	1,134	15,310
Total-----	70,815	65,330	599,313	54,381	412,880
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada-----	517,143	469,823	4,283,518	378,726	2,693,430
Saudi Arabia-----	11,604	5,848	142,418	7,895	153,132
Kuwait-----	3,454	4,357	35,850	1,151	57,405
Japan-----	2,276	5,644	32,577	3,426	25,353
West Germany-----	3,009	3,148	32,561	2,232	24,914
Venezuela-----	69	18	1,628	93	27,369
All other-----	7,277	7,789	110,907	12,944	163,910
Total-----	544,832	496,627	4,639,459	406,467	3,145,513

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, May 1982-April 1984 2/

Market	1983 and 1984			1982 and 1983	
	March 1984	April 1984	May 1983- April 1984	April 1983	May 1982- April 1983
Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>					
Canada-----	11,438	10,692	99,052	8,111	61,223
Saudi Arabia-----	756	253	12,929	1,362	18,752
Kuwait-----	86	181	1,834	110	2,727
Venezuela-----	2	-	58	-	1,471
All other-----	437	480	7,447	1,258	14,322
Total-----	12,719	11,606	121,320	10,841	98,495
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Canada-----	87,229	78,621	750,849	60,560	424,449
Saudi Arabia-----	9,883	3,348	164,113	18,046	237,797
Kuwait-----	988	2,189	22,910	962	33,343
Venezuela-----	8	-	834	-	15,800
All other-----	4,575	4,879	74,577	12,474	139,087
Total-----	102,683	89,037	1,013,283	92,042	850,476

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

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.

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, 1983 and 1984

Period	Sales of--				Total U.S. sales		Ratio of import sales to total sales	
	Domestic automobiles 1/		Imported automobiles 2/		1984	1983	1984	1983
	1984	1983	1984	1983				
								----Percent----
January---	583,429	412,893	195,129	182,853	778,558	595,746	25.1	30.7
February--	655,016	442,479	186,218	186,374	841,234	628,853	22.1	29.6
Jan-Feb.---	1,238,445	855,372	381,347	369,227	1,619,792	1,224,599	23.5	30.2
March-----	756,164	600,303	205,947	220,479	962,111	820,782	21.4	26.9
Jan-Mar---	1,994,609	1,455,675	587,294	589,706	2,581,903	2,045,381	22.7	28.8
April-----	721,091	579,991	174,311	183,464	895,402	763,455	19.5	24.0
Jan-Apr---	2,715,700	2,035,666	761,605	773,170	3,477,305	2,808,836	21.9	27.5
May-----	803,273	630,044	243,326	206,457	1,046,599	836,501	23.2	24.7
Jan-May---	3,518,973	2,665,710	1,004,931	979,627	4,523,904	3,645,337	22.2	26.9

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, 1983 and 1984

(1967 = 100)

Item	1984			1983 and 1984		
	March 1984	April 1984	Percent change	April 1983	April 1984	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted----	207.2	207.4	+0.1	201.1	207.4	+3.1
Seasonally adjusted----	207.4	207.6	+0.1	201.4	207.6	+3.1
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted----	222.0	222.0	0	216.5	222.0	+2.5
Seasonally adjusted----	223.8	223.1	-0.3	216.9	223.1	+2.9

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 8.--New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the  
U.S. market during May 1984

Source and size category	: Retail price changes, in : dollars, May 1984 : (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	:
General Motors -----	: No change.
Ford -----	: No change.
Chrysler -----	: No change.
European Community producers:	:
Subcompact -----	: No change.
Compact -----	: +85 to +330
Luxury -----	: +410 to +755
Japanese producers:	:
Subcompact -----	: +50 to +370
Compact -----	: +464 to +500
Luxury -----	: +400 to +500

Source: Automotive News, May 1984.

Table 9.--Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected  
U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-June 1984 <sup>1/</sup>

Company, model, and options <sup>2/</sup>	April 1, 1981		June 1, 1984		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model <sup>3/</sup>	Option- ally equipped model <sup>3/</sup>	Base model <sup>3/</sup>	Option- ally equipped model <sup>3/</sup>	May 1984- June 1984	April 1981- June 1984
<b>General Motors:</b>						
Chevette, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	5,155	5,405	5,482	5,779	0	+6.9
Citation, 4 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, AT)----	6,404	7,014	7,037	7,821	0	+11.5
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)----- <sup>4/</sup>	12,131	12,501	12,605	12,925	0	+3.3
<b>Ford:</b>						
Escort L 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)-----	5,556	5,857	5,876	6,196	0	+5.7
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) <sup>5/</sup> -----	6,421	6,953	7,151	7,840	0	+12.7
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, ILG, AC)-----	8,519	10,102	10,943	12,981	0	+28.4
<b>Chrysler:</b>						
Plymouth Turismo, 2 door HB (RWD)-----	5,938	6,188	6,486	6,626	0	+7.1
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, TG, R, AT)-----	5,980	6,680	6,941	7,754	0	+16.1
Dodge 600, 4 door (RWD, AC) <sup>6/</sup> -----	6,672	7,502	8,895	9,772	0	+30.2
<b>Toyota:</b>						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)-----	5,688	5,793	6,748	7,008	+3.7	+21.0
Cressida, 4 door-----	11,599	11,599	14,659	14,659	+3.3	+26.4
<b>Nissan (Datsun):</b>						
Sentra Deluxe 2 door <sup>7/</sup> -----	5,369	5,494	6,549	6,549	+3.2	+19.2
Stanza GL, 4 door (AT) <sup>7/</sup> -----	6,839	7,749	9,449	9,799	+3.7	+26.5
Maxima, 4 door-----	10,379	10,379	12,399	12,399	+4.2	+19.5
<b>Honda:</b>						
Civic 1300, 2 door HB (R)-----	4,599	4,694	5,249	5,343	0	+13.8
Accord, 4 door (R, AT)-----	7,645	7,950	8,549	9,042	0	+13.7
<b>Mazda:</b>						
GLC Deluxe, 2 door HB (R)-----	5,495	5,650	5,995	6,155	+1.7	+8.9

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

<sup>2/</sup> 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.

<sup>3/</sup> 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.

<sup>4/</sup> Cimarron not sold until May 21, 1981.

<sup>5/</sup> Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

<sup>6/</sup> Dodge 600 replaced the Diplomat.

<sup>7/</sup> Sentra replaced the 210; Stanza replaced the 510.

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

Note: Some 1981, 1982, and 1983 models have been discontinued; these models have been replaced by comparable models. In addition, some equipment that was optional on prior models is now included in the base price, making price comparisons of prior-year models difficult.