

UAW strike 2023 launches at Stellantis plant in Ohio. Here's what we know

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As part of a larger strike against Detroit Three automakers, workers at Stellantis' Toledo Assembly Complex went on strike Friday morning.

The current deal expired at 11:59 p.m. Thursday, with United Auto Workers president Shawn Fain announcing strikes at Ford Michigan Assembly Plant in Michigan and General Motors Wentzville Assembly in Missouri in addition to strikes at the Toledo plant.

Here's what we know about the strike at the Toledo Assembly Complex:

Why is UAW striking at Stellantis' Toledo Assembly Complex in Ohio?

The UAW has been negotiating with Detroit Three automakers since late summer for new contract negotiations. With a deadline of 11:59 on Thursday night, last-minute bargaining failed and workers went on strike Friday morning.

Employees cited supplemental work, stagnant wages and limited benefits in an active job as reasons why they're striking.

"People break their backs, their hands, their arms and spend time away from their families to build these vehicles," said Charmaine Sanderfield, an assembly worker at the Michigan plant, to the Detroit Free Press.

What does Stellantis say about the UAW strike 2023?

"We are extremely disappointed by the UAW leadership's refusal to engage in a responsible manner to reach a fair agreement in the best interest of our employees, their families and our customers. We immediately put the Company in contingency mode and will take all the appropriate structural decisions to protect our North American operations and the Company," a Stellantis spokesperson said in a statement from the company.

According to a report from CNBC, Stellantis may face more roadblocks in the negotiation process than its Detroit Three counterparts Ford Motor and General Motors. The company has a larger production capacity than is

necessary and has said it could close 18 of its facilities, making UAW demands more difficult to meet.

CNBC reported that Stellantis may have been preparing for a strike, as the company had more inventory in the U.S. in early September than Ford or GM.

UAW strike demands: What do auto workers want to achieve?

The UAW is seeking a 40% increase in wages, job security, cost of living adjustments and pensions. Employees have cited the fact that they can't afford to buy the cars they produce, but experts have said an increase in wages would also result in an increase in new car prices.

On September 8, the UAW rejected a proposal from Stellantis that would see a 14.5% increase in wages for most employees in addition to proposals for "inflation protection" payments.

What vehicles does the Toledo Assembly Complex make?

The Toledo Assembly Complex makes Stellantis' Jeep Wrangler, Wrangle 4xe and Jeep Gladiator.

Aside from Jeep, Stellantis owns Ram, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Alfa Romeo and Maserati. Stellantis also owns multiple brands not made in the United States.