

# The Economist

JUNE 3-9TH 2012 \$5.99

www.economist.com

Britain and the euro, cont'd

PAGES 13, 27 AND 34

Airbus and bribery

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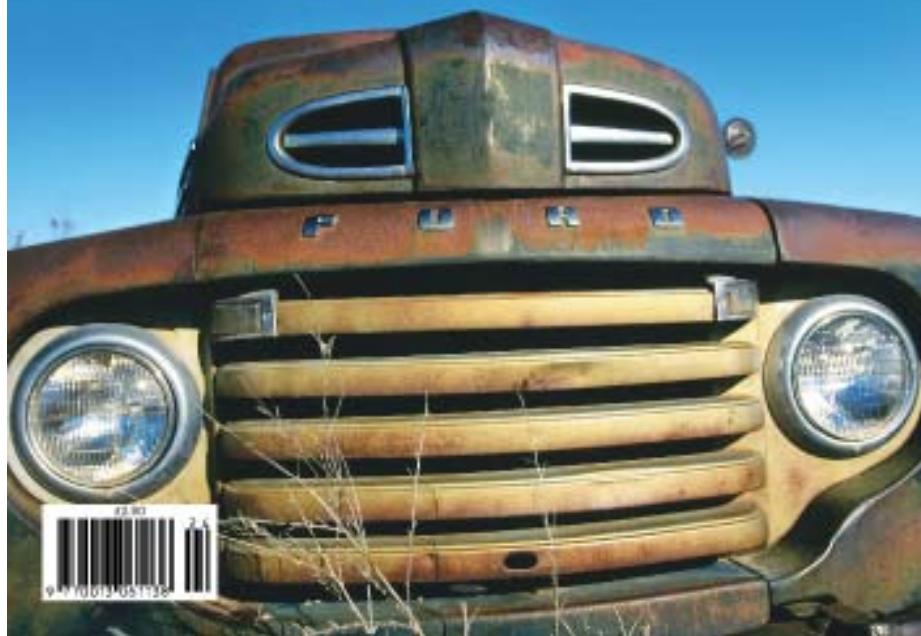
Dealing with Iran

PAGES 12 AND 22-24

A SURVEY OF THE NORDIC COUNTRIES

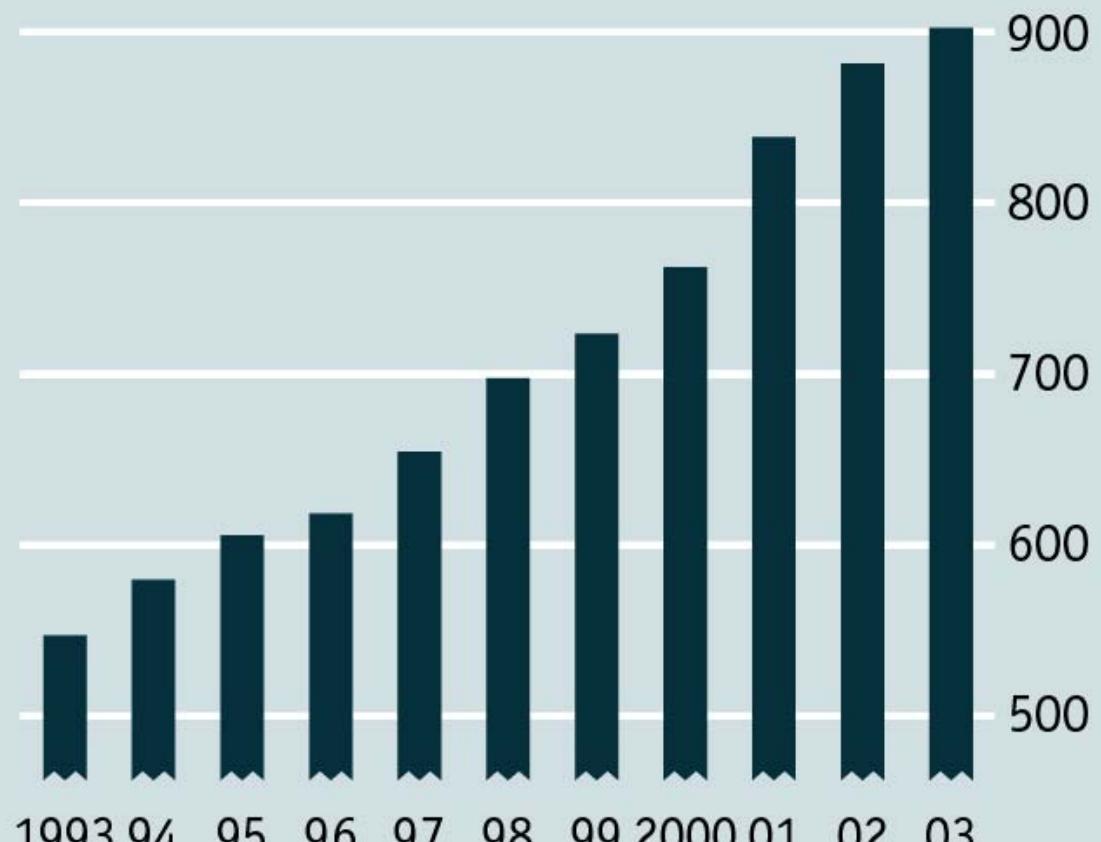
AFTER PAGE 48

# Extinction of the car giants



## *The Economist* worldwide circulation\*

'000s

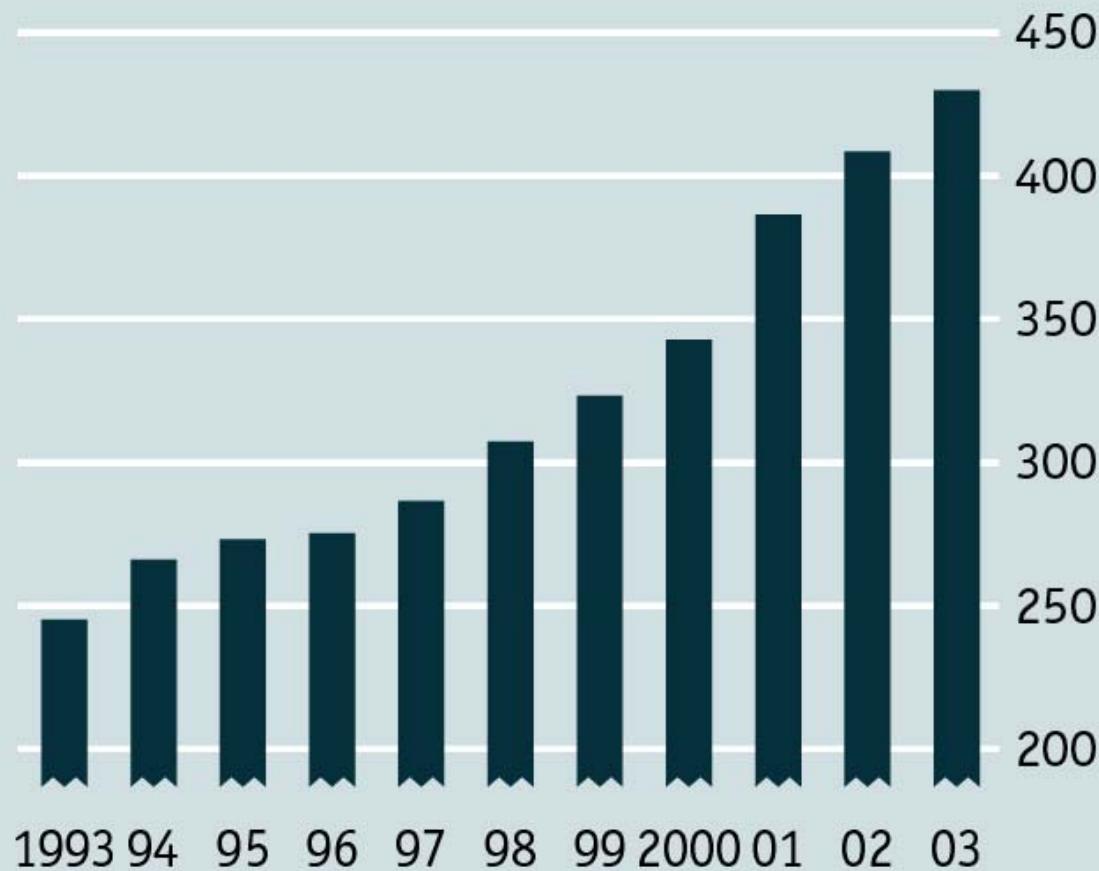


Source: ABC

\*Weekly

## *The Economist* N. America circulation\*

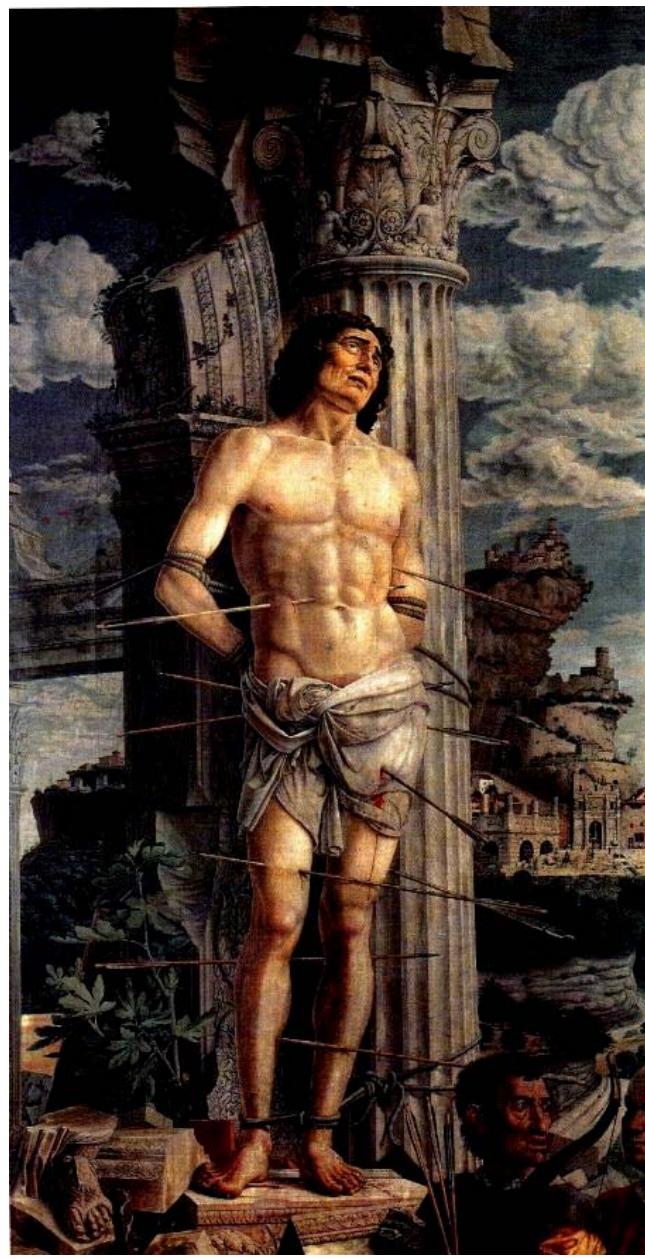
'000s



Source: ABC

\*Weekly





# The Economist

10 April 1998 UK £1.50 USA \$3.00 IRE £1.10 FF 21 DM 8.00 Lire 5,500  
JPY 150 Gbr £1.24 SFr 25 ASR 50 SP 6.20 Pst 425 Dfl 480 FIM 17 Esc 475 Nair 20

LABOURNOMICS

pages 16 and 29

EAST EUROPE FOR SALE

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THE G7 CHARADE

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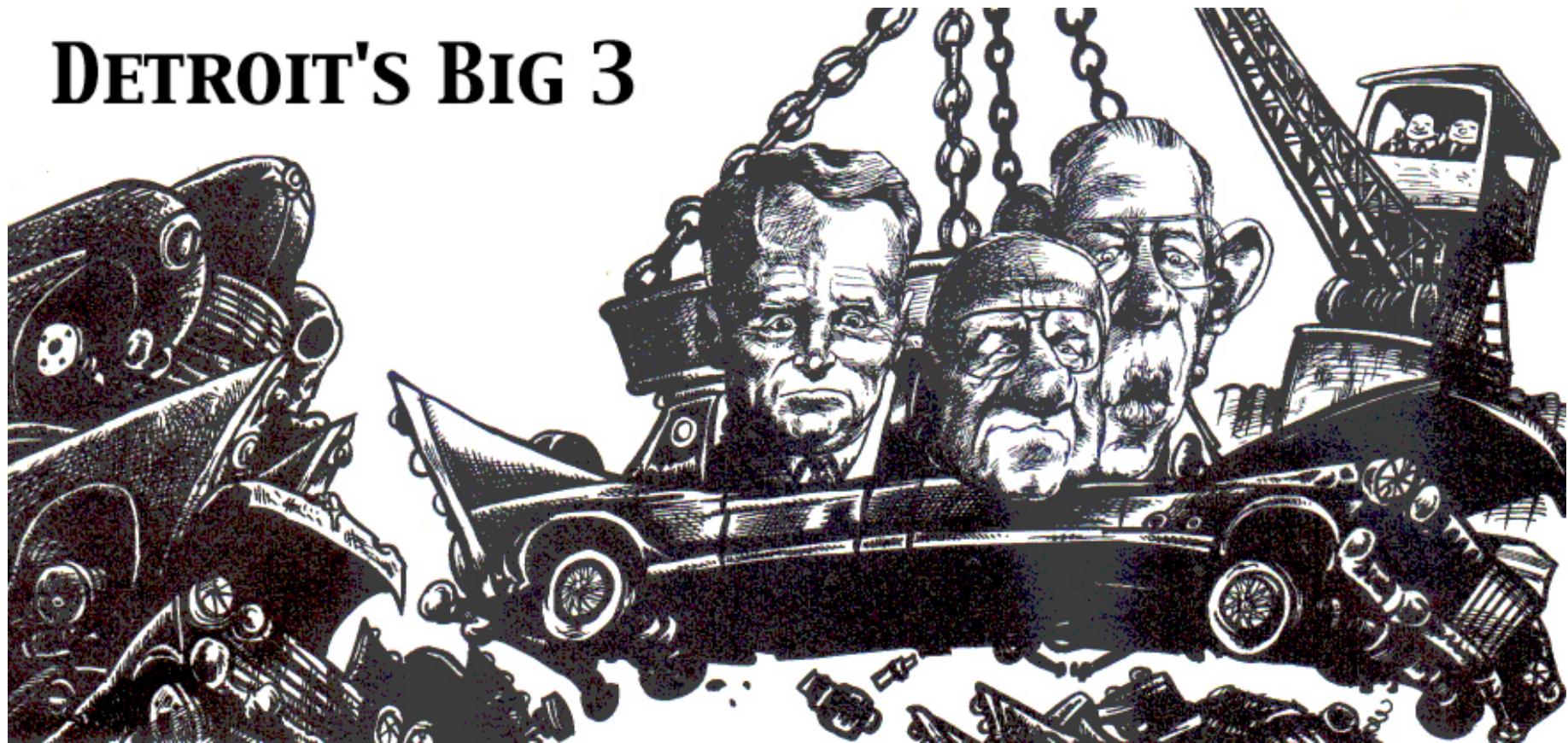
HUBBLE'S UNIVERSE

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## Detroit under siege



# DETROIT'S BIG 3











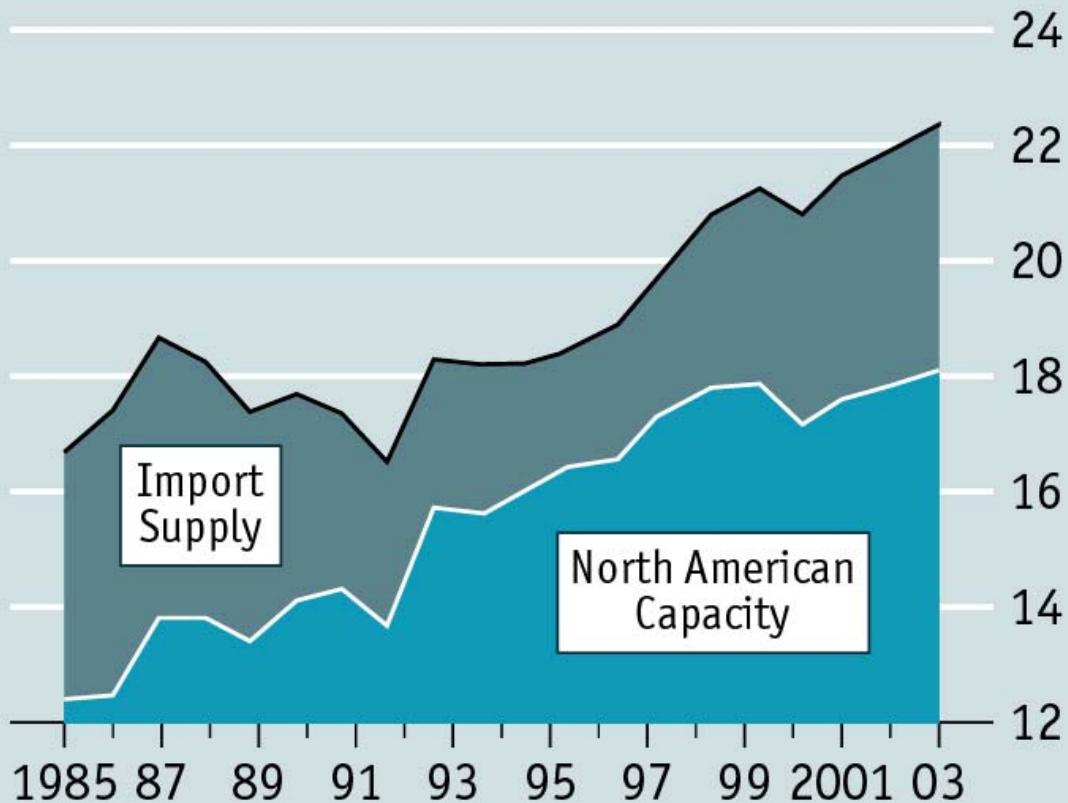






## Building a problem

Supply in the North American vehicle market  
millions of vehicles



Sources: *Ward's Automotive*; Goldman Sachs Research estimates

## Ok, but...

US sales in millions of units  
traditional domestic makes only

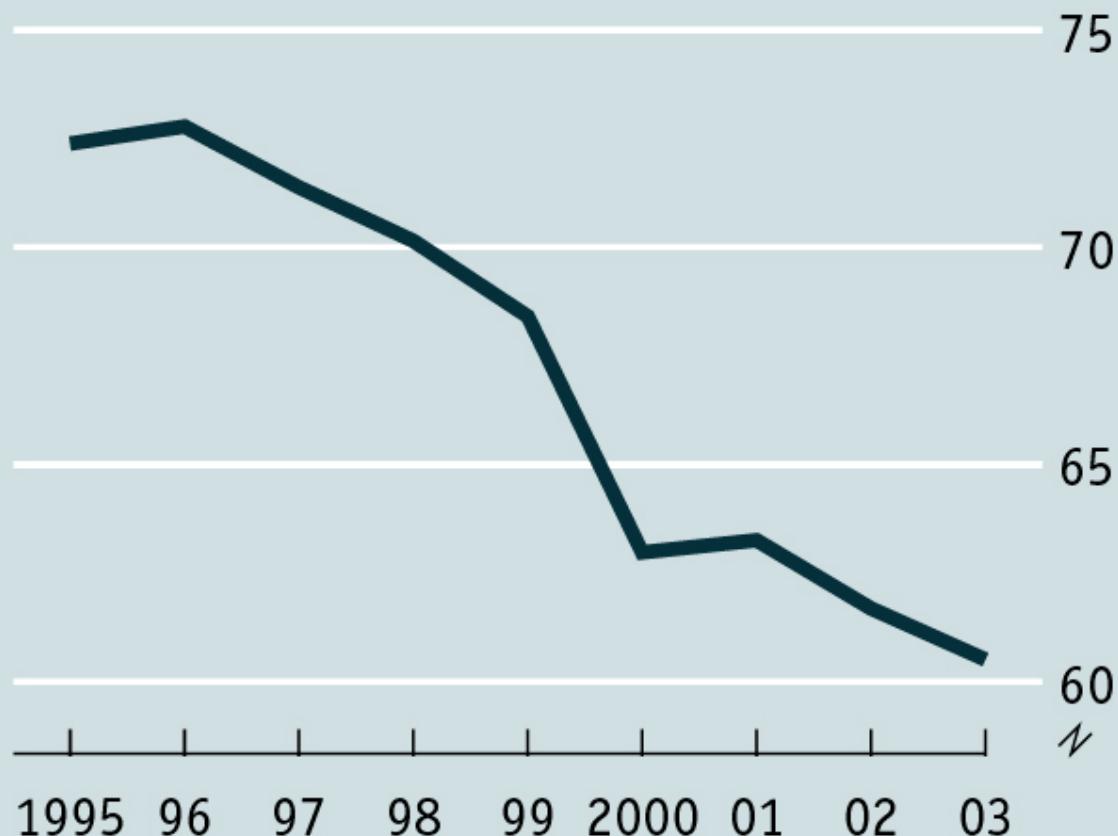


Source: *Automotive News Data Centre*

\*Estimate

## What's this?

Combined share of US market  
traditional domestic makes only, %

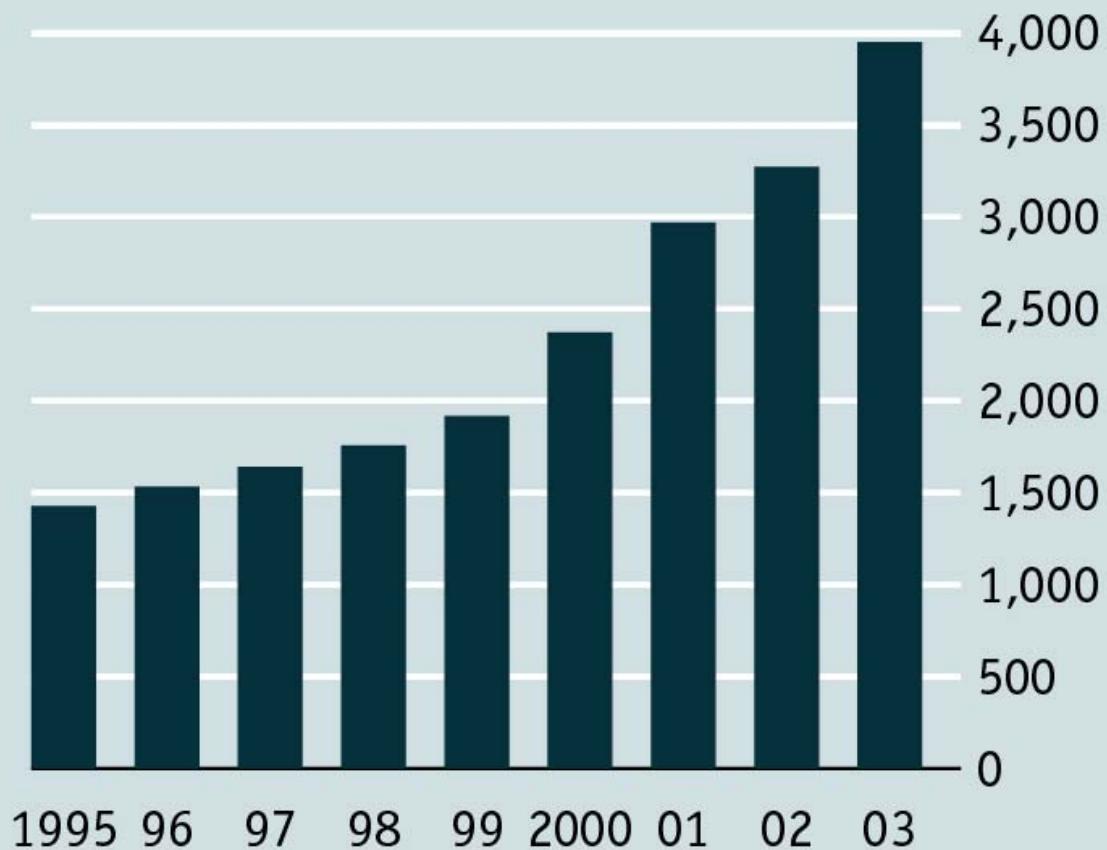


Source: *Automotive News* Data Centre

\*Through seven months

## Despite bribes

Average per-vehicle spending on incentives, \$



Source: CNW Marketing research Inc.

## Import brands enjoy a price premium over the big three

\$ price per vehicle\*

	Upper middle car				Entry Luxury and specialty utility / van			
	Honda Accord	Toyota Camry	Chevrolet Impala	Ford Taurus	Acura MDX	Buick Rendezvous	Chrysler Town and country	Mercury Mountaineer
Average transaction price†	\$23,441	\$24,169	\$20,564	\$20,386	na	na	na	na
Incentive per vehicle	1,243	886	2,805	3,186	0	2,000	2,500	1,500
Vehicle demand quotient‡	4.0	2.6	1.2	1.1	7.8	2.8	1.7	1.6

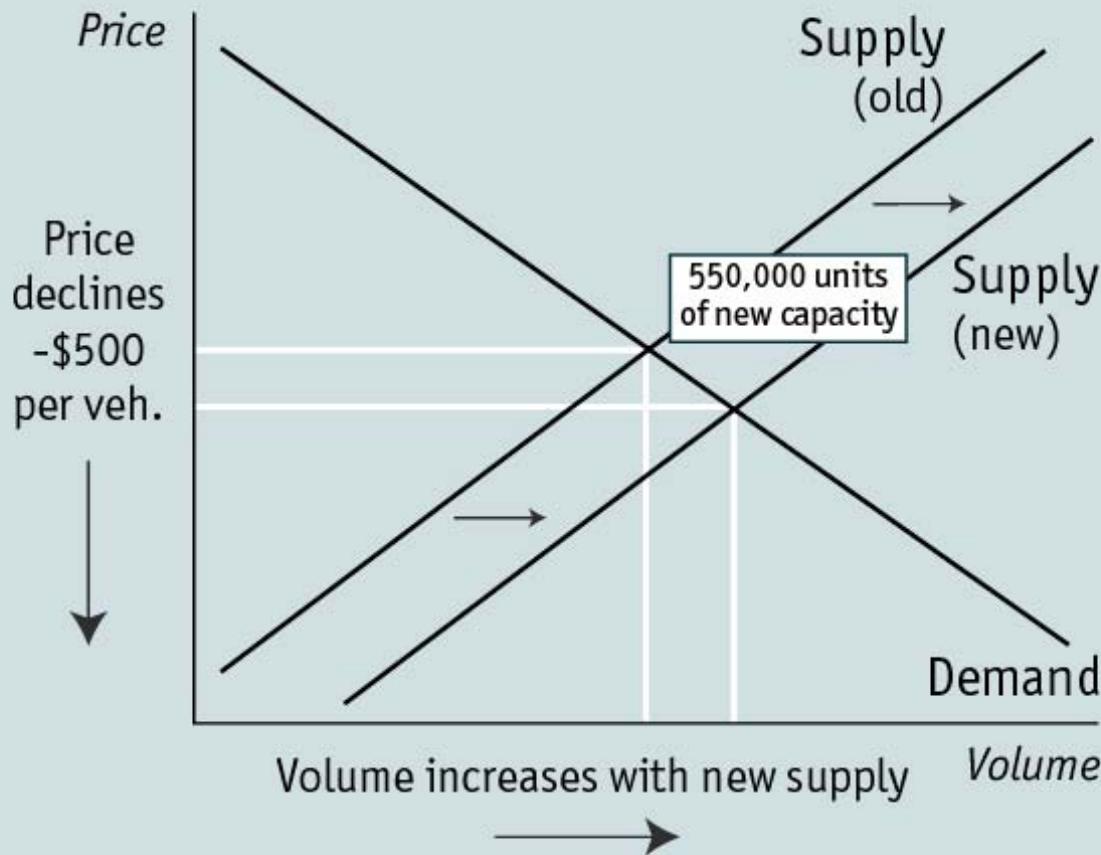
\*except VDQ †Model year 2003, average transaction price for vehicle segment, not specific model

‡Ratio of active shoppers to retail sales; high number indicates high demand versus supply

Sources: Compete, Inc.; J D Power; Autodata; Goldman Sachs Research estimates

# Supply and demand

Increased supply lowers prices



Sources: Goldman Sachs Research estimates

## What troubles this industry

Volume and capacity against utilisation

*Volume and capacity, 000s*

■ Assembly volume ■ Excess capacity

*Utilisation*

— %



Source: PwC Autofacts

## Whoops

Combined pretax profit from auto operations\*, \$m

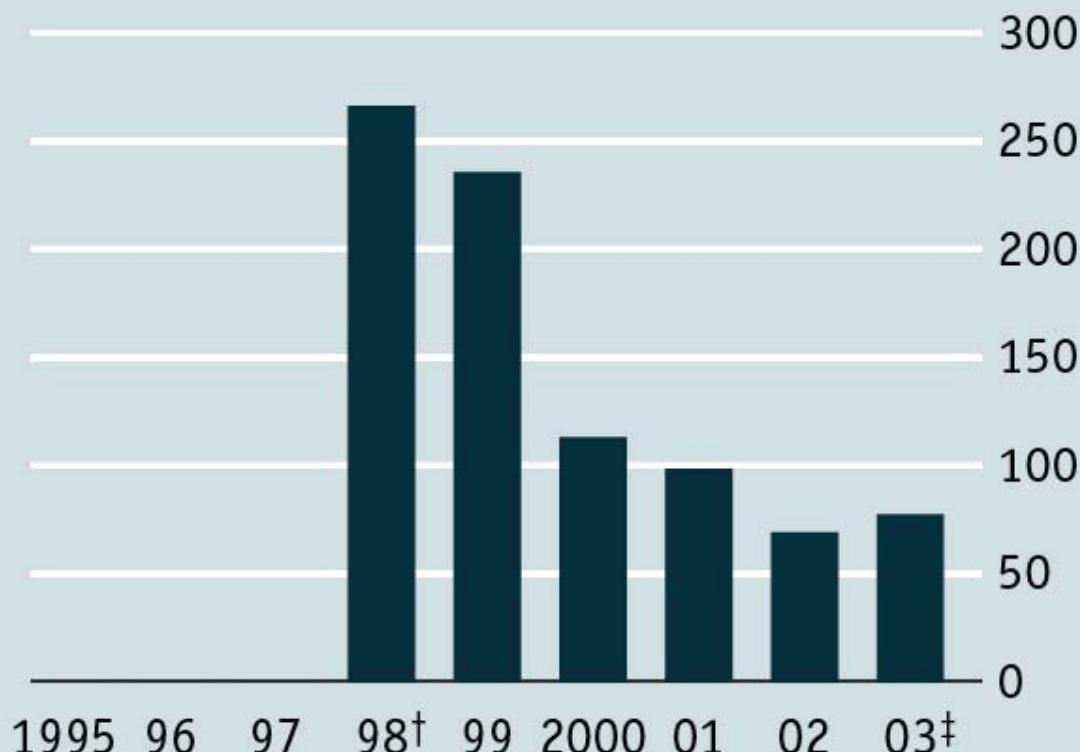


\*Ford Motor Co., General Motors, Chrysler Group

Sources: Companies; *Automotive News*

## Decline and fall

Combined market value\* in, \$bn



\*Ford Motor Co., General Motors, DaimlerChrysler AG

†First Year for DCX   ‡On July 31

Sources: Merrill Lynch; *Automotive News*

# Southern discomfort

