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

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Committee on Ways and Means,
on Investigation No. 332-207
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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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C O N T E N T S

Page

Tables

1. New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, November 1983–October 1985-----	1
2. New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources and by specified periods, October 1983–September 1985-----	2
3. Lightweight automobile trucks and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources and by specified periods, October 1983–September 1985-----	3
4. New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, October 1983–September 1985-----	4
5. 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, October 1983–September 1985-----	5
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, 1984 and 1985-----	6
7. New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1984 and 1985-----	6
8. New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during October 1985-----	7
9. Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981–November 1985-----	8

Table 1.—New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, November 1983–October 1985

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1984 and 1985			1983 and 1984	
	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1985	Nov. 1984–Oct. 1985	Oct. 1984	Nov. 1983–Oct. 1984
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact	228	162	2,239	172	2,168
Compact	138	108	1,536	120	1,307
Intermediate	278	194	2,619	213	2,482
Standard	95	55	976	99	1,113
Luxury	116	85	1,019	92	1,018
Total	854	604	8,388	696	8,088
Production:					
Subcompact	126	141	1,526	151	1,651
Compact	162	180	1,978	154	1,928
Intermediate	236	280	3,109	251	2,722
Standard	44	58	802	87	710
Luxury	63	77	890	74	712
Total	630	737	8,304	716	7,722
Inventory:					
Subcompact	239	228	1/	294	1/
Compact	257	261	1/	326	1/
Intermediate	443	448	1/	357	1/
Standard	161	138	1/	204	1/
Luxury	178	169	1/	116	1/
Total	1,277	1,242	1/	1,296	1/
Days' supply: ^{2/}					
Subcompact	51	33	1/	58	1/
Compact	45	35	1/	53	1/
Intermediate	49	36	1/	50	1/
Standard	58	34	1/	62	1/
Luxury	64	42	1/	46	1/
Total	51	36	1/	54	1/
Employment: ^{3/}					
Total employees	^{4/} 844	^{5/} 868	1/	^{6/} 885	1/
Production workers	^{4/} 646	^{5/} 669	1/	^{6/} 681	1/
Layoffs ^{7/}	38	38	1/	52	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 1985, revised.

^{5/} Data are for September 1985.

^{6/} Data are for September 1984, 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, 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 1983–September 1985 ^{1/}

Source	1984–85			1983–84	
	Aug. 1985	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1984– Sept. 1985	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983– Sept. 1984
	Quantity (units)				
Japan	208,899	240,785	2,298,502	154,630	1,986,989
Canada	75,551	110,355	1,098,431	79,792	1,040,574
West Germany	27,430	28,000	447,006	25,654	335,404
Sweden	5,747	6,307	129,258	5,689	120,779
Italy	664	1,421	7,960	572	9,474
United Kingdom	1,209	1,560	22,940	1,211	19,931
France	501	1,539	45,979	1,856	33,375
Mexico	1,015	124	8,895	87	5,086
Yugoslavia	6	506	512	–	–
All other	575	336	13,440	146	14,684
Total	321,597	390,933	4,072,923	269,637	3,566,296
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan	1,339,443	1,508,539	14,586,622	975,879	12,416,104
Canada	750,414	1,087,497	10,541,724	793,577	9,683,077
West Germany	368,988	395,854	5,740,597	360,156	4,467,167
Sweden	67,743	70,687	1,475,937	59,585	1,278,874
Italy	9,506	19,180	115,714	9,772	130,488
United Kingdom	30,663	38,543	555,395	29,413	462,529
France	3,660	14,330	258,588	18,185	298,821
Mexico	6,505	654	39,166	559	32,861
Yugoslavia	15	1,265	1,250	–	–
All other	7,548	4,560	146,823	1,429	96,869
Total	2,584,485	3,141,109	33,461,816	2,248,555	28,866,790

^{1/} 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, October 1983–September 1985 2/

Source	1984–85			1983–84	
	Aug. 1985	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1984–Sept. 1985	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983–Sept. 1984
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Japan	62,304	69,846	746,275	49,133	552,494
Canada	17,428	29,441	319,657	32,589	350,448
Mexico	2,430	2,236	24,047	–	4
All other	8	9	4,024	598	1,709
Total	82,170	101,532	1,094,003	82,320	904,655
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan	271,808	292,114	3,162,514	206,415	2,289,781
Canada	161,563	275,534	2,880,897	290,272	2,824,501
Mexico	17,866	16,186	176,109	–	31
All other	276	259	31,816	3,327	20,320
Total	451,513	584,093	6,251,336	500,014	5,134,633

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 1983–September 1985

Market	1984–85			1983–84	
	Aug. 1985	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1984–Sept. 1985	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983–Sept. 1984
	Quantity (units)				
Canada	32,911	57,464	651,996	46,745	590,863
Japan	11	38	1,439	37	2,241
All other	647	1,510	24,067	1,135	23,897
Total	33,569	59,012	677,502	47,917	617,001
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada	274,696	487,331	5,477,798	349,702	4,481,755
Japan	146	414	21,490	66	30,737
All other	7,907	18,358	281,890	14,404	280,974
Total	282,749	506,103	5,781,178	364,172	4,793,466

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 1983–September 1985 ^{2/}

Market	1984–85			1983–84	
	Aug. 1985	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1984– Sept. 1985	Sept. 1984	Oct. 1983– Sept. 1984
	Quantity (units) ^{3/}				
Canada	9,554	11,959	124,437	7,814	104,534
All other	305	1,062	13,547	1,651	16,617
Total	9,859	13,021	137,984	9,465	121,151
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada	86,554	108,471	1,033,045	67,462	806,437
All other	12,596	14,999	156,141	20,415	195,937
Total	99,150	123,470	1,189,186	87,877	1,002,374

^{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, 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, 1984 and 1985

Period	Sales of—				Total U.S. sales		Ratio of import sales to total sales	
	Domestic automobiles 1/		Imported automobiles 2/		1985	1984	1985	1984
	1985	1984	1985	1984				
Percent								
January	628,037	583,429	208,184	195,129	836,221	778,558	24.9	25.1
February	645,317	655,016	193,290	186,218	838,607	841,234	23.0	22.1
Jan-Feb	1,273,354	1,238,445	401,474	381,347	1,674,828	1,619,792	24.0	23.5
March	768,927	756,164	201,341	205,947	970,268	962,111	20.8	21.4
Jan-Mar	2,042,281	1,994,609	602,815	587,294	2,645,096	2,581,903	22.8	22.7
April	788,282	721,091	198,241	174,311	986,523	895,402	20.1	19.5
Jan-Apr	2,830,563	2,715,700	801,056	761,605	3,631,619	3,477,305	22.1	21.9
May	807,590	803,273	262,344	243,326	1,066,934	1,046,599	24.6	23.2
Jan-May	3,638,153	3,518,973	1,063,400	1,004,931	4,698,553	4,523,904	22.6	22.2
June	676,675	727,370	248,659	223,688	925,334	951,058	26.9	23.5
Jan-June	4,314,828	4,246,343	1,312,059	1,228,619	5,623,887	5,474,962	23.3	22.4
July	633,527	684,112	266,803	205,617	900,330	889,729	29.6	23.1
Jan-July	4,948,355	4,930,455	1,578,862	1,434,236	6,524,217	6,364,691	24.2	22.5
August	1,000,695	630,469	255,931	211,730	1,256,626	815,199	20.4	26.0
Jan-Aug	5,949,050	5,533,924	1,834,793	1,645,966	7,780,843	7,179,890	23.6	22.9
September	839,382	556,672	236,669	176,358	1,076,051	743,030	22.0	23.7
Jan-Sept	6,788,432	6,100,596	2,071,462	1,822,324	8,856,894	7,922,920	23.4	23.0
October	598,399	689,563	266,278	212,700	864,677	902,263	30.8	22.8
Jan-Oct	7,386,831	6,790,159	2,337,740	2,035,024	9,721,571	8,825,183	24.0	26.2

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, 1984 and 1985

Item	(1967 = 100)					
	1985			1984 and 1985		
	Aug. 1985	Sept. 1985	Percent change	Sept. 1984	Sept. 1985	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted	214.6	214.5	0	208.2	214.5	+3.0
Seasonally adjusted	215.7	216.4	+0.3	210.5	216.4	+2.8
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted	227.9	227.0	-0.4	211.0	227.0	+7.6
Seasonally adjusted	228.6	237.2	+3.8	220.9	237.2	+7.4

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 8.—New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the
U.S. market during October 1985

Source and size category	: Retail price changes, in : dollars, October 1985 : (+ 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.

Source: Automotive News, October 1985.

Table 9.—Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981–November 1985 1/

Company, model, and options 2/	April 1, 1981		November 1, 1985		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model 3/	Optionally equipped model 3/	Base model 3/	Optionally equipped model 3/	October 1985–November 1985	April 1981–November 1985
General Motors:						
Chevette CS, 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)	\$5,155	\$5,405	\$5,645	\$5,979	0	+10.6
Citation, 4 door HB (PB, RWD, TG, AT) 1/	6,404	7,014	7,232	8,042	NA	+14.7
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)	5/ 12,131	5/ 12,501	13,128	13,518	0	+8.1
Ford:						
Escort L 2 door HB (PB, RWD, TG)	5,556	5,857	6,327	6,561	0	+12.0
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) 6/	6,421	6,953	7,508	8,214	0	+18.1
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD, TG, ILG, AC)	8,519	10,102	13,704	14,691	0	+45.4
Chrysler:						
Plymouth Turismo, 2 door HB (RWD)	5,938	6,188	6,741	6,882	0	+11.2
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, TG, R, AT)	5,980	6,680	7,179	7,967	0	+19.3
Dodge 600, 4 door (RWD, AC) 7/	6,672	7,502	10,022	10,500	0	+40.0
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)	5,688	5,793	7,148	7,408	0	+27.9
Cressida, 4 door	11,599	11,599	16,130	16,130	0	+39.1
Mitsubishi (Datsun):						
Sentra Deluxe 2 door 8/	5,369	5,494	6,699	6,699	0	+21.9
Stanza GL, 4 door (AT) 8/	6,839	7,749	9,649	10,179	0	+31.4
Maxima, 4 door	10,379	10,379	13,699	13,699	0	+32.0
Honda:						
Civic 1300, 2 door HB (R)	4,599	4,694	5,479	5,629	0	+19.9
Accord, 4 door (R, AT)	7,645	7,950	9,749	9,899	0	+24.5
Mazda:						
323, 2 door HB (R) 9/	5,495	5,650	6,495	6,845	0	+21.2

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/ Citation discontinued after 1985 model year.

5/ Cimarron not sold until May 21, 1981.

6/ Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

7/ Dodge 600 replaced the Diplomat.

8/ Stanza replaced the 210; Stanza replaced the 510.

9/ 323 replaced the GLC Deluxe.

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

Note: Some 1981–85 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, making price comparisons of prior-year models difficult.