

# The U.S. Automobile Industry Monthly Report on Selected Economic Indicators

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**U.S. International Trade Commission**

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## PREFACE

In November 1980, the U.S. International Trade Commission, under section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974, determined that certain motor vehicles and certain chassis and bodies therefor were not being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or threat thereof, to the domestic industry producing articles like or directly competitive with the imported articles (inv. No. TA-201-44). In December 1980, the Subcommittee on Trade, Committee on Ways and Means of the U.S. House of Representatives, requested that the Commission provide it with monthly data on U.S. automobile imports, sales, production, and prices. In late December 1980, the Commission instituted inv. No. 332-121, U.S. Automobile Industry Monthly Report on Selected Economic Indicators. The request by the Subcommittee on Trade of the House Committee on Ways and Means for monthly data on the automobile industry was renewed four times between 1981-85, with the final request in 1985 (inv. No. 332-207) having no fixed date for termination.

The report uses trade data compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Sales, production, and certain price data are derived from Automotive News. The U.S. Department of Labor provides employment and consumer and producer price data, while quarterly financial results for U.S.-owned automakers are from various public sources.



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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, October 1991-September 1993

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1992-93		Oct. 1992- Sept. 1993	1991-92	
	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1993		Sept. 1992	Oct. 1991- Sept. 1992
Retail sales of domestic production	..... 532.....	549		510	6,668
Production	..... 423.....	460		465	6,626
Inventory	... 1,147.....	1,198	( <sup>1</sup> )	1,136	(1)
Days' supply <sup>2</sup>	.....56.....	55	(1)	58	(1)
Employment:					
Total employees	..... 811 <sup>4</sup> .....	824 <sup>5</sup>	( <sup>1</sup> )	815 <sup>6</sup>	(1)
Production workers	..... 619	631	(1)	824	(1)

<sup>1</sup> Not applicable.

<sup>2</sup> Days' supply is an average for each class size which is determined by the previous month's retail sales.

<sup>3</sup> Employment data are for SIC 371 (motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment).

<sup>4</sup> Data are for August 1992, revised.

<sup>5</sup> Data are for September 1993.

<sup>6</sup> Data are for September 1992.

Source: Production, retail sales, 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. Market classifications discontinued because of the unavailability of data.

Table 2

New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, September 1991-August 1993<sup>1</sup>

Source	1992-93		1991-92		
	July	Aug.	Sept. 1992-	Aug.	Sept. 1991-
	1993	1993	Aug. 1993	1992	Aug. 1992
	Quantity (units)				
Japan .....	112,750	131,133	1,654,511	119,293	1,678,380
Canada .....	84,751	109,279	1,341,152	82,396	1,215,317
Germany .....	12,285	12,196	204,707	13,158	193,324
Korea, South ....	7,957	3,332	132,589	12,020	145,305
Sweden .....	3,573	2,539	67,482	2,345	71,553
Mexico .....	21,679	21,585	246,327	22,675	284,786
United Kingdom ..	1,064	934	16,747	270	8,699
Italy .....	118	431	1,465	209	2,111
France .....	0	4	23	19	475
Brazil .....	1	1,593	9,511	1,484	10,116
All other .....	6,221	3,446	42,979	3,158	26,207
Total .....	250,399	286,474	3,717,498	257,029	3,636,289
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan .....	1,532,367	1,817,201	21,463,686	1,371,812	20,062,552
Canada .....	1,081,735	1,339,361	16,608,158	1,030,819	14,278,465
Germany .....	376,987	379,141	5,959,682	377,917	5,293,227
Korea, South ....	40,403	15,939	755,787	59,942	803,057
Sweden .....	77,587	57,268	1,313,165	43,885	1,313,169
Mexico .....	225,718	223,624	2,495,780	233,211	2,844,375
United Kingdom ..	40,069	35,413	620,134	10,537	303,022
Italy .....	5,229	9,797	56,211	5,494	104,155
France .....	0	46	416	132	5,875
Brazil .....	18	11,362	67,633	9,547	65,240
All other .....	63,167	44,796	708,124	17,898	316,612
Total .....	3,443,279	3,933,968	50,048,814	3,161,205	45,389,911

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.

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



Table 3

Lightweight automobile trucks<sup>1</sup> and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, September 1991-August 1993<sup>4</sup>

Source	1992-93		1991-92		
	July 1993	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1992-Aug. 1993	Aug. 1992	Sept. 1991-Aug. 1992
	Quantity (units) <sup>3</sup>				
Japan .....	13,034	11,114	144,660	12,168	205,183
Canada .....	19,191	32,025	488,123	36,673	494,000
Mexico .....	2,459	234	31,777	1,430	22,574
All other .....	150	58	707	6	71
Total .....	34,834	43,431	665,267	50,277	721,828
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan .....	99,080	85,075	1,169,835	85,113	1,361,451
Canada .....	260,656	449,119	6,541,389	510,761	6,657,430
Mexico .....	46,527	4,396	589,345	25,210	399,523
All other .....	6,334	2,610	46,366	1,627	19,454
Total .....	412,597	541,200	8,346,938	622,710	8,437,857

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, September 1991-August 1993

Market	1992-93		1991-92		
	July 1993	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1992- Aug. 1993	Aug. 1992	Sept. 1991- Aug. 1992
Quantity (units)					
Canada .....	24,829	20,158	476,168	23,948	462,023
Japan .....	3,557	3,893	55,605	3,057	31,520
All other .....	22,107	21,988	345,468	21,377	295,152
Total .....	50,813	46,311	882,594	48,577	789,472
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Canada .....	306,076	268,844	6,269,448	304,895	5,925,467
Japan .....	61,894	59,429	943,677	51,701	544,863
All other .....	335,573	295,793	5,349,423	303,507	4,374,612
Total .....	707,991	628,825	12,644,141	662,828	10,855,436

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<sup>1</sup> and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, September 1991-August 1993<sup>2</sup>

Market	1992-93		1991-92		
	July 1993	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1992- Aug. 1993	Aug. 1992	Sept. 1991- Aug. 1992
Quantity (units) <sup>3</sup>					
Canada .....	6,505	7,153	109,531	4,019	117,935
All other .....	2,303	1,107	34,866	2,303	24,920
Total .....	8,813	8,264	144,475	6,324	142,866
Value (1,000 dollars)					
Canada .....	80,838	85,833	1,326,747	51,177	1,509,633
All other .....	39,198	20,872	527,368	33,270	441,144
Total .....	120,155	106,795	1,855,588	84,470	1,950,909

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.

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, 1992 and 1993

Period	Sales of-		Imported		Total U.S.		Ratio of import	
	Domestic automobiles <sup>1</sup>		automobiles <sup>2</sup>		sales <sup>1,2</sup>		sales to total sales <sup>1,2</sup>	
	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992
	Quantity (units)				--Percent--			
January ...	430,255	413,605	131,070	146,499	561,325	560,104	23.4	26.2
February ..	460,918	492,454	132,480	158,530	593,398	650,984	22.3	24.4
Jan.-Feb ..	891,173	905,872	263,550	305,029	1,154,723	1,210,901	22.8	25.2
March .....	574,756	536,932	160,224	186,483	734,980	723,415	21.8	25.8
Jan.-Mar ..	1,465,929	1,442,804	423,773	494,050	1,889,702	1,936,854	22.4	25.5
April .....	600,634	540,689	168,114	177,426	768,748	718,115	21.9	24.7
Jan.-Apr ..	2,066,568	1,983,493	591,888	671,482	2,658,456	2,647,099	22.3	25.4
May .....	633,490	560,768	178,655	174,334	812,145	735,102	21.9	23.7
Jan.-May ..	2,701,560	2,544,261	770,499	845,779	3,472,059	3,390,040	22.1	24.9
June .....	665,461	629,524	171,660	199,282	837,151	828,806	20.5	24.0
Jan.-June .	3,363,902	3,173,785	942,198	1,031,334	4,306,100	4,205,119	21.8	24.5
July .....	593,120	566,533	170,329	166,966	763,449	733,499	22.3	22.8
Jan.-July .	3,966,469	3,740,318	1,103,026	1,198,300	5,069,495	4,938,618	21.8	24.3
August ....	531,889	476,318	164,936	168,499	696,825	644,817	23.7	26.1
Jan.-Aug ..	4,498,356	4,216,636	1,267,963	1,366,799	5,766,319	5,583,435	22.0	24.5
September .	549,161	510,103	155,004	163,458	704,165	673,561	22.0	24.3
Jan.-Sept .	5,047,517	4,726,739	1,422,972	1,532,467	6,470,489	6,259,206	22.0	24.5

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

Does not include automobiles imported from Canada and Mexico.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 7

New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1992 and 1993<sup>1</sup>

Item	1992-93			1992-93		
	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1993	Percent chance	Sept. 1992	Sept. 1993	Percent chance
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	130.8	130.6	-0.2	127.4	130.6	+2.5
Seasonally adjusted..	132.1	132.5	+0.3	129.6	132.5	+2.2
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	129.7	125.3	-3.4	120.6	125.3	+3.9
Seasonally adjusted..	132.8	132.0	-0.6	127.3	132.0	+2.1

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 September 1993<sup>1</sup>

Country source/make	Retail price changes September 1993 (+ or -)
U.S. producers:	
General Motors	.... No change.
Ford	.... No change.
Chrysler	.... No change.
Japanese producers:	
Toyota Motors	.... No change.
Mazda	.... No change.
Honda	.... 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	.... No change.

1 Average retail price change for all models.

Source: Automotive News, September 1993.

Table 9

Sales and profits (loss) on major U.S. automobile manufacturers' operations, by specified periods, 1992 and 1993<sup>1</sup>

Item and firm	(In millions of dollars)			
	1993		1992	
	January- September	July- September	January- September	July- September
Sales:				
General Motors	..... 101,860	..... 30,200	61,440	29,440
Ford	..... 80,660	..... 24,500	47,930	23,330
Chrysler .....	39.330	9.700	17.400	9.200
Total	.... 221,850	.... 64,400	126,770	61,970
Profits:				
General Motors	..... 1,289	..... (113)	(574)	(753)
Ford	..... 780	..... 463	179	(159)
Chrysler .....	(3.550)	423	(95)	(82)
Total	..... (1,481)	..... 773	(490)	(994)

1 Data are for world operations.

Source: Wall Street Journal, New York Times, and Automotive News.

