

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

Investigation No. 332-207

Publication 2817

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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, September 1992-August 1994

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1993-94		1992-93		
	July 1994	August 1994	Sept. 1993- Aug. 1994	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1992- Aug. 1993
Retail sales of domestic production	557	597	7,344	532	6,480
Production	558	541	6,810	423	5,765
Inventory	1,228	1,196	(1)	1,147	(1)
Days' supply ²	55	54	(1)	56	(1)
Employment: ³					
Total employees	864 ⁴	880 ⁵	(1)	811 ⁶	(1)
Production workers ..	665 ⁴	679 ⁵	(1)	620 ⁶	(1)

1 Not applicable.

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

3 Employment data are for SIC 371 (motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment).

4 Data are for July 1994, revised.

5 Data are for August 1994.

6 Data are for August 1993.

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, August 1992-July 1994¹

Source	1993-94			1992-93	
	June 1994	July 1994	Aug. 1993- July 1994	July 1993	Aug. 1992- July 1993
	Quantity (units)				
Japan	132,229	140,383	1,590,246	112,750	1,651,083
Canada	164,480	86,056	1,464,573	84,751	1,314,269
Germany	12,814	14,557	178,729	12,285	205,669
Korea, South	19,450	21,576	186,501	7,957	141,277
Sweden	3,682	2,686	54,596	3,573	67,288
Mexico	32,858	28,732	333,718	21,679	247,417
United Kingdom ..	1,961	1,556	23,231	1,064	16,083
Italy	119	48	1,129	118	1,243
France	42	0	59	0	38
Brazil	3	6	1,611	1	9,402
All other	5,474	2,846	53,421	6,221	42,691
Total	373,112	298,446	3,887,817	250,399	3,696,465
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan	1,940,323	2,130,310	23,630,732	1,532,367	21,176,606
Canada	2,382,977	1,228,923	19,499,928	1,081,735	16,299,617
Germany	377,743	430,797	5,436,867	376,987	5,958,459
Korea, South	125,407	136,202	1,197,810	40,403	799,790
Sweden	70,000	51,196	1,029,893	77,587	1,299,783
Mexico	349,946	312,163	3,517,085	225,718	2,505,367
United Kingdom ..	65,189	54,222	856,231	40,069	595,258
Italy	8,401	5,470	65,258	5,229	51,908
France	684	0	1,011	0	502
Brazil	92	73	11,671	18	65,818
All other	91,126	36,767	1,033,789	63,167	681,226
Total	5,411,887	4,386,123	56,280,303	3,443,279	49,434,360

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 trucks¹ and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, August 1992-July 1994²

Source	1993-94		1992-93		
	June 1994	July 1994	Aug. 1993- July 1994	July 1993	Aug. 1992- July 1993
	Quantity (units) ³				
Japan	10,758	13,979	117,023	13,034	146,580
Canada	43,734	20,608	441,468	19,191	492,771
Mexico	2,912	2,734	33,974	2,459	32,973
All other	193	407	3,394	150	655
Total	57,598	37,728	595,858	34,834	672,979
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan	83,226	108,898	951,097	99,080	1,176,896
Canada	605,711	296,864	6,120,788	260,656	6,603,031
Mexico	41,801	42,597	490,336	46,527	610,159
All other	7,325	10,500	105,095	6,334	45,383
Total	738,063	458,858	7,667,316	412,597	8,435,472

¹ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gw.

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, August 1992-July 1994

Market	1993-94		1992-93		
	June 1994	July 1994	Aug. 1993- July 1994	July 1993	Aug. 1992- July 1993
	Quantity (units)				
Canada	49,038	25,607	547,275	24,829	479,958
Japan	9,758	7,643	74,216	3,557	54,769
All other	31,810	25,113	342,358	22,107	344,857
Total	90,606	58,363	963,854	50,813	884,860
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada	665,327	339,854	7,280,232	306,076	6,305,499
Japan	166,890	136,399	1,283,389	61,894	935,949
All other	448,465	366,241	5,186,971	335,573	5,357,137
Total	1,280,682	842,493	13,750,666	707,991	12,678,144

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 trucks¹ and bodies and cab/chassis for lightweight automobile trucks: U.S. exports of domestic merchandise, by principal markets and by specified periods, August 1992-July 1994²

Market	1993-94			1992-93	
	June 1994	July 1994	Aug. 1993- July 1994	July 1993	Aug. 1992- July 1993
	Quantity (units) ³				
Canada	14,383	8,892	158,410	6,505	106,397
All other	2,271	2,301	35,754	2,303	36,062
Total	16,654	11,193	194,219	8,813	145,535
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada	181,788	114,942	2,032,994	80,838	1,292,090
All other	38,510	41,730	696,651	39,198	539,765
Total	220,298	156,671	2,730,605	120,155	1,833,264

1 Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gw.

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, 1993 and 1994

Period	Sales of-		Imported		Total U.S.		Ratio of import	
	Domestic automobiles ¹		automobiles ²		sales ^{1,2}		sales to total sales ²	
	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
February ..	563,715	462,409	135,894	131,088	698,809	593,489	19.4	22.1
Jan.-Feb ..	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
Jan.-Mar..	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
Jan.-Apr..	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
Jan.-May..	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
Jan.-June.	3,725,661	3,373,672	927,677	932,873	4,653,338	4,306,545	19.9	21.7
July	557,344	593,261	155,963	170,419	713,307	763,680	21.9	22.3
Jan.-July.	4,283,005	3,966,679	1,083,640	1,103,294	5,366,645	5,069,973	20.2	21.8
August	596,788	532,060	185,679	164,980	782,467	697,040	23.7	23.7
Jan.-Aug..	4,879,793	4,498,668	1,269,175	1,269,068	6,148,968	5,767,736	20.6	22.0

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

2 Does not include automobiles imported from Canada and Mexico.

Source: Automotive News.

Table 7
New passenger automobiles: Price indexes, by specified periods, 1993 and 1994¹

Item	1994		Percent change	1993-94		Percent change
	July 1994	Aug. 1994		Aug. 1993	Aug. 1994	
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	135.8	135.6	-0.2	130.8	135.6	+3.7
Seasonally adjusted..	136.6	136.9	+0.2	132.1	136.9	+3.6
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	134.2	134.0	-0.1	129.7	134.0	+3.3
Seasonally adjusted..	135.7	136.7	+0.7	132.8	136.7	+2.9

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
 August 1994¹

Country source/make	Retail price changes Aug. 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:	
Hyundai	....No change.

1 Average retail price change for all models.

Source.: Automotive News, August 1994.

Table 9

Manufacturer suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-September 1994

Manufacturer	Model	Price	Options	Notes
Ford	Mustang	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Mustang	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Mustang	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Mustang	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
Chrysler	Chrysler	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Chrysler	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Chrysler	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Chrysler	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
Honda	Honda	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Honda	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Honda	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Honda	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
Toyota	Toyota	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Toyota	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Toyota	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base
	Toyota	\$10,000	4-speaker stereo, leather interior	Optional models are base