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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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.