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 Tariff Act of 1930

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This report was prepared principally by

Michael J. Hagey

Transportation Branch

Machinery and Equipment Division

Address all communications to Kenneth R. Mason, Secretary to the Commission United States International Trade Commission Washington, DC 20436

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New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production.

inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods,

April 1989-March 1991

(In thousands of units: thousands of employees)

	<u> 1990-91</u>			<u> 1989–90 </u>	
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. 1990-	Mar.	Apr. 1989-
Item	1991	1991	Mar. 1991	1990	<u>Mar, 1990</u>
Retail sales of domes-					
tic production:					
Subcompact	70	68	1,171	85	1,256
Compact	122	145	1,742	152	1,917
Intermediate	162	181	2,312	215	2,573
Standard	67	92	1,212	104	1,198
Luxury	51	54	691	67	669
Total	473	539	7.128	623	7,610
Production:					
Subcompact	61	72	961	91	1,108
Compact	113	119	1,869	170	1,783
Intermediate	141	160	2,204	224	2,153
Standard	48	34	1,456	72	818
Luxury	60	49	725	64	744
Tota1	422	433	7.215	620	6,604
Inventory					
Subcompact	225	193	<u>1</u> /	251	1/
Compact	336	336	1/	275	$\frac{1}{1}$
Intermediate	427	446	$\frac{\overline{1}}{1}$	651	$\frac{1}{1}$
Standard	219	184	$\frac{1}{1}$	181	$\frac{1}{1}$
Luxury	153	140	$\frac{1}{1}$	122	$\frac{1}{1}$
Tota1	1,360	1,301	1/	1,481	1/
Days' supply: <u>2</u> /					
Subcompact	77	74	<u>1</u> /	80	<u>1</u> /
Compact	66	60	$\frac{1}{1}$	49	$\frac{1}{1}$
Intermediate	63	64	$\frac{1}{1}$	82	$\frac{1}{1}$
Standard	78	52	$\frac{1}{1}$	47	$\frac{1}{1}$
Luxury	72	67	$\frac{1}{1}$	49	1/
Average	69	63	1/	64	1/
Employment: 3/			·····		
Total employees	4/ 736	<u>5</u> / 727	<u>1</u> /	<u>6</u> / 822	<u>1</u> /
Production workers	4/ 554	5/ 546	$\frac{1}{1}$	6/ 628	$\frac{1}{1}$

1/ Not applicable.

<u>2</u>/ Days' supply is an average for each class size which is determined by the previous month's retail sales.
<u>3</u>/ Employment data are for SIC 371 (motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment).
<u>4</u>/ Data are for January 1991, revised.

5/ Data are for February 1991.

6/ Data are for February 1990.

Source: Production and retail sales, Data Resources, Inc. Auto Information Bank; days' supply and inventory, <u>Automotive News</u>; and employment, U.S. Department of Labor.

New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, March 1989-February 1991 $\underline{1}/$

	1990-91			1989-90				
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. 1990-	Feb.	Mar. 1989-			
Source	<u>1991</u>	1991	Feb. 1991	1990	Feb, 1990			
			ts)					
Japan	175,434	169,500	1,922,741	150,853	2,020,529			
Canada	81,071	67,657	1,197,396	99,939	1,124,331			
West Germany	11,647	15,153	234,687	16,402	213,066			
Korea	21,794	13,550	206,597	17,343	226,880			
Sweden	7,468	4,896	89,142	10,843	93,774			
Mexico	19,976	14,486	234,796	8,320	129,863			
Yugoslavia	0	1	2,633	14	43			
United Kingdom	1,261	1,999	25,818	2,456	29,062			
Italy	743	359	10,581	929	9,744			
France	256	601	2,697	59	3,441			
Brazil	1,269	2,245	10,617	936	42,158			
A11 other	4,136	4,112	51,326	2,342	27,210			
Tota1	325,055	294,559	3,989,031	310,436	3,920,101			
	Value (1.000 dollars)							
Japan	1,925,096	1,873,839	20,387,426	1,536,669	20,009,643			
Canada	866,462	728,882	13,445,514	1,087,396	12,491,317			
West Germany	316,513	466,352	5,702,850	415,298	4,977,256			
Korea	121,907	74,874	1,145,876	96,650	1,333,075			
Sweden	129,997	84,023	1,469,759	181,940	1,535,488			
Mexico	196,670	145,423	2,348,672	85,565	1,165,705			
Yugoslavia	, 0	- 4	7,682	59	163			
United Kingdom	46,376	64,045	858,862	79,067	923,562			
Italy	17,505	10,376	279,978	23,027	274,673			
France	2,949	7,093	32,674	1,079	41,767			
Brazi1	7,784	13,879	65,684	5,826	259,687			
A11 other	49,384	44,166	644,879	34,824	433,632			
Tota1	3,680,642	3,512,956	46,389,859	3,357,401	43,472,969			

1/ Data include imports into Puerto Rico; data do not include automobiles assembled in U.S. foreign trade zones.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Lightweight automobile trucks $\underline{1}/$ and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, March 1989-February 1991 $\underline{2}/$

	<u>1990-91</u>			1989-90	_		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. 1990-	Feb.	Mar. 1989-		
Source	1991	1991	Feb. 1991	1990	Feb, 1990		
	···.		Quantity (u	nits) 3/			
Japan	26,496	22,999	311,228	19,377	389,196		
Canada	22,355	28,008	400,670	33,659	432,863		
Mexico	251	356	15,981	1,564	11,355		
A11 other	12	0	417	55	4,180		
Tota1	49,115	51,363	728,296	54,655	837,594		
	Value (1,000 dollars)						
Japan	155,564	136,881	1,775,665	113,385	2,340,161		
Canada	317,837	386,148	5,347,870	438,701	5,575,019		
Mexico	3,215	4,617	198,648	19,471	160,294		
A11 other	3,963	2,551	52,686	4,059	200,156		
Tota1	480,580	530,197	7,374,869	575,616	8,275,628		

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.

New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, March 1989-February 1991

	1990-91			1989-90	
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. 1990-	Feb.	Mar. 1989-
<u>Market</u>	1990	1991	Feb. 1991	1990	Feb. 1990
			Quantity	(units)	
Canada	44,129	39,559	507,432	52,108	552,868
Japan	2,573	2,402	33,124	2,963	23,877
A11 other	21,611	11,695	211,162	12,734	186,931
Tota1	68,313	53,656	751,718	67,805	763,676
			Value (1.	000 dollars)	·····
Canada	554,738	483,014	5,952,290	619,957	6,036,738
Japan	47,662	39,622	575,523	50,852	380,904
A11 other	281.278	147,615	2,588,543	164,221	2,416,592
Tota1	883,679	670,251	9,116,357	835,030	8,861,234

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Lightweight automobile trucks $\underline{1}$ / and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, March 1989-February 1991 $\underline{2}$ /

	1990-91			1989-90	
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar. 1990-	Feb.	Mar. 1989-
<u>Market</u>	1990	1991	Feb. 1991	1990	Feb, 1990
			Quantity (u	nits) 3/	<u></u>
Canada	10,856	10,762	113,810	9,654	128,182
A11 other	1,789	896	19,097	444	21,172
Total	12,645	11,658	132,908	10,098	149,354
			Value (1,00	0 dollars)	
Canada	142,098	139,321	1,381,886	120,062	1,547,379
A11 other	27,071	12,465	267,648	7,457	158,243
Tota1	169,169	151,786	1,649,534	127,519	1,705,621

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.

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, 1990 and 1991

	Sales of-						Ratio	of import
	Domestic		Imported		Total U.S.			o total
	<u>automobile</u>	<u>s 1/</u>	automobile	<u>es 2/</u>	<u>sales 1/ 2</u>	/	sales 1/ 2/	
Period	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990
			Quantity	(units)			<u>Perc</u>	ent
January	416,644	544,655	137,814	198,813	554,458	743,468	24.9	26.7
February	472,524	531,528	149,329	188,630	621,853	720,155	24.0	26.2
JanFeb	889,169	1,076,180	287,143	387,443	1,176,312	1,463,623	24.4	26.5
March	538,887	622,949	191,438	226,813	730,325	851,170	26.2	26.6
JanMar	1,428,061	1,699,129	478,586	613,027	1,906,647	2,312,156	25.1	26.5

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

 $\underline{2}/$ Does not include automobiles imported from Canada and Mexico.

Source: <u>Automotive News</u>.

Note: Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

	1990-91			1990-91		
Item	Dec. 1990	Jan. 1991	Percent change	Jan. 1990	Jan. 1991	Percent <u>change</u>
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted Seasonally	123.5	124.6	+0.9	122.3	124.6	+1.9
adjusted Producer Price Index:	122.0	123.6	+1.3	121.6	123.6	+1.6
Unadjusted Seasonally	124.1	124.3	+0.2	116.9	124.3	+2.9
adjusted	121.8	124.2	+2.0	116.6	124.2	+6.5

Table 7 New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1990 and 1991 <u>1</u>/

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during March 1991 $\underline{1}/$

Country source/make	Retail price changes March 1991 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors	No change.
Ford	No change.
Chrysler	No change.
Japanese producers:	-
Toyota Motors	No change.
Mazda	No change.
American Honda	No change.
Acura Division	No change.
Subaru	No change.
European producers:	-
Volkswagen	No change.
BMW	No change.
Audi	No change.
Porsche	No change.
Mercedes-Benz	No change.
Korean producer:	-
Hyundai	+1.5 percent

 $\underline{1}$ / Average retail price change for all models.

Source: <u>Automotive News</u>, March 1991.

	April 1,	1981	Oct. 1.	1990	<u></u>	<u> </u>
	_	Option- ally		Option- ally	Percent ch equipped m	nange in optionally model
	Base	equipped	Base		Jan. 1991-	
Company, model, and options 2/	model 3/	model 3/	_model 3/		<u>Apr. 1991</u>	
General Motors:						
Cavalier, 2 door	/ \$6,966 4	/ \$6,966	\$8,000	\$8,000	0.0	+14.8
De Ville, 4 door	14,198	14,198	29,935	29,935	0.0	+110.8
Ford:	-	-	-	-		
Escort Pony 2 door HB (RWD, TG)	5,556	5,857	8,381	8,501	0.0	+45.1
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) <u>5</u> /	6,421	6,953	10,178	11,041	0.0	+58.8
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door	8,519	10,102	18,222	18,222	0.0	+80.4
Chrysler:						
Dynasty, 4 door (AC) <u>6</u> /	6,672	7,502	13,650	14,471	0.0	+92.9
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)	5,688	5,793	9,998	10,208	0.0	+76.1
Cressida, 4 door	11,599	11,599	22,198	22,198	0.0	+91.4
Nissan (Datsun):						
Sentra E, 2 door <u>7</u> /	5,369	5,369	7,999	7,999	0.0	+50.0
Stanza GXE, 4 door (AT) <u>7</u> /	6,839	7,749	15,225	16,025	0.0	+106.8
Maxima GXE, 4 door	10,379	10,379	18,459	19,084	0.0	+77.8
Honda:						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) <u>8</u> /	4,599	4,694	6,895	7,226	+0.0	+53.9
Accord DX, 4 door (R)	7,645	7,950	12,545	12,956	+0.0	+63.0

Table 9 Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-April 1991 <u>1</u>/

<u>1</u>/ Suggested retail prices do not include any dealer incentives, below-market financing or rebates.
<u>2</u>/ 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 not sold until May 21, 1981.

5/ Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

6/ Dynasty replaced the Diplomat.

1/ 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 1981-91 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.