

# THE U.S. AUTOMOTIVE 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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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, July 1986-June 1988

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)					
Item	1987-88			1986-87	
	May 1988	June 1988	July 1987- June 1988	June 1987	July 1986- June 1987
<b>Retail sales of domestic production:</b>					
Subcompact.....	114	116	1,291	136	1,503
Compact.....	164	169	1,673	147	1,797
Intermediate.....	276	290	2,832	230	2,671
Standard.....	91	93	1,032	89	1,105
Luxury.....	57	54	59	55	632
Total.....	702	722	7,433	657	7,708
<b>Production:</b>					
Subcompact.....	135	138	1,179	114	1,453
Compact.....	157	168	1,674	164	1,863
Intermediate.....	274	289	2,745	241	2,850
Standard.....	64	69	755	76	881
Luxury.....	68	67	687	57	726
Total.....	697	730	7,042	651	7,770
<b>Inventory:</b>					
Subcompact.....	275	286	1/	341	1/
Compact.....	297	309	1/	360	1/
Intermediate.....	697	727	1/	773	1/
Standard.....	195	205	1/	238	1/
Luxury.....	134	140	1/	197	1/
Total.....	1,598	1,663	1/	1,911	1/
<b>Days' supply: 2/</b>					
Subcompact.....	60	64	1/	66	1/
Compact.....	45	48	1/	67	1/
Intermediate.....	63	65	1/	95	1/
Standard.....	54	57	1/	75	1/
Luxury.....	59	67	1/	95	1/
Average.....	57	60	1/	77	1/
<b>Employment: 3/</b>					
Total employees.....	4/ 848	5/ 854	1/	6/ 847	1/
Production workers...	4/ 661	5/ 666	1/	6/ 661	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 April 1988, revised.

5/ Data are for May 1988.

6/ Data are for May 1987.

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, June 1986-May 1988 <sup>1/</sup>

Source	1987-88		1986-87		
	Apr. 1988	May 1988	June 1987- May 1988	May 1987	June 1986- May 1987
	Quantity (units)				
Japan.....	171,586	170,218	2,319,721	218,641	2,525,983
Canada.....	117,789	114,948	1,055,198	76,444	1,039,165
West Germany.....	19,512	13,664	309,021	35,593	422,985
Korea.....	43,988	40,933	481,080	43,800	258,538
Sweden.....	8,609	11,256	118,033	12,047	151,724
Mexico.....	10,806	14,184	149,599	12,606	49,126
Yugoslavia.....	5,186	1,623	53,009	3,387	48,979
United Kingdom...	3,343	2,491	46,017	5,460	34,580
Italy.....	467	155	7,679	929	24,370
France.....	2,394	1,813	16,351	5,246	26,115
Brazil.....	10,022	6,600	67,141	4,046	11,166
All other.....	967	1,004	17,686	1,551	15,219
Total.....	394,651	378,889	4,635,535	419,750	4,607,951
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	1,672,681	1,608,671	20,918,282	1,952,054	21,610,640
Canada.....	1,305,026	1,266,749	11,650,211	803,073	10,944,578
West Germany.....	529,034	418,918	7,654,327	879,736	8,734,911
Korea.....	239,605	221,869	2,531,126	225,296	1,264,792
Sweden.....	131,789	175,217	1,690,918	164,464	1,963,644
Mexico.....	92,175	121,835	1,319,786	19,253	400,047
Yugoslavia.....	15,139	4,623	136,222	120,087	391,755
United Kingdom...	79,441	68,857	1,176,580	45,726	674,395
Italy.....	11,710	8,004	175,141	128,528	397,773
France.....	26,356	16,683	172,355	8,317	150,607
Brazil.....	56,597	38,398	357,692	18,874	52,180
All other.....	16,005	17,471	277,818	24,185	222,857
Total.....	4,175,557	3,967,295	48,060,457	4,389,595	46,808,179

<sup>1/</sup> Data include imports into Puerto Rico and TSUSA items 692.1005-692.1008; 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, June 1986-May 1988 2/

Source	1987-88			1986-87	
	Apr. 1988	May 1988	June 1987- May 1988	May 1987	June 1986- May 1987
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Japan.....	51,978	45,633	624,411	76,693	963,807
Canada.....	24,991	26,221	230,016	15,501	211,724
Mexico.....	8	2	5,119	1,014	16,836
All other.....	679	229	1,712	4	1,012
Total.....	77,656	72,085	861,258	93,213	1,193,379
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	285,988	260,237	3,496,424	416,318	5,131,423
Canada.....	284,286	294,730	2,427,238	140,902	1,951,215
Mexico.....	554	617	43,811	7,919	128,089
All other.....	17,473	21,132	130,268	4,947	55,537
Total.....	588,302	576,715	6,097,741	570,086	7,266,264

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, 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, June 1986-May 1988

Market	1987-88			1986-87	
	Apr. 1988	May 1988	June 1987- May 1988	May 1987	June 1986- May 1987
	Quantity (units)				
Canada.....	57,287	64,079	598,552	58,273	575,789
Japan.....	1,268	1,151	9,049	424	3,250
All other.....	11,181	10,669	91,305	6,286	46,138
Total.....	69,736	75,899	698,906	64,983	625,157
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	573,151	645,689	6,179,240	581,396	5,459,268
Japan.....	16,747	12,904	122,033	6,309	51,796
All other.....	142,708	131,143	1,199,103	79,626	610,530
Total.....	732,606	789,736	7,500,377	667,331	6,121,594

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, June 1986-May 1988 2/

Market	1987-88			1986-87	
	Apr. 1988	May 1988	June 1987- May 1988	May 1987	June 1986- May 1987
	Quantity (units) <u>3/</u>				
Canada.....	14,344	16,117	174,982	16,655	153,757
All other.....	3,394	2,967	22,813	1,127	12,648
Total.....	17,738	19,084	197,795	17,782	166,405
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	142,028	161,260	1,752,464	153,184	1,416,683
All other.....	39,724	36,409	287,288	11,230	149,100
Total.....	181,752	197,669	2,039,752	164,414	1,565,783

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, 1987 and 1988

Period	Sales of-		Imported		Total U.S.		Ratio of im-	
	Domestic		automobiles 2/		sales		port sales to	
	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987
			Quantity (units)				--Percent---	
January....	531,225	427,678	229,459	197,941	760,684	625,619	30.2	31.6
February...	649,059	556,953	235,212	220,162	884,271	777,115	26.6	28.3
Jan.-Feb...	1,180,284	984,631	464,671	418,103	1,644,955	1,402,734	28.2	29.8
March.....	733,738	682,117	269,433	247,966	1,003,171	930,083	26.9	26.7
Jan.-Mar...	1,914,022	1,666,748	734,104	666,069	2,648,126	2,332,817	27.7	28.6
April.....	651,560	691,803	247,020	242,374	898,580	934,197	27.5	25.9
Jan.-Apr...	2,565,582	2,358,551	981,124	908,443	3,546,706	3,267,014	27.7	27.8
May.....	701,987	622,303	268,906	260,514	970,893	882,817	27.7	29.6
Jan.-May...	3,267,569	2,980,854	1,250,030	1,168,977	4,517,599	4,149,831	27.7	28.2
June.....	722,364	656,727	284,200	281,555	1,006,564	938,282	28.2	30.0
Jan.-June..	3,989,933	3,637,581	1,534,230	1,450,532	5,524,163	5,088,113	27.8	28.5

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, 1987 and 1988 1/

Item	1988			1987 and 1988		
	Apr. 1988	May 1988	Percent change	May 1987	May 1988	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted....	115.9	116.3	+0.3	114.0	116.3	+2.0
Seasonally adjusted....	116.2	116.4	+0.2	114.1	116.4	+2.0
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted....	111.7	111.4	-0.3	113.6	111.4	-1.9
Seasonally adjusted....	111.5	111.7	+0.2	113.4	111.7	-1.5

1/ Consumer price index, 1982-1984 = 100. Producer price index, 1982 = 100.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 8.--New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the  
U.S. market during June 1988

Country source/make	Retail price changes in dollars, June 1988 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors.....	No change.
Ford.....	No change.
Chrysler.....	No change.
Japanese producers.....	No change.
European producers.....	No change.
Korean producers.....	No change.

Source: Automotive News, June 1988.

Table 9.--Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-July 1988 1/

Company, model, and options 2/	April 1, 1981		July 1, 1988		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model 3/	Option-ally equipped model 3/	Base model 3/	Option-ally equipped model 3/	June 1988-July 1988	April 1981-June 1988
<b>General Motors:</b>						
Cavalier, 2 door	\$6,966 4/	\$6,966	\$6,995	\$6,995	0.0	+0.4
Cimarron, 4 door (AT)	12,131 4/	12,501	16,071	16,486	0.0	+31.9
<b>Ford:</b>						
Escort GL 2 door HB (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	8,808	9,435	0.0	+35.7
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door (RWD)	8,519	10,102	16,157	16,302	0.0	+61.4
<b>Chrysler:</b>						
Reliant, 4 door (RWD, R, AT)	5,980	6,680	6,995	8,434	0.0	+26.3
Dodge 600, 4 door (RWD, AC) 6/	6,672	7,502	10,659	11,619	0.0	+54.9
<b>Toyota:</b>						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)	5,688	5,793	8,998	9,328	0.0	+61.0
Cressida, 4 door	11,599	11,599	20,998	20,998	0.0	+81.0
<b>Nissan (Datsun):</b>						
Sentra E, 2 door 7/	5,369	5,369	7,599	7,599	0.0	+41.5
Sentra GXE, 4 door (AT) 7/	6,839	7,749	13,449	14,164	0.0	+82.8
Maxima GXE, 4 door	10,379	10,379	17,499	17,499	0.0	+68.6
<b>Honda:</b>						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) 8/	4,599	4,694	6,285	6,454	0.0	+37.5
Accord DX, 4 door (R)	7,645	7,950	11,570	11,739	0.0	+47.7

- 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 and 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.  
8/ Civic 1500 replaced the Civic 1300.

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.