

# NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA  
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30AM WED 24 APRIL 1996

## MARCH KEY FIGURES

### TREND ESTIMATES

	Mar 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	54 173	1.0	-0.2
Passenger vehicles	45 110	0.9	0.5
Other vehicles	9 064	1.9	-3.2

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Mar 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	53 419	-3.7	3.8
Passenger vehicles	44 516	-3.4	4.6
Other vehicles	8 903	-5.5	-0.3

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Mar 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	54 783	2.9	-4.3
Passenger vehicles	45 597	2.1	-3.5
Other vehicles	9 186	6.9	-8.0

## MARCH KEY POINTS

### TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicles has shown rises in each of the months since October 1995, although the rate of increase has slowed over recent months. March 1996 recorded a 1.0% increase compared with February. Passenger vehicle and other vehicle registrations continued to rise steadily with other vehicles recording a greater rate of increase. All of the States and Territories have shown a continued upward trend since October 1995 except Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory which all recorded minor falls.

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

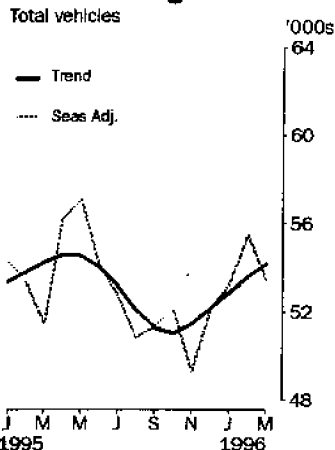
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Total vehicle registrations for March 1996 fell by 3.7%, with passenger vehicles down by 3.4% and other vehicles down by 5.5% compared with the previous month. All States and Territories recorded falls except for Queensland.

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- When compared with February 1996, the number of March 1996 registrations increased for all vehicle types, excluding non-freight carrying trucks.

### New vehicle registrations



## INQUIRIES

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

# NEW MOTOR VEHICLE NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
April 1996	23 May 1996
May 1996	27 June 1996
June 1996	26 July 1996

## CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

## TREND REVISIONS

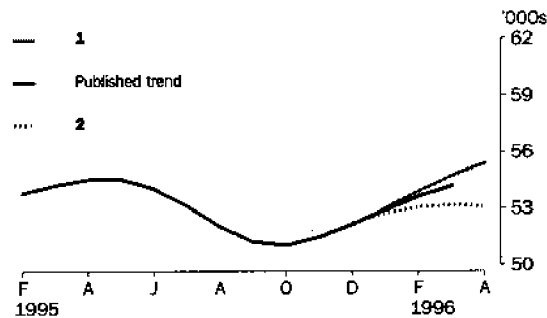
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

- 1 The April seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the March seasonally adjusted estimate by 5.2%.
- 2 The April seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the March seasonally adjusted estimate by -5.2%.

The percentage change of 5.2% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change, based on the last 11 years, has been 5.2%.

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



An increase of 5.2 per cent in total seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle registrations in April 1996 would result in the revised trend showing a greater increase from December 1995 than the current trend.

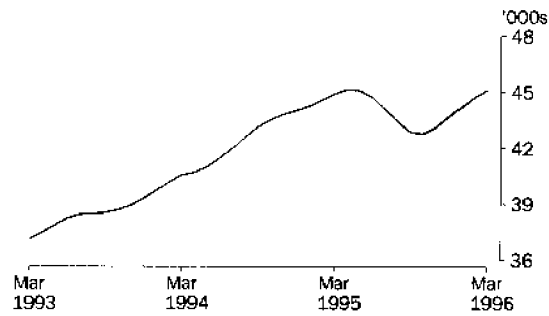
A similar fall in the April seasonally adjusted figure would produce a flattening from December 1995 to April 1996, of the current trend.

Dennis Trewin  
ACTING AUSTRALIAN STATISTICIAN

# VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE: Trend series

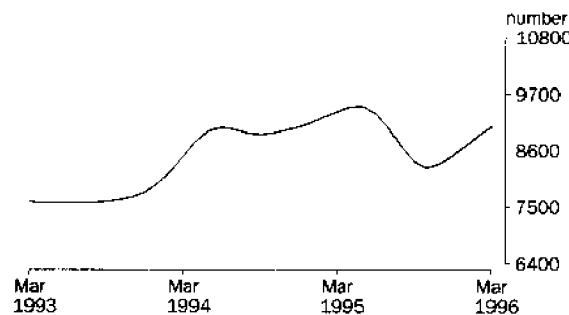
## PASSENGER VEHICLES

The trend rose from March 1993 to a peak in April 1995. This was followed by a gradual decline to a low in October 1995. Since then, the growth in the trend has been steadily increasing. The March 1996 level is slightly below the April 1995 peak.



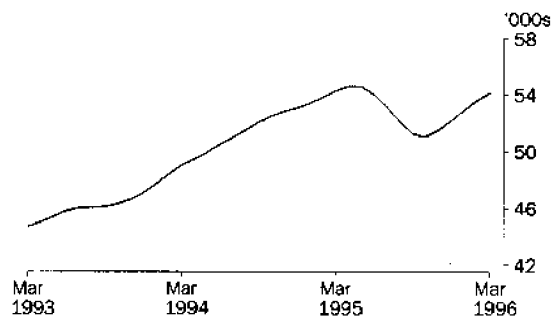
## OTHER VEHICLES

The trend for other vehicle registrations has shown consecutive rises over the last five months and is now 9.7% higher than the low in October 1995 but 4.1% lower than the peak in May 1995.



## TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)

The trend showed sustained growth from March 1993 to April 1995, then declined until October 1995. The trend has shown consecutive rises in the last five months and March 1996 is now 6.1% above the October 1995 low, but is slightly below the previous peak of April 1995.





## NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By Type: All Series

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
.....			
ORIGINAL			
<b>1995</b>			
January	36 283	6 657	42 940
February	41 292	7 900	49 192
March	47 264	9 982	57 246
April	39 470	8 250	47 720
May	52 556	11 566	64 122
June	47 511	12 308	59 819
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
<b>1996</b>			
January	37 422	7 037	44 459
February	44 645	8 590	53 235
March	45 597	9 186	54 783

.....			
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
<b>1995</b>			
January	45 312	8 909	54 221
February	44 471	8 931	53 402
March	42 540	8 928	51 468
April	46 219	9 969	56 188
May	47 388	9 696	57 083
June	44 433	9 684	54 116
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
<b>1996</b>			
January	44 370	8 886	53 256
February	46 068	9 425	55 493
March	44 516	8 903	53 419

.....			
TREND ESTIMATES <sup>1</sup>			
<b>1995</b>			
January	44 226	9 147	53 373
February	44 547	9 252	53 799
March	44 896	9 360	54 256
April	45 122	9 443	54 565
May	45 097	9 451	54 548
June	44 712	9 319	54 031
July	44 101	9 041	53 142
August	43 398	8 680	52 078
September	42 861	8 381	51 242
October	42 775	8 260	51 035
November	43 150	8 327	51 477
December	43 677	8 497	52 174
<b>1996</b>			
January	44 214	8 697	52 911
February	44 720	8 895	53 615
March	45 110	9 064	54 173

<sup>1</sup> Trend estimates for September 1995 to February 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
<b>1995</b>								
January	36 283	5 434	592	270	40	321	42 940	1 854
February	41 292	6 365	830	293	28	384	49 192	1 686
March	47 264	8 196	964	360	78	384	57 246	1 848
April	39 470	6 772	723	317	83	355	47 720	1 458
May	52 556	9 477	1 130	429	83	447	64 122	1 960
June	47 511	9 725	1 229	718	98	538	59 819	1 590
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
<b>1996</b>								
January	37 422	5 867	599	159	83	329	44 459	2 002
February	44 645	7 257	692	202	109	330	53 235	1 851
March	45 597	7 805	712	234	81	354	54 783	2 053



## 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
<b>ORIGINAL</b>									
<b>1995</b>									
January	15 906	9 628	7 354	2 876	5 016	879	478	803	42 940
February	17 808	11 740	8 868	3 385	5 008	1 003	530	870	49 192
March	20 896	14 066	9 602	4 025	5 593	1 097	774	1 193	57 246
April	17 485	10 211	10 755	2 786	4 359	819	537	768	47 720
May	22 787	15 465	11 568	4 342	6 355	1 356	976	1 273	64 122
June	20 519	15 586	9 555	4 184	6 558	1 214	956	1 247	59 819
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
<b>1996</b>									
January	15 632	10 164	9 558	2 829	4 019	873	506	878	44 459
February	18 144	13 258	9 690	3 832	5 781	989	550	991	53 235
March	18 301	13 130	10 996	3 866	5 912	961	666	951	54 783
<b>SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b>									
<b>1995</b>									
January	19 900	12 602	9 263	3 711	5 797	1 200	678	1 068	54 221
February	19 369	12 430	9 917	3 609	5 267	1 196	642	972	53 402
March	18 375	12 720	8 884	3 602	5 049	1 099	673	1 066	51 468
April	21 028	12 088	11 772	3 430	5 211	1 105	586	967	56 188
May	19 280	13 705	10 456	4 145	6 145	1 411	800	1 140	57 083
June	18 512	13 678	9 426	3 702	5 713	1 194	790	1 101	54 116
July	19 180	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
<b>1996</b>									
January	18 486	12 684	11 220	3 508	4 457	1 151	671	1 080	53 256
February	18 911	13 519	10 558	3 880	5 749	1 127	656	1 093	55 493
March	17 431	12 869	11 042	3 777	5 734	1 015	631	920	53 419
<b>TREND ESTIMATES<sup>1</sup></b>									
<b>1995</b>									
January	19 288	12 524	9 861	3 577	5 371	1 126	625	1 021	53 373
February	19 388	12 632	9 935	3 622	5 387	1 143	644	1 038	53 799
March	19 522	12 717	10 078	3 638	5 428	1 169	655	1 048	54 255
April	19 508	12 778	10 273	3 628	5 475	1 191	658	1 052	54 565
May	19 346	12 763	10 447	3 594	5 491	1 209	652	1 047	54 548
June	19 013	12 654	10 486	3 543	5 454	1 205	641	1 034	54 031
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	17 831	12 281	9 563	3 467	5 133	1 095	640	1 024	51 035
November	17 919	12 441	9 648	3 531	5 152	1 091	650	1 045	51 477
December	18 034	12 637	9 879	3 606	5 211	1 091	657	1 059	52 174
<b>1996</b>									
January	18 140	12 794	10 217	3 672	5 282	1 090	657	1 059	52 911
February	18 219	12 919	10 591	3 729	5 370	1 086	653	1 049	53 615
March	18 230	13 054	10 861	3 794	5 469	1 084	650	1 033	54 179

<sup>1</sup> Trend estimates for September 1995 to February 1996 have been revised.



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

Make/Model	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
<b>Ford</b>									
Falcon/Fairmont	2 100	2 226	1 310	476	783	99	43	160	7 197
Festiva	375	178	251	117	97	16	10	16	1 060
Laser	206	136	100	57	61	10	5	15	590
Other	415	446	229	85	136	20	5	27	1 363
Total	3 096	2 986	1 890	735	1 077	145	63	218	10 210
<b>Holden</b>									
Commodore/Calais	2 358	1 837	1 472	758	607	132	53	149	7 366
Barina	266	161	175	48	81	15	7	17	770
Apollo	131	121	51	12	81	5	..	7	408
Other	228	213	132	50	61	15	3	9	711
Total	2 983	2 332	1 830	868	830	167	63	182	9 255
<b>Hyundai</b>									
Excel	1 110	625	529	120	483	39	21	55	2 982
Lantra	336	176	95	21	114	11	10	18	781
Sonata	81	78	47	14	74	8	6	2	310
Other	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Total	1 527	884	671	155	671	58	37	75	4 078
<b>Mazda</b>									
323	236	159	120	48	43	7	4	6	623
121	203	84	118	31	33	15	7	22	513
626	84	50	30	9	13	2	..	4	192
Other	46	45	17	9	6	..	1	2	126
Total	569	338	285	97	95	24	12	34	1 454
<b>Mitsubishi</b>									
Magna	657	657	377	393	180	58	25	78	2 425
Lancer	208	192	199	37	75	7	3	13	734
Pajero	207	79	139	21	57	10	7	6	526
Other	86	79	60	49	32	9	..	4	319
Total	1 158	1 007	775	500	344	84	35	101	4 004
<b>Nissan</b>									
Pulsar	121	128	114	27	31	4	17	7	449
Patrol	96	90	76	19	67	8	6	2	364
Maxima	41	129	94	12	8	1	..	..	285
Other	149	114	127	24	39	7	7	8	475
Total	407	461	411	82	145	20	30	17	1 573
<b>Toyota</b>									
Camry	631	490	495	131	266	67	41	22	2 143
Corolla	643	329	264	179	167	34	41	52	1 709
Landcruiser	305	190	283	47	139	8	20	9	1 001
Other	922	413	422	103	213	30	59	57	2 219
Total	2 501	1 422	1 464	460	785	139	161	140	7 072

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## INTRODUCTION

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

**2** The statistics in this publication are based on procedures using the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), adopted by the State and Territory motor vehicle registration authorities. The VIN system 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 the State and Territory motor vehicle registration authorities. The statistics reflect the information recorded in registration documents. With the exception of New South Wales and Queensland, the statistics shown do not depart significantly from actual registrations during the period.

In the case of both New South Wales and Queensland, a number of registrations processed in a month actually relate to vehicles registered prior to that month. Because of the lags from purchase to registration, and processing lags, the published statistics for the period can vary from actual sales of new vehicles for the same period.

**4** 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

**5** 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.

**6** 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).

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

**8** 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.

**9** Seasonal adjustment factors are analysed and revised as necessary annually.



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TREND ESTIMATES

**10** 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.

**11** 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

**12** For a more detailed break-up of the monthly figures presented here, inquiries should be made to Clare Newman 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, 30 June 1993* (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** Includes all passenger vehicles having more than nine seats, including the driver.
- 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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