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The Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — General Motors is scrapping the Chevrolet Avalanche pickup truck.

The company sold 580,000 of the short-bed, five-seat trucks since rolling them out in 2001. They were a combination of SUV and pickup truck.

Sales peaked at just over 93,000 in 2003, but fell as buyers went for full-size "crew cab" pickups.

GM introduced a full-size light-duty Chevy Silverado crew cab in 2004. The company says 65 percent of pickup trucks are now sold with a rear seat.

GM will sell the Avalanche through the summer of 2013. The truck is made at a factory in Silao, Mexico, which also makes the Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups.

Last year GM sold only 20,000 Avalanches. That's less than 5 percent of the 415,000 Silverado models sold by the company in 2011.

Chevrolet is putting out a special "Black Diamond" edition of the Avalanche in its final year.

Shares of General Motors Co. fell 46 cents, or 1.9 percent, to \$23.84 in morning trading on Friday amid a broad market decline. GM shares are 25 percent above their low of \$19 the week before last Christmas. They traded as high as \$33.47 last May.

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