

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. 332-207
Under Section 332 of the
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**United States International Trade Commission
Washington, DC 20436**



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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 1987-May 1989

(In thousands of units: thousands of employees)					
Item	1988-89			1987-88	
	Apr. 1989	May 1989	June 1988- May 1989	May 1988	June 1987- May 1988
Retail sales of domestic production:					
Subcompact	101	107	1,377	114	1,478
Compact	205	214	1,975	164	1,839
Intermediate	254	272	3,015	276	2,713
Standard	86	91	981	91	1,123
Luxury	63	64	701	57	634
Total	667	700	8,003	702	7,787
Production:					
Subcompact	113	123	1,277	135	1,485
Compact	146	164	1,963	157	1,897
Intermediate	234	248	2,751	274	2,868
Standard	72	81	820	64	869
Luxury	71	64	791	68	726
Total	637	681	7,604	697	7,843
Inventory:					
Subcompact	312	313	1/	275	1/
Compact	340	340	1/	297	1/
Intermediate	802	804	1/	697	1/
Standard	226	226	1/	195	1/
Luxury	154	154	1/	134	1/
Total	1,836	1,838	1/	1,598	1/
Days' supply: 2/					
Subcompact	74	79	1/	60	1/
Compact	40	43	1/	45	1/
Intermediate	76	80	1/	63	1/
Standard	63	67	1/	54	1/
Luxury	59	65	1/	59	1/
Average	66	71	1/	57	1/
Employment: 2/					
Total employees	4/ 868	5/ 878	1/	6/ 848	1/
Production workers ..	4/ 676	5/ 684	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 March 1989, revised.

5/ Data are for April 1989.

Data are for April 1988.

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, by principal sources and by specified periods, May 1987-April 1989 1/

Source	1988-89		1987-88		
	Mar. 1989	Apr. 1989	May 1988- Apr. 1989	Apr. 1988	May 1987- Apr. 1988
	Quantity (units)				
Japan	178,420	178,006	2,154,809	171,586	2,368,144
Canada	99,875	102,082	1,107,809	117,789	1,016,694
West Germany....	24,004	19,506	252,503	19,512	330,950
Korea	37,966	25,361	419,255	43,988	483,947
Sweden	10,372	8,597	118,782	8,609	113,824
Mexico	13,274	12,658	144,798	10,806	148,021
Yugoslavia	0	2	9,642	5,186	54,773
United Kingdom..	3,572	3,099	30,081	3,343	48,986
Italy	956	1,037	5,744	467	8,450
France	532	482	12,726	2,394	19,784
Brazil	2,358	2,340	46,501	10,022	64,587
All other	3,359	3,209	23,296	967	18,236
Total	374,688	356,379	4,325,946	394,651	4,676,396
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan	1,744,853	1,723,529	20,382,072	1,672,681	21,261,666
Canada	1,143,554	1,120,433	13,000,541	1,305,026	11,186,536
West Germany....	559,172	480,819	6,086,231	529,034	8,115,147
Korea	216,599	156,029	2,365,847	239,605	2,534,553
Sweden	165,353	139,349	1,891,616	131,789	1,680,168
Mexico	119,622	116,476	1,259,098	92,175	1,326,478
Yugoslavia	0	2	26,435	15,139	139,915
United Kingdom..	111,783	93,999	952,370	79,441	1,227,811
Italy	24,464	27,913	165,493	11,710	186,390
France	6,817	5,778	137,956	26,356	201,398
Brazil	14,384	14,502	274,811	56,597	338,168
All other	54,240	52,254	364,227	16,005	284,529
Total	4,160,840	3,931,083	46,906,697	4,175,557	48,482,758

1/ 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, by principal sources and by specified periods, May 1987-April 1989 2/

Source	1988-89		1987-88		
	Mar. 1989	Apr. 1989	May 1988- Apr. 1989	Apra 1988	May 1987- Apr. 1988
	Quantity (units) 3/				
Japan	49,994	35,653	499,739	51,978	655,471
Canada	35,772	33,221	353,262	24,991	219,295
Mexico	0	0	18	8	6,132
All other	120	45	5,267	679	1,487
Total	85.886	68.919	858.286	77.656	882.385
	Value (1.000 dollars)				
Japan	320,089	244,323	3,118,976	285,988	3,652,506
Canada	456,998	425,724	4,130,372	284,286	2,273,410
Mexico	68	105	2,367	554	51,113
All other	10.536	3.855	116.538	17.473	114.083
Total	787,691	674,007	7,368,253	588,302	6,091,111

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

2/ Partially estimated, all data include imports into Puerto Rico.

2/ 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, May 1987-April 1989

Market	1988-89			1987-88	
	Mar. 1989	Apr. 1989	May Apr. 1989	Apr. 1988	May Apr. 1988
	Quantity (units)				
Canada	43,359	36,209	529,911	57,287	592,746
Japan	1,141	1,486	22,823	1,268	8,322
All other	12.904	14.106	149.938	11.181	86.922
Total	57.404	51.801	702.672	69.736	687.990
	Value (1 000 dollars)				
Canada	518,254	421,404	5,631,394	573,151	6,114,947
Japan	18,288	19,315	293,845	16,747	115,438
All other	164.125	186.150	1.896.370	142.708	1.147.586
Total	700,667	626,869	7,821,609	732,606	7,377,971

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 1987-April 1989 2/

Market	1988-89			1987-88	
	Mar. 1989	Apr. 1989	May 1988-Apr. 1989	Apr. 1988	May 1987-Apr. 1988
	Quantity (units) 3/				
Canada	15,595	12,424	149,524	14,344	175,520
All other	1.835	1.300	28.327	3.394	21.023
Total	17.430	13.724	177.851	17.738	196.544
	Value (1.000 dollars)				
Canada	174,985	146,141	1,589,994	142,028	1,744,449
All other	24.715	17.052	348.817	39.724	262.639
Total	199,700	163,193	1,938,811	181,752	2,007,088

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

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, 1988 and 1989

Period	Sales of-		Imported		Total U.S.		Ratio of	
	Domestic automobiles 1/		automobiles 2/		sales 1/ 2/		import sales to total sales 1/ 2/	
	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988
	Quantity (units)						--Percent---	
January....	509,760	531,225	208,856	229,459	718,616	760,684	29.1	30.2
February...	552,042	649,059	198,825	235,212	750,867	884,271	26.5	26.6
Jan.-Feb...	1,061,802	1,180,284	407,681	464,671	1,469,483	1,644,955	27.7	28.2
March....	639,631	733,738	245,161	269,433	884,792	1,003,171	27.7	26.9
Jan.-Mar..	1,701,433	1,914,022	652,842	734,104	2,354,275	2,648,126	27.7	27.7
April....	667,444	651,560	242,555	247,020	909,999	898,580	26.7	27.5
Jan.-Apr..	2,368,877	2,565,582	895,397	981,124	3,264,274	3,546,706	27.4	27.7
May.....	710,478	701,987	259,737	268,906	970,215	970,893	26.8	27.7
Jan.-May..	3,079,355	3,267,569	1,155,134	1,250,030	4,234,489	4,517,599	27.3	27.7

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

2/ Does not include automobiles imported from Canada and Mexico.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 7.--New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1988 and 1989 1/

Item	1989			1988 and 1989		
	Mar. 1989	Apr. 1989	Percent change	Apr. 1988	Apr. 1989	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted...	119.6	119.4	-0.2	115.9	119.4	+3.0
Seasonally adjusted...	119.7	119.8	+0.1	116.2	119.8	+3.1
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted...	115.8	113.2	-2.2	111.7	113.2	+1.3
Seasonally adjusted...	116.6	113.3	-2.8	111.5	113.3	+1.6

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 May 1989 1/

Country source/make	Retail price changes in dollars. May 1989 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors	No change.
Ford	No change.
Chrysler	No change.
Japanese producers:	
Toyota Motors	No change.
American Honda	No change.
Acura Division	No change.
Nissan	2/
Mazda	No change.
European producers:	
Volvo	No change.
Volkswagen	No change.

1/ Average retail price change for all models.

2/ Absent information on all models, effective April 1989, Nissan priced the base 300 ZX (1990 model) at \$27,300, up from \$22,299 for the 1989 model.

Source: Automotive News, May 1989.

Table 9.--Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-June 1989 1/

Model	Manufacturer	MSRP	Options	MSRP with options
1981	Toyota	11,140	None	11,140
1981	Toyota	14,549	None	14,549
1981	Toyota	17,759	None	17,759
1981	Subaru	7,999	None	7,999
1981	Subaru	14,549	None	14,549
1981	Subaru	17,759	None	17,759

Model	Manufacturer	MSRP	Options	MSRP with options
1981	Subaru	7,999	None	7,999
1981	Subaru	14,549	None	14,549
1981	Subaru	17,759	None	17,759

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