

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

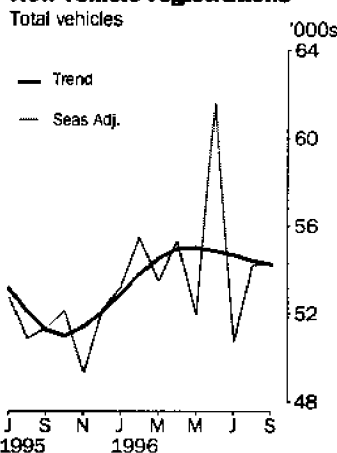
AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30AM FRI 25 OCTOBER 1996



SEPTEMBER KEY FIGURES

New vehicle registrations



TREND ESTIMATES

	Sep 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	54 229	-0.3	5.8
Passenger vehicles	45 265	-0.4	5.6
Other vehicles	8 965	0.2	7.0

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Sep 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	54 290	0.2	5.7
Passenger vehicles	45 325	1.4	6.2
Other vehicles	8 966	-5.7	3.7

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Sep 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	51 089	-6.0	3.7
Passenger vehicles	42 946	-5.8	4.0
Other vehicles	8 143	-7.3	2.0

SEPTEMBER KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The downward trend for new motor vehicle registrations evident since June 1996 continued in September 1996 with a decrease of 0.3% from August 1996. Compared with August 1996, passenger vehicle registrations in September 1996 dropped by 0.4% while other vehicle registrations increased by 0.2%. Registrations decreased in all States and Territories with the exception of Victoria and Tasmania.

TAKE CARE!
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- The seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations showed an increase of 0.2% in September 1996. Passenger vehicles rose by 1.4% while registrations of other vehicles decreased 5.7%.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total motor vehicle registrations for September 1996 showed a decrease of 6.0% compared with August 1996. Registrations for all vehicle types dropped, with the largest decreases reported for non-freight carrying trucks, articulated trucks and buses, with falls of 31.4%, 21.7% and 18.0%, respectively.

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Clare O'Loughlin on 07 3222 6180, or any ABS Office.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
October 1996	28 November 1996
November 1996	24 December 1996
December 1996	31 January 1997

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

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TREND REVISIONS

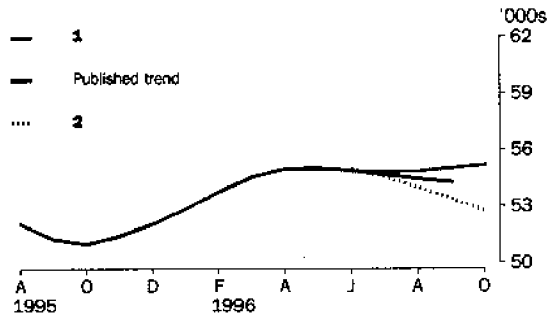
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

The graph below presents the effect of two possible scenarios on the previous trend estimates:

- 1** The October seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the September seasonally adjusted estimate by 5.3%.
- 2** The October seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the September seasonally adjusted estimate by -5.3%.

The percentage change of 5.3% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change, based on the last 11 years, has been 5.3%.

TAKE CARE!
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available.



An increase of 5.3% in total seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle registrations in October 1996 would result in a slight strengthening in the revised trend from August 1996.

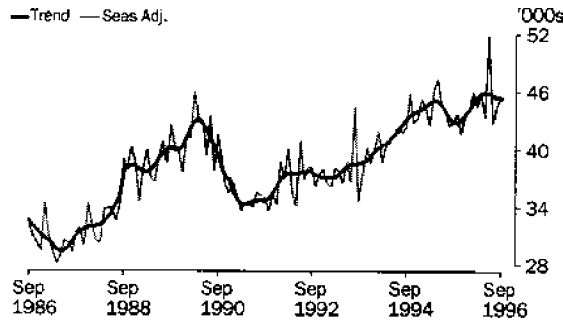
A 5.3% fall in the October 1996 seasonally adjusted figure would produce a continuation in the rate of decline in the revised trend from May 1996.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE

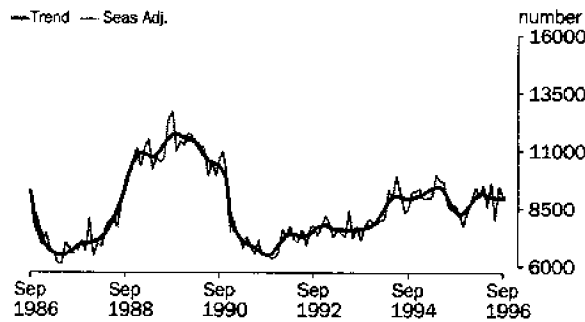
PASSENGER VEHICLES

From September 1991, the trend series for passenger vehicles rose by 32.4% to the high in May 1996, but over the last four months has fallen by 1.4%.



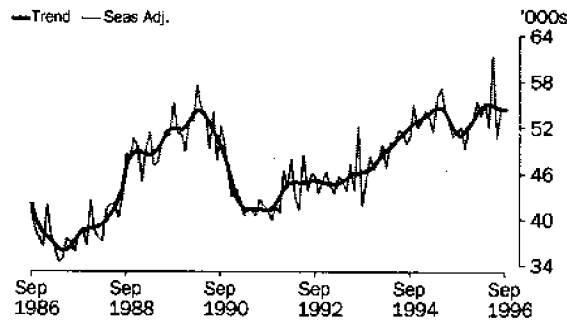
OTHER VEHICLES

The trend for other vehicle registrations rose from a trough in May 1987 to peak in October 1989, then fell to a low in September 1991. Since then there has been an overall growth but this has been less pronounced than for passenger vehicles.



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)

After peaking in April 1990, the trend level for total new motor vehicle registrations fell to reach a low in September 1991. In September 1996 the trend dropped for the fourth consecutive month and is now 1.4% below the most recent peak in May 1996.



A break in series occurred in December 1990 — see paragraph 2 of Explanatory Notes.

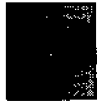
NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By Type: All Series

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
.....			
ORIGINAL			
1995			
July	43 723	9 196	52 919
August	45 920	8 215	54 135
September	41 305	7 980	49 285
October	45 179	8 310	53 489
November	43 685	8 266	51 951
December	42 944	7 721	50 665
1996			
January	37 422	7 037	44 459
February	44 642	8 590	53 232
March	45 564	9 239	54 803
April	41 606	8 461	50 067
May	47 713	10 131	57 844
June	52 082	11 611	63 693
July	45 971	9 027	54 998
August	45 574	8 783	54 357
September	42 946	8 143	51 089
.....			
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1995			
July	44 032	8 688	52 720
August	42 434	8 427	50 860
September	42 697	8 643	51 340
October	43 792	8 325	52 117
November	41 573	7 724	49 298
December	43 744	8 379	52 123
1996			
January	44 370	8 886	53 256
February	46 065	9 425	55 490
March	44 483	8 955	53 438
April	45 805	9 544	55 348
May	43 335	8 583	51 919
June	51 893	9 654	61 547
July	42 671	7 998	50 669
August	44 687	9 503	54 191
September	45 325	8 966	54 290
.....			
TREND ESTIMATES¹			
1995			
July	44 101	9 041	53 142
August	43 398	8 680	52 078
September	42 862	8 380	51 242
October	42 733	8 237	50 969
November	43 106	8 297	51 404
December	43 575	8 484	52 059
1996			
January	44 143	8 750	52 894
February	44 795	8 985	53 779
March	45 388	9 133	54 521
April	45 790	9 161	54 951
May	45 915	9 090	55 006
June	45 855	9 011	54 866
July	45 696	8 968	54 664
August	45 453	8 948	54 401
September	45 265	8 965	54 229

¹ Trend estimates for March 1996 to August 1996 have been revised.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By Type: Original

Month	Passenger vehicles	Light commercial vehicles	Rigid trucks	Articulated trucks	Non-freight carrying trucks	Buses	Total (excludes motor cycles)	Motor cycles
1995								
July	43 723	7 547	965	229	98	357	52 919	1 686
August	45 920	6 611	870	227	113	394	54 135	1 751
September	41 305	6 434	867	210	124	345	49 285	1 732
October	45 179	6 680	907	273	62	388	53 489	1 775
November	43 685	6 610	871	303	91	391	51 951	2 251
December	42 944	6 250	776	252	81	362	50 665	1 991
1996								
January	37 422	5 867	599	159	83	329	44 459	2 002
February	44 642	7 257	692	202	109	330	53 232	1 851
March	45 564	7 804	743	234	103	355	54 803	2 025
April	41 606	7 082	725	247	74	333	50 067	1 810
May	47 713	8 531	876	278	79	367	57 844	1 893
June	52 082	9 994	834	295	63	425	63 693	1 578
July	45 971	7 361	831	306	174	355	54 998	1 760
August	45 574	7 236	793	304	105	345	54 357	1 653
September	42 946	6 835	715	238	72	283	51 089	1 586



NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By State: All Series

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
ORIGINAL									
1995									
July	19 063	10 489	13 234	2 992	4 676	1 029	534	902	52 919
August	18 859	13 678	9 124	3 963	5 416	1 269	680	1 146	54 135
September	16 345	12 123	9 450	3 452	4 986	1 260	604	1 065	49 285
October	18 775	12 317	10 747	3 647	5 132	1 280	656	935	53 489
November	18 230	13 017	8 456	3 751	5 804	853	688	1 152	51 951
December	16 775	12 067	9 544	3 552	5 410	1 734	539	1 044	50 665
1996									
January	15 632	10 164	9 558	2 829	4 019	873	506	878	44 459
February	18 144	13 257	9 690	3 832	5 780	989	550	990	53 232
March	18 318	13 142	10 992	3 867	5 909	961	666	948	54 803
April	18 348	11 519	9 471	3 286	5 072	818	616	937	50 067
May	19 411	14 868	10 388	3 792	6 252	1 202	823	1 108	57 844
June	23 395	14 355	13 157	3 932	6 030	994	798	1 032	63 693
July	18 861	13 478	10 585	3 457	5 692	1 341	637	947	54 998
August	18 213	12 880	10 903	3 569	5 753	1 336	599	1 104	54 357
September	17 335	12 549	9 789	3 437	5 327	1 348	536	768	51 089
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1995									
July	19 190	10 875	12 000	3 088	5 041	1 081	499	945	52 720
August	17 670	12 523	9 075	3 624	5 162	1 173	639	994	50 860
September	17 512	12 667	9 752	3 419	5 187	1 131	652	1 021	51 340
October	18 904	11 790	10 069	3 448	5 130	1 199	636	939	52 117
November	16 395	12 940	8 575	3 441	5 340	847	663	1 098	49 298
December	18 469	12 184	9 378	3 763	5 407	1 177	650	1 095	52 123
1996									
January	18 486	12 684	11 220	3 508	4 457	1 151	671	1 080	53 256
February	18 911	13 518	10 558	3 880	5 748	1 127	656	1 092	55 490
March	17 447	12 881	11 038	3 778	5 731	1 015	631	917	53 438
April	20 626	12 644	9 700	3 765	5 793	1 096	630	1 094	55 348
May	16 586	13 171	9 623	3 604	5 948	1 258	709	1 019	51 919
June	22 427	13 625	13 530	3 737	5 581	1 030	664	953	61 547
July	17 506	12 741	8 671	3 262	5 768	1 336	533	854	50 689
August	17 920	12 413	11 772	3 472	5 629	1 291	627	1 067	54 191
September	18 906	13 315	10 324	3 437	5 713	1 249	571	777	54 290
TREND ESTIMATES ¹									
1995									
July	18 602	12 501	10 320	3 493	5 392	1 181	633	1 020	53 142
August	18 191	12 340	10 003	3 455	5 303	1 149	630	1 007	52 078
September	17 903	12 246	9 700	3 441	5 195	1 116	632	1 008	51 242
October	17 769	12 283	9 571	3 466	5 123	1 094	641	1 023	50 969
November	17 862	12 433	9 681	3 531	5 121	1 084	649	1 043	51 404
December	17 983	12 621	9 849	3 613	5 191	1 086	656	1 061	52 059
1996									
January	18 198	12 774	10 122	3 688	5 299	1 087	658	1 069	52 894
February	18 498	12 903	10 392	3 740	5 439	1 091	658	1 059	53 779
March	18 778	13 023	10 567	3 759	5 592	1 104	658	1 041	54 521
April	18 977	13 068	10 673	3 725	5 712	1 125	653	1 018	54 951
May	19 032	13 058	10 699	3 656	5 772	1 152	644	993	55 006
June	18 988	13 021	10 720	3 577	5 772	1 188	631	969	54 866
July	18 889	12 986	10 764	3 503	5 739	1 227	615	941	54 664
August	18 750	12 955	10 791	3 437	5 696	1 260	599	913	54 401
September	18 644	12 971	10 778	3 394	5 677	1 289	585	891	54 229

¹ Trend estimates for March 1996 to August 1996 have been revised.

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Selected Make/Models: **Original**— September 1996

Make/Model	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 834	2 027	1 173	396	692	92	28	121	6 363
Festiva	365	383	313	100	136	26	5	22	1 350
Laser	181	146	75	47	34	6	1	8	498
Other	258	330	229	64	131	31	5	14	1 062
Total	2 638	2 886	1 790	607	993	155	39	165	9 273
Holden									
Commodore/Calais	2 295	1 837	1 210	548	605	148	34	96	6 573
Barina	175	132	92	56	61	4	1	15	536
Statesman/Caprice	106	121	52	27	40	2	..	7	355
Other	204	135	130	59	68	17	2	9	624
Total	2 780	2 025	1 484	690	774	171	37	127	8 088
Hyundai									
Excel	1 019	513	417	138	425	29	26	54	2 621
Lantra	314	127	93	30	62	22	7	17	672
Sonata	88	69	62	13	48	15	7	3	305
Other	98	53	42	16	46	2	3	8	268
Total	1 519	762	614	197	581	68	43	82	3 866
Mazda									
121	235	116	111	48	48	10	8	14	590
323	230	150	82	39	35	9	1	7	553
626	113	66	28	11	20	1	3	3	245
Other	25	21	7	4	8	1	..	2	68
Total	603	353	228	102	111	21	12	26	1 456
Mitsubishi									
Magna	741	683	417	386	162	84	16	48	2 537
Lancer	209	133	186	46	55	9	4	11	653
Mirage	188	89	76	25	64	7	4	10	463
Other	171	72	130	48	64	9	9	15	518
Total	1 309	977	809	505	345	109	33	84	4 171
Nissan									
Pulsar	152	193	118	32	47	60	1	2	605
Patrol	86	56	85	10	49	2	7	2	297
Micra	55	18	41	10	7	1	1	4	137
Other	144	83	84	18	41	4	3	5	382
Total	437	350	328	70	144	67	12	13	1 421
Toyota									
Corolla	775	491	366	118	160	55	16	13	1 994
Camry	511	400	252	97	165	70	44	12	1 551
Landcruiser	195	87	202	35	134	6	31	9	699
Other	985	610	439	103	204	53	25	31	2 450
Total	2 466	1 588	1 259	353	663	184	116	65	6 694

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents monthly data for registrations of new motor vehicles.

2 The statistics in this publication use the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), adopted by the State and Territory motor vehicle registration authorities. The information contained in the VIN allows more accurate classification of vehicles. In the case of some States, data processed using the VIN are not strictly comparable with data processed prior to December 1990.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

3 Motor vehicle registration statistics are obtained from State and Territory motor vehicle registration authorities. The statistics reflect information recorded in registration documents. With the exception of Queensland, the statistics do not depart significantly from actual registrations during the period. In the case of Queensland, a number of registrations processed in a month actually relate to vehicles registered prior to that month.

4 New motor vehicle registrations are obtained from New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia registration authorities on a weekly basis. Other registries provide data for each calendar month. The ABS processes the weekly registration data provided for the above-mentioned States and includes data for the relevant month in this publication. Data referring to the next month are withheld and included in the next month's publication. In some months, the ABS processes five weeks of data for the above States, while other months include four weeks of data. In months where five weeks of data are processed and depending on the actual pattern of registration processing, it is possible that there will be a greater number of registrations recorded because the carry forward from the previous month is likely to be greater than the carry over to the next month.

5 The scope of the statistics:

▪ includes:

- passenger vehicles
- light commercial vehicles
- trucks
- buses
- motorcycles (note: not included in Totals)
- vehicles with diplomatic and consular plates
- State and Commonwealth owned vehicles

▪ excludes:

- vehicles belonging to the defence forces
- recreation vehicles such as trail bikes and sand dune buggies (in those States where registration is required).

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

6 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences can be more clearly recognised.

7 Seasonal adjustment does not remove from the series the effect of irregular or non-seasonal influences (e.g. the introduction of new models, processing delays, industrial disputes).

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT (continued)

8 Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the series even after adjustment for seasonal variation.

9 Extreme care should be exercised in using the seasonally adjusted series for new motor vehicle registrations in Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. The small numbers and volatile nature of these data makes reliable estimation of the seasonal pattern very difficult.

10 Seasonally adjusted series are calculated for the 'Passenger vehicles', 'Other vehicles' and 'Total vehicles' series for each State and Territory and are aggregated to obtain the total for Australia.

11 Seasonal adjustment factors are analysed and revised as necessary annually.

TREND ESTIMATES

12 The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to create trend estimates reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series. The trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to the respective seasonally adjusted series. These trend series are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series over time.

13 While this smoothing technique enables trend estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions to the trend estimates for the most recent months as data for subsequent months become available. Generally subsequent revisions become smaller and after three months, usually have a negligible impact on the series. Changes in the original data and re-estimation of seasonal factors may also lead to revisions to the trend. For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring 'Trends': an Overview* (1348.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (06) 252 6345.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

14 For a more detailed break-up of the monthly figures presented here, inquiries should be made to Clare O'Loughlin on 07 3222 6180 or to any ABS office. Data on total vehicle registrations, both new and re-registrations, is available in *Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 May 1995* (9309.0).

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

n.p. not available for publication, but included in totals.

GLOSSARY

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- Articulated trucks** Vehicles constructed primarily for load carrying consisting of a prime mover having no significant load carrying area but with a turn table device which can be linked to a trailer. With or without a trailer the gross combination mass will be 3.5 tonnes or more.
- Buses** Vehicles constructed for the carriage of passengers. Included are all passenger vehicles with 10 or more seats, including the driver's seat.
- Light commercial vehicles** Describes goods carrying vehicles less than 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass. Included are utilities, panel vans, cab-chassis and forward control vehicles (whether four-wheel drive or not).
- Motor cycles** Includes 2 and 3 wheeled mopeds, scooters, motor tricycles and motor cycles with side cars.
- Non-freight carrying trucks** Includes specialist vehicles such as ambulances, mobile cranes or vehicles fitted with special purpose equipment and having no goods carrying capacity.
- Passenger vehicles** Includes cars, station wagons, four-wheel drive passenger vehicles and forward control passenger vehicles with up to nine seats (including the driver).
- Registrations** This includes all registrations processed by the motor vehicle registration authorities in the States and Territories during the relevant period.
- Rigid trucks** Vehicles constructed primarily for load carrying with a gross vehicle mass of 3.5 tonnes or more.
- VIN** The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) uniquely identifies each vehicle. Embedded in the number are details of make and model together with other relevant information about the vehicle. The VIN is collected by the motor vehicle registration authorities at the time of registration.



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