

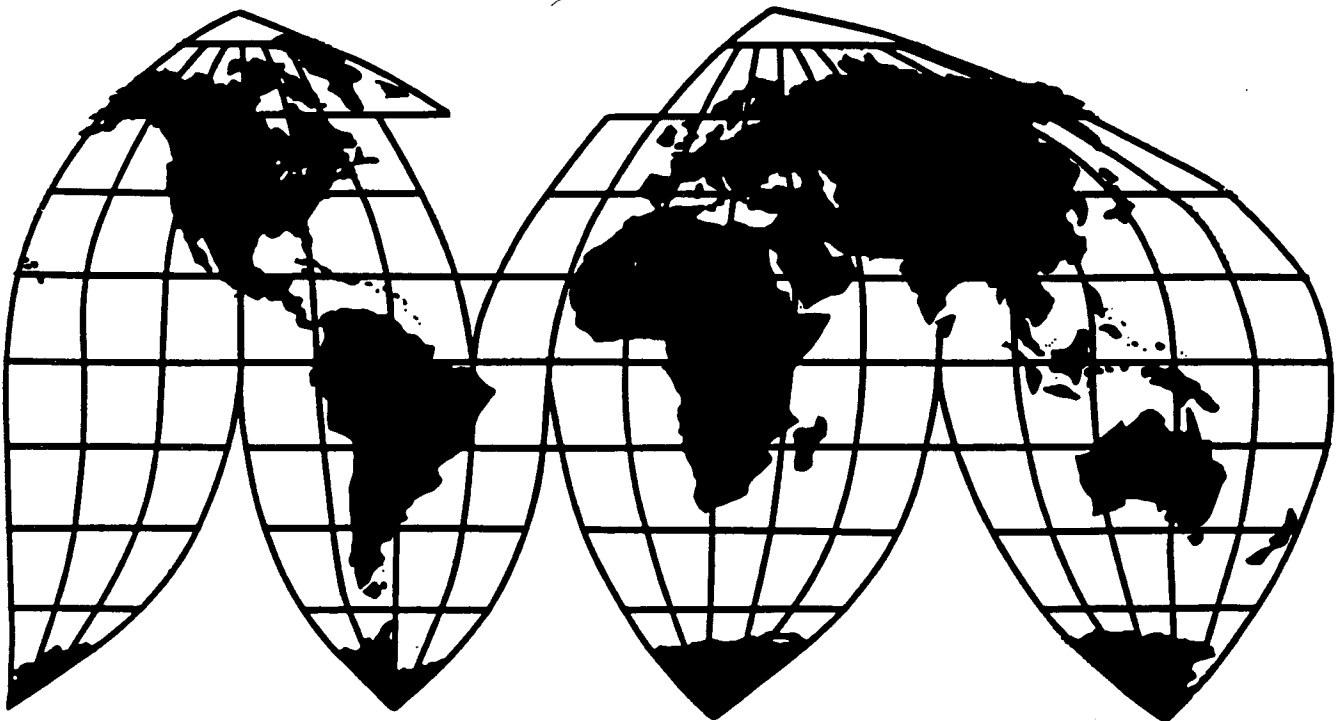
# The U.S. Automobile Industry Monthly Report on Selected Economic Indicators

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**U.S. International Trade Commission**



Washington, DC 20436

# **U.S. International Trade Commission**

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*This report was prepared principally by*

Michael Hagey

Machinery and Transportation Division

**Address all communications to  
Secretary to the 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.



## C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
Preface.....	i

### Tables

1. New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, November 1991-October 1993.....	1
2. New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, October 1991-September 1993.....	2
3. Lightweight automobile trucks and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, October 1991-September 1993.....	3
4. New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, October 1991-September 1993.....	4
5. Lightweight automobile trucks and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, October 1991-September 1993.....	5
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.....	6
7. New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1992 and 1993.....	6
8. New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during October 1993.....	7
9. Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-November 1993.....	8



Table 1

New passenger automobiles: U.S. retail sales of domestic production, production, inventory, days' supply, and employment, by specified periods, November 1991-October 1993

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1992-93			1991-92	
	Sept. 1993	Oct. 1993	Nov. 1992- Oct. 1993	Oct. 1992	Nov. 1991- Oct. 1992
Retail sales of domestic production.....	549	577	6,507	532	6,680
Production.....	460	545	5,850	538	6,633
Inventory.....	1,198	1,232	( <sup>1</sup> )	1,211	( <sup>1</sup> )
Days' supply <sup>2</sup> .....	55	53	( <sup>1</sup> )	59	( <sup>1</sup> )
Employment: <sup>3</sup>					
Total employees.....	827 <sup>4</sup>	826 <sup>5</sup>	( <sup>1</sup> )	822 <sup>6</sup>	( <sup>1</sup> )
Production workers...	633 <sup>4</sup>	632 <sup>5</sup>	( <sup>1</sup> )	629 <sup>6</sup>	( <sup>1</sup> )

<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 September 1992, revised.

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

<sup>6</sup> Data are for October 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, October 1991-September 1993<sup>1</sup>

Source	1992-93			1991-92	
	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1993	Oct. 1992-Sept. 1993	Sept. 1992	Oct. 1991-Sept. 1992
	Quantity (units)				
Japan.....	131,133	125,117	1,643,377	131,924	1,658,395
Canada.....	109,279	143,395	1,381,848	102,699	1,212,117
Germany.....	12,196	10,855	202,612	12,950	193,321
Korea, South.....	3,332	9,592	133,584	8,597	142,164
Sweden.....	2,539	4,136	64,772	6,846	72,237
Mexico.....	21,585	32,475	256,989	21,813	279,959
United Kingdom...	934	1,215	16,866	1,096	8,741
Italy.....	431	31	1,484	12	2,066
France.....	4	1	24	0	472
Brazil.....	1,593	1	7,966	1,546	11,662
All other.....	3,446	2,521	43,993	1,507	25,066
Total.....	286,474	329,340	3,753,521	288,990	3,606,216
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	1,817,201	1,765,224	21,547,598	1,601,985	19,923,922
Canada.....	1,339,361	1,789,775	17,059,428	1,338,505	14,327,660
Germany.....	379,141	331,472	5,882,621	408,533	5,362,096
Korea, South.....	15,939	56,421	767,720	44,488	782,692
Sweden.....	57,268	83,690	1,272,537	124,318	1,319,297
Mexico.....	223,624	340,141	2,608,818	227,102	2,787,745
United Kingdom...	35,413	46,700	628,119	38,714	304,147
Italy.....	9,797	3,215	58,105	1,320	101,162
France.....	46	4	420	0	5,774
Brazil.....	11,362	12	56,669	10,976	76,217
All other.....	44,796	54,334	743,428	19,030	303,929
Total.....	3,933,968	4,470,997	50,625,512	3,814,972	45,294,804

<sup>1</sup> 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, October 1991-September 1993<sup>2</sup>

Source	1992-93			1991-92	
	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1993	Oct. 1992-Sept. 1993	Sept. 1992	Oct. 1991-Sept. 1992
	Quantity (units) <sup>3</sup>				
Japan.....	11,114	6,425	140,502	10,136	195,502
Canada.....	32,025	42,700	489,231	41,592	504,969
Mexico.....	234	2,502	31,804	2,475	23,160
All other.....	58	113	820	1	70
Total.....	43,431	51,740	662,357	54,204	724,701
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	85,075	53,074	1,143,549	75,622	1,321,846
Canada.....	449,119	584,600	6,573,506	552,483	6,778,045
Mexico.....	4,396	35,979	581,622	44,302	411,139
All other.....	2,610	6,489	50,974	1,881	20,850
Total.....	541,200	680,143	8,349,054	674,288	8,531,880

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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, October 1991-September 1993

Market	1992-93			1991-92	
	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1993	Oct. 1992-Sept. 1993	Sept. 1992	Oct. 1991-Sept. 1992
	Quantity (units)				
Canada.....	20,158	34,696	468,711	42,153	456,631
Japan.....	3,893	1,550	53,674	3,481	33,408
All other.....	21,988	16,984	343,104	19,348	301,526
Total.....	46,311	53,586	807,834	65,346	792,706
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	268,844	474,397	6,183,709	560,142	5,866,532
Japan.....	59,429	29,158	916,337	56,499	571,864
All other.....	295,793	250,026	5,321,627	277,822	4,473,030
Total.....	628,825	759,745	12,505,416	898,470	10,925,929

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, October 1991-September 1993<sup>2</sup>

Market	1992-93			1991-92	
	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1993	Oct. 1992-Sept. 1993	Sept. 1992	Oct. 1991-Sept. 1992
	Quantity (units) <sup>3</sup>				
Canada.....	7,153	9,710	109,677	9,564	114,027
All other.....	1,107	1,505	34,782	1,589	24,326
Total.....	8,264	11,215	144,537	11,154	138,365
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	85,833	116,105	1,322,098	120,753	1,444,466
All other.....	20,872	16,879	527,500	16,748	416,380
Total.....	106,795	132,984	1,851,071	137,501	1,860,978

<sup>1</sup> Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gw.

<sup>2</sup> Partially estimated.

<sup>3</sup> 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
October....	576,857	532,174	140,600	161,945	717,457	694,119	19.6	23.3
Jan.-Oct...	5,624,374	5,258,913	1,563,572	1,693,023	7,187,946	6,951,936	21.8	24.3

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		
	Sept. 1993	Oct. 1993	Percent change	Oct. 1992	Oct. 1993	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	130.6	131.9	+1.0	128.2	131.9	+2.9
Seasonally adjusted..	132.5	133.0	+0.4	129.3	133.0	+2.9
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	125.3	131.6	+5.0	129.2	131.6	+1.9
Seasonally adjusted..	132.0	126.9	-3.9	124.4	126.9	+2.0

<sup>1</sup> 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 October 1993<sup>1</sup>

Country source/make	Retail price changes October 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.

<sup>1</sup> Average retail price change for all models.

Source: Automotive News, October 1993.

Table 9  
Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-November 1993<sup>1</sup>

Company, model, and options <sup>2</sup>	April 1, 1981		Nov. 1, 1993		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model <sup>3</sup>	Option-ally equipped model <sup>3</sup>	Base model <sup>3</sup>	Option-ally equipped model <sup>3</sup>	Oct. 1993-Nov. 1993	April 1981-Nov. 1993
<b>General Motors:</b>						
Cavalier, 2 door.....	\$6,966 <sup>4</sup>	\$6,966 <sup>4</sup>	\$8,995	\$8,995	0.0	+29.0
De Ville, 4 door.....	14,198	14,198	34,500	34,500	0.0	+143.0
<b>Ford:</b>						
Escort Pony 2 door HB (RWD, TG).....	5,556	5,857	8,735	8,855	0.0	+51.2
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) <sup>5</sup> .....	6,421	6,953	10,735	11,669	0.0	+67.8
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door.....	8,519	10,102	20,715	20,715	0.0	+108.3
<b>Toyota:</b>						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R).....	5,688	5,793	12,998	13,233	0.0	+128.4
<b>Nissan (Datsun):</b>						
Sentra E, 2 door <sup>7</sup> .....	5,369	5,369	9,195	9,195	0.0	+71.3
Maxima GXE, 4 door.....	10,379	10,379	21,325	21,325	0.0	+105.5
<b>Honda:</b>						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) <sup>8</sup> .....	4,599	4,694	9,400	9,812	0.0	+109.0
Accord DX, 4 door (R).....	7,645	7,950	14,330	14,570	0.0	+83.3

<sup>1</sup> Suggested retail prices do not include any dealer incentives, below-market financing or rebates:

<sup>2</sup> The following codes apply: RWD = rear window defroster; TG = tinted glass; HB = hatchback; AT = automatic transmission; AC = air conditioning; R = radio.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Cavalier not sold until May 21, 1981.

<sup>5</sup> Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

<sup>6</sup> Sentra replaced the 210; Stanza replaced the 510.

<sup>7</sup> Civic 1500 replaced the Civic 1300.

Source: Compiled from data supplied by U.S. manufacturers, Japanese importers, and Automotive News.

Note: Some 1981-93 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.