

PRODUCTION AND TRADE

In 1984 over 30 million automobiles were produced in the world, a one per cent increase over the 29.7 million produced in 1983. Truck and bus production in 1984 was almost 11.5 million units up 15 per cent from the approximately 10 million units produced in 1983. Production of automobiles in Canada and the United States in 1984 was nearly 8.8 million units the highest since 1979 and a 13 per cent increase over the 1983 output. Passenger automobiles assembled in the United States accounted for 88 per cent of the total production in North America and in Canada automaking surpassed the one million mark for the first time since 1978.

There was also sizeable growth in truck and bus production on both sides of the border. In the United States 3.1 million trucks and buses were made in 1984 for a 27 per cent gain over 1983 and the best production year since 1978. Truck and bus production in Canada was up with 262,192 more units manufactured than in 1983 for a total of over 300,000 units — the best year ever. Combining all motor vehicle production — automobiles, trucks and buses — showed that the United States and Canada built nearly 12.7 million vehicles during 1984 up 18 per cent over 1983. This was a dramatic turn around from the recession year 1982 when 8.2 million units were produced.

In 1984 the combined Canada/United States percentage share of world production was 30.5 per cent up from 27 per cent in 1983. Japan's percentage