# 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 time 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 <u>Automotive News</u>. 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, July 1992-June 1994

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees) 1993-94 1992-93 June July 1993-June July 1992-May Item 1994 1994 June 1994 1993 June 1993 Retail sales of domestic production..... 6,757 6,398 655 695 665 5,798 Production..... 607 598 6,056 566 (<sup>1</sup>) (<sup>1</sup>) Inventory..... 1,457 1,453 1,402 Days' supply2 . . . . . . . . . . . . . 56 54 (<sup>1</sup>) 57 (<sup>1</sup>) Employment:3 878<sup>4</sup> 885<sup>5</sup> 820<sup>6</sup> Total employees..... 686<sup>5</sup> 679<sup>4</sup> 632<sup>6</sup> Production workers...

Source: Production, retail sales, days' supply, and inventory, <u>Automotive News</u>; 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.

<sup>1</sup> Not applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Data are for May 1992, revised.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Data are for June 1994.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Data are for June 1993.

Table 2
New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, June 1992-May 1994<sup>1</sup>

	<u> 1993-94</u>	. <del></del>		<u> 1992-93</u>				
	Apr.	May	June 1993-	May	June 992-			
Source	1994	1994	May 1994	1993	May 1993			
	<del>~</del>		Ouantity (uni	ts)				
Jap <b>an</b>	125,945	125,987	1,532,476	117,016	1,661,339			
an <b>ada</b>	130,815	135,861	1,443,275	121,434	1,278,72			
ermany	17,515	19,159	179,190	14,905	211,51			
orea, South	19,969	23,034	164,232	12,911	143,66			
weden	4,803	4,412	55,494	5,442	71,80			
exico	26,852	28,331	324,594	25,013	253,04			
nited Kingdom	2,175	2,108	22,248	1,246	14,77			
taly	73	84	1,228	78	1,41			
rance	3	0	17	0	. 3			
razil	0	1	3,306	0	10,23			
11 other	5,034	4,860	54,939	2,865	37,97			
Total	333,184	343,837	3,781,003	300,910	3,684,54			
	Value (1,000 dollars)							
a <b>pan</b>	2,028,773	1,885,567	22,499,482	1,661,944	20,996,90			
anada	1,879,353	1,947,351	18,752,957	1,506,886	15,710,03			
ermany	493,734	556,801	5,461,880	412,044	5,980,46			
orea, South	134,281	153,735	1,033,773	73,345	808,33			
weden	87,929	82,054	1,066,475	109,604	1,355,70			
exico	283,516	300,421	3,394,936	260,768	2,447,07			
nited Kingdom	72,904	71,006	829,336	46,600	546,47			
taly	5,326	6,113	65,197	4,959	48,55			
rance	88	0	327	0	50			
razil	0	47	23,617	0	70,47			
11 other	103.796	100.073	1,030,811	55,048	612,52			
Total	5,089,700	5,103,167	54,158,788	4,131,198	48,577,15			

<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, June 1992-May 1994<sup>2</sup>

	<u> 1993-94</u>			1992-93	
	Apr.	May	June 1993-	May	June 1992-
Source	1994	1994	May 1994	1993	May 1993
			Quantity (u	nits) <sup>3</sup>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Japan	11,694	10,189	116,455	8,855	147,055
Canada	38,566	36,557	444,853	44,605	504,623
Mexico	2,955	3,876	34,623	3,140	31,156
All other	340	219	3,152	152	298
Total	53,555	50,837	598,972	56,756	683,132
			Value (1,000	dollars)	
Japan	97,066	81,989	940,489	70,160	1,163,944
Canada	534,229	513,371	6,127,315	582,625	6,715,560
Mexico	42,151	55,130	524,849	57,778	569,417
All other	9,059	7,392	102,901	7,273	32,954
Total	682,504	657,882	7,695,554	717,839	8,481,928

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

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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.

Table 4
New passenger automobiles: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, June 1992-May 1994

Apr. 1994	May	June 1993-	W	
1994		<i>-</i>	May	June 1992-
	1994	May 1994	1993	May 1993
		Quantity	(units)	
64,252	62,280	546,167	55,751	483,404
5,884	7,970	64,996	5,186	51,962
32,065	33,106	333,278	29,532	349,852
102,201	103,356	944,446	90,765	890,081
		Value (1,0	000 dollars)	
858,530	821,434	7,190,927	718,999	6,349,641
104,087	137,186	1,127,516	84,553	874,235
488,060	491,179	5,115,471	480,956	5,405,514
1,450,678	1,449,799	13,433,989	1,291,969	12,702,361
	5,884 32,065 102,201 858,530 104,087 488,060	5,884 7,970 32,065 33,106 102,201 103,356  858,530 821,434 104,087 137,186 488,060 491,179	5,884 7,970 64,996 32,065 33,106 333,278 102,201 103,356 944,446  Value (1,6  858,530 821,434 7,190,927 104,087 137,186 1,127,516 488,060 491,179 5,115,471	5,884 7,970 64,996 5,186 32,065 33,106 333,278 29,532 102,201 103,356 944,446 90,765  Value (1,000 dollars)  858,530 821,434 7,190,927 718,999 104,087 137,186 1,127,516 84,553 488,060 491,179 5,115,471 480,956

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, June 1992-May 1994<sup>2</sup>

	1993-94		·	1992-93	
	Apr.	May	June 1993-	May	June 1992
Market	1994	1994	May 1994	1993	May 1993
			Quantity (u	nits) <sup>3</sup>	
Canada	17,820	16,709	150,311	10,168	110,250
All other	3,656	3,104	36,074	4,100	35,483
Total	21,477	19,813	186,440	14,275	145,794
		· .	Value (1.00	0 dollars)	
Canada	226,693	212,763	1,921,497	120,098	1,333,774
All other	74,341	56,242	697,976	77,933	530,296
Total	301,034	269,005	2,620,433	198,191	1,865,114

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

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Partially estimated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Quantity data include complete trucks and cab/chassis, but exclude bodies.

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, 1993 and 1994

	Sales of- Domestic automobiles <sup>1</sup>		Imported automobiles <sup>2</sup>		Total U.S.		Ratio of imporsales to total sales 1,2	
<u>Period</u>	1994	1993	1994	1993	1994	1993	1994	1993
			Quantity (units)				Percent	
January	480,435	430,255	125,876	129,802	606,311	560,057	20.1	23.2
Pebruary	563,715	462,409	135,894	131,088	698,809	593,489	19.4	22.1
JanPeb	1,048,076	893,931	257,044	268,879	1,305,120	1,154,810	19.7	23.3
March	695,170	576,959	181,198	158,219	876,368	735,178	20.7	21.5
JanMar	1,743,246	1,470,890	438,242	427,098	2,181,488	1,889,988	20.1	22.6
April	632,262	601,953	153,627	166,827	785,889	768,780	19.5	21.7
JanApr	2,375,508	2,072,843	591,869	539,925	2,967,377	2,658,768	19.9	20.3
May	655,359	633,490	159,224	177,004	814,583	810,494	19.5	21.8
JanMay	3,030,878	2,700,058	750,972	762,815	3,781,850	3,462,873	19.9	22.0
June	694,783	665,558	176,705	170,068	871,488	835,626	20.3	20.4
JanJune	3,725,661	3,373,672	927,677	932,873	4,653,338	4,306,545	19.9	21.7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Domestic automobile sales include U.S.-, Canadian- and Mexican-built automobiles sold in the United States.

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

Table 7
New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1993 and 1994<sup>1</sup>

	1994			1993-94		
	May		Percent	June	June	Percent change
Item	1994	1994	change	1993	1994	
Consumer Price						
Index:						
Unadjusted	135.7	135.8	+0.1	131.0	135.8	+3.7
Seasonally						
adjusted	135.4	135.9	+0.4	131.2	135.9	+3.6
Producer Price						
Index:						
Unadjusted	134.2	133.9	-0.2	130.0	133.9	+3.0
Seasonally						
adjusted	134.5	134.8	+0.2	130.2	134.8	+3.3

Consumer price index, 1982-1984 = 100. Producer price index, 1982 = 100.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Does not include automobiles imported from Canada and Mexico.

Table 8
New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during June 1994 1

	Retail price changes
Country source/make	June 1994 (+ 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.
Nissan	No change.
European producers:	
Volkswagen	No change.
BMW	No change.
Audi	No change.
Porsche	No change.
Mercedes-Benz	No change.
Korean producer:	<del>-</del> ·
Hyundai	No change.

Average retail price change for all models.

Source: Automotive News, June and July 1994.

Table 9
Sales and profits (loss) on major U.S. automobile manufacturers' operations, by specified periods, 1994 and 1993<sup>1</sup>

	1994		1993		
	January-	April-	January-	April-	
Item and firm	June	June	June	June	
Sales:					
General Motors	77,890	40,390	71,660	36,700	
Ford	64,200	33,800	56,160	29,400	
Chrysler	26,300	13,100	21,930	11,030	
Total	168,390	87,290	149,750	77,130	
Profits:					
General Motors	2,774	1,920	1,402	889	
Ford	2,614	1,710	939	367	
Chrysler	1,894	956	(3,468)	685	
Total	7,282	4,586	(1,127)	1,941	

<sup>1</sup> Data are for world operations.

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

Table 10
Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-July 1994

	April 1.	1981	July 1.	1994		
		Option- ally		Option- ally	Percent change equipped model	_
Company, model, and options <sup>2</sup>	Base model <sup>3</sup>	equipped model3	Base model <sup>3</sup>	equipped model <sup>3</sup>	Jun. 1994- July 1994	Apr. 1981- July 1994
General Motors:						
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
Ford:				•		
Escort Pony 2 door HB (RWD, TG)	5,556	5,857	8,835	8,955	0.0	+51.2
Tempo GL 4 door (RWD, AT, TG) <sup>5</sup>	6,421	6,953	10,885	11,819	0.0	+70.0
LTD Crown Victoria, 4 door	8,519	10,102	20,765	20,765	0.0	+105.6
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R)	5,688	5,793	12,998	13,233	0.0	+128.4
Nissan (Datsun):						
Sentra E, 2 door <sup>6</sup>	5,369	5,369	9,315	9,315	0.0	+73.5 °
Maxima GXE, 4 door	10,379	10,379	21,325	21,325	0.0	+105.5
Honda:						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) 7	4,599	4,694	9,500	9,912	0.0	+111.2
Accord DX, 4 door (R)	7,645	7,950	14,330	14,570	0.0	+83.3

Suggested retail prices do not include any dealer incentives, below-market financing or rebates.

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

Note: Some 1981-94 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.

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

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>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Tempo replaced the Fairmont Futura.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Civic 1500 replaced the Civic 1300.