

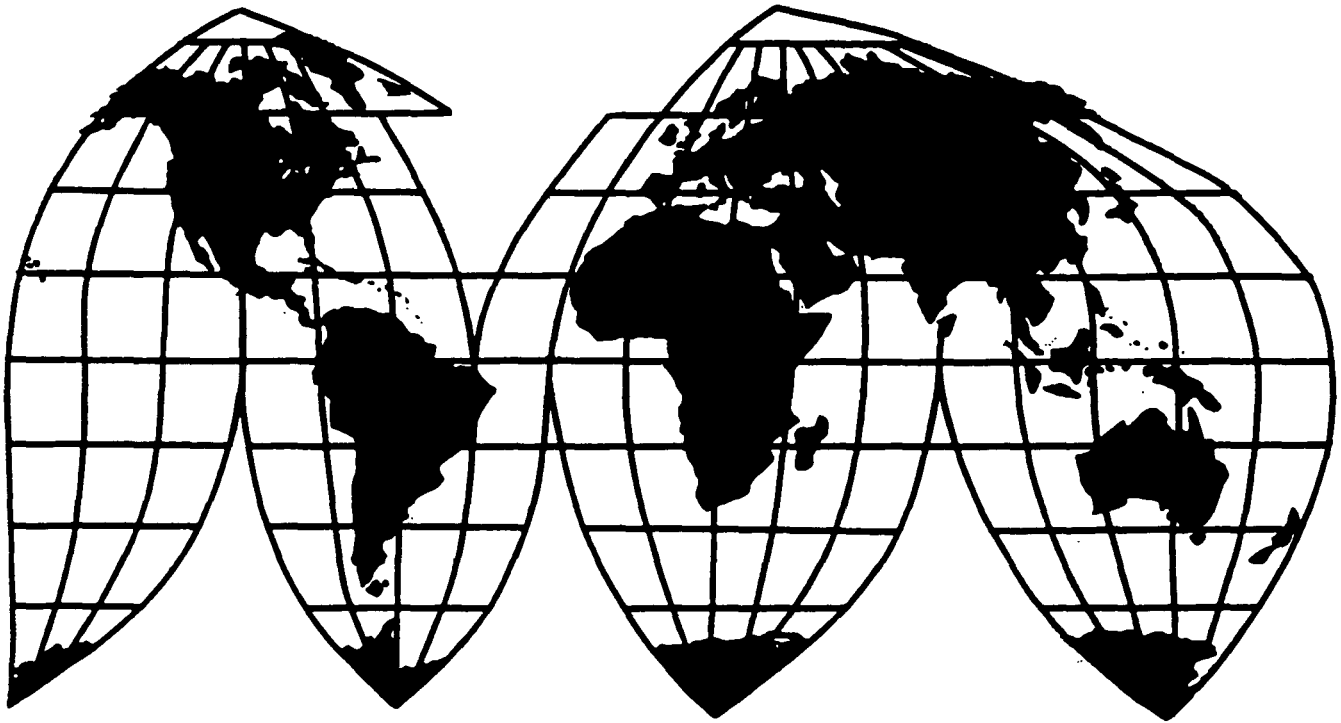
The U.S. Automobile Industry Monthly Report on Selected Economic Indicators

Investigation No. 332-207

Publication 2908

June 1995

U.S. International Trade Commission



Washington, DC 20436

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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, June 1993-May 1995

(In thousands of units; thousands of employees)

Item	1994-95			1993-94	
	Apr. 1995	May 1995	June 1994- May 1995	May 1994	June 1993- May 1994
Retail sales of domestic production.....	551	660	7,137	655	6,819
Production.....	562	581	6,654	607	6,107
Inventory.....	1,792	1,764	(1)	1,457	(1)
Days' supply ²	81	69	(1)	56	(1)
Employment: ³					
Total employees.....	936 ⁴	940 ⁵	(1)	878 ⁶	(1)
Production workers...	735 ⁴	740 ⁵	(1)	679 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 March 1995, revised.

⁵ Data are for April 1995.

⁶ Data are for April 1994.

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.

Table 2

New passenger automobiles: U.S. imports, by principal sources and by specified periods, May 1993-April 1995¹

Source	1994-95			1993-94	
	Mar. 1995	Apr. 1995	May 1994-Apr. 1995	Apr. 1994	May 1993-Apr. 1994
	Quantity (units)				
Japan.....	142,971	157,882	1,645,022	125,945	1,523,505
Canada.....	162,838	150,736	1,745,367	130,815	1,428,848
Germany.....	16,647	20,656	190,022	17,515	174,936
Korea, South.....	21,132	22,378	229,510	19,969	154,109
Sweden.....	11,266	7,545	79,148	4,803	56,524
Mexico.....	35,743	28,089	393,272	26,852	321,276
United Kingdom...	4,345	3,786	35,013	2,175	21,386
Italy.....	76	21	1,135	73	1,222
France.....	2	0	56	3	17
Brazil.....	3	0	56	0	3,305
All other.....	3,640	2,006	45,665	5,034	52,944
Total.....	398,664	393,099	4,364,267	333,184	3,738,076
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	2,252,627	2,468,025	24,895,901	2,028,773	22,275,859
Canada.....	2,297,294	2,160,811	25,163,019	1,879,353	18,312,492
Germany.....	526,403	688,789	6,038,485	493,734	5,317,124
Korea, South.....	165,325	171,624	1,626,959	134,281	953,343
Sweden.....	231,579	158,325	1,617,093	87,929	1,094,025
Mexico.....	425,420	335,766	4,463,444	283,516	3,355,283
United Kingdom...	150,956	125,116	1,226,755	72,904	804,930
Italy.....	4,001	2,197	79,200	5,326	64,042
France.....	31	0	988	88	327
Brazil.....	75	0	1,288	0	23,570
All other.....	79,736	44,557	893,730	103,796	985,786
Total.....	6,133,464	6,155,210	66,006,879	5,089,700	53,186,818

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, May 1993-April 1995²

Source	1994-95			1993-94	
	Mar. 1995	Apr. 1995	May 1994-Apr. 1995	Apr. 1994	May 1993-Apr. 1994
	Quantity (units) ³				
Japan.....	8,501	6,171	138,772	11,694	115,125
Canada.....	41,551	34,600	446,976	38,566	452,905
Mexico.....	6,512	7,433	50,227	2,955	33,887
All other.....	71	28	2,244	340	3,085
Total.....	56,635	48,232	638,219	53,555	604,892
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Japan.....	84,760	66,278	1,205,096	97,066	928,660
Canada.....	607,731	535,520	6,535,878	534,229	6,196,569
Mexico.....	111,360	129,171	882,205	42,151	527,496
All other.....	8,301	5,414	89,756	9,059	102,785
Total.....	812,152	736,383	8,712,935	682,504	7,755,511

¹ Defined as not over 10,000 pounds gvwt.

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, May 1993-April 1995

Market	1994-95			1993-94	
	Mar. 1995	Apr. 1995	May 1994- Apr. 1995	Apr. 1994	May 1993- Apr. 1994
	Quantity (units)				
Canada.....	49,521	50,263	537,439	64,252	539,458
Japan.....	9,988	8,378	111,807	5,884	62,212
All other.....	36,912	73,218	407,513	32,065	330,180
Total.....	96,421	131,859	1,056,759	102,201	931,855
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	715,358	754,047	7,488,242	858,530	7,088,492
Japan.....	183,492	169,525	1,982,649	104,087	1,074,883
All other.....	532,436	492,246	5,345,647	488,060	5,112,709
Total.....	1,431,287	1,415,819	14,816,538	1,450,678	13,276,159

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, May 1993-April 1995²

Market	1994-95			1993-94	
	Mar. 1995	Apr. 1995	May 1994-Apr. 1995	Apr. 1994	May 1993-Apr. 1994
	Quantity (units) ³				
Canada.....	15,336	15,039	162,527	17,820	143,770
All other.....	4,722	3,683	57,044	3,656	37,077
Total.....	20,058	18,722	219,571	21,477	180,902
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Canada.....	221,638	213,866	2,169,790	226,693	1,828,832
All other.....	86,092	68,552	712,830	74,341	719,827
Total.....	307,729	282,418	2,882,620	301,034	2,549,618

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, 1994 and 1995

Period	Sales of-		Imported		Total U.S.		Ratio of impor	
	Domestic		automobiles ²		sales ^{1,2}		sales to total	
	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994
			Quantity (units)				--Percent--	
January...	468,400	484,545	113,236	121,910	581,636	606,364	19.5	20.1
February..	523,833	563,715	125,360	135,054	649,193	698,769	19.3	19.3
Jan-Feb...	992,233	1,048,089	238,598	256,964	1,230,831	1,305,053	19.4	19.7
March.....	642,971	695,170	155,674	181,158	798,645	876,328	19.5	20.7
Jan-Mar...	1,635,204	1,743,246	393,202	438,122	2,028,406	2,181,368	19.4	20.1
April.....	551,342	632,267	134,626	153,627	685,968	785,889	19.6	19.5
Jan-Apr...	2,186,546	2,375,521	527,829	591,748	2,714,375	2,967,269	19.4	19.9
May.....	660,299	655,359	164,972	159,224	825,271	814,583	19.9	19.5
Jan-May...	2,846,845	3,030,871	692,801	750,972	3,539,646	3,781,843	19.6	19.9

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, 1994 and 1995¹

Item	1995			1994-95		
	Apr. 1995	May 1995	Percent change	May 1994	May 1995	Percent change
Consumer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	139.3	139.3	+0.0	135.7	139.3	+2.7
Seasonally adjusted..	138.9	139.0	+0.1	135.4	139.0	+2.7
Producer Price Index:						
Unadjusted..	134.1	133.3	-0.6	134.2	133.3	-0.7
Seasonally adjusted..	133.8	133.4	-0.3	134.5	133.4	-0.8

¹ Consumer price index, 1982-1984 = 100. Producer price index, 1982 = 100.

Table 8

New passenger automobiles: Retail price changes in the U.S. market during May 1995¹

Country source/make	Retail price changes May 1995 (+ 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.....	+3.0 percent
Mercedes-Benz.....	No change.
Korean producer:	
Hyundai.....	No change.

¹ Average retail price change for all models.

Source: Automotive News, May 1995.

Table 9

Manufacturers' suggested retail prices of selected U.S. and Japanese automobiles, April 1981-June 1995¹

Company, model, and options ²	April 1, 1981		June 1, 1995		Percent change in optionally equipped model	
	Base model ³	Optionally equipped model ³	Base model ³	Optionally equipped model ³	May 1995-June 1995	Apr. 1981-June 1995
General Motors:						
Cavalier, 2 door.....	\$6,966 ⁴	\$6,966 ⁴	\$10,060	\$10,060	0.0	+44.4
De Ville, 4 door.....	14,198	14,198	34,990	34,990	0.0	+146.4
Ford:						
Escort Pony 2 door HB (RWD, TG).....	5,556	5,857	9,680	9,800	0.0	+67.3
Toyota:						
Corolla, Deluxe, 4 door (R).....	5,688	5,793	13,618	13,853	0.0	+139.1
Nissan:						
Sentra E, 2 door ⁶	5,369	5,369	9,610	9,610	0.0	+79.0
Maxima GXE, 4 door.....	10,379	10,379	19,999	19,999	0.0	+92.7
Honda:						
Civic 1500, 2 door HB (R) ⁷	4,599	4,694	9,890	10,290	0.0	+119.2
Accord DX, 4 door (R).....	7,645	7,950	14,940	15,190	0.0	+91.1

¹ Suggested retail prices do not include any dealer incentives, below-market financing or rebates.

² 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 June 21, 1981.

⁵ Sentra replaced the 210; Stanza replaced the 510.

⁶ Civic 1500 replaced the Civic 1300.

Source: Automotive News.

Note: Some 1981-95 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.