

**MOTOR VEHICLE CENSUS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 1 FEB 2011

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For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents statistics relating to vehicles which were registered at 31 March 2010 with a motor vehicle registration authority. Motor vehicle registration statistics are compiled from data made available by various state and territory motor vehicle registration authorities and reflect the information as recorded in registration documents.

Statistics are provided on vehicle types comprising passenger vehicles, campervans, light commercial vehicles, trucks, buses and motorcycles. Vehicle characteristic information includes make of vehicle, year of manufacture, type of fuel that the vehicle was registered as using, and Gross Vehicle Mass or Gross Combination Mass for trucks. The size of the motor vehicle fleet is also compared with the estimated resident population.

For 2010 significant changes were made to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) systems used to process the Motor Vehicle Census (MVC). Please refer to the Technical Note 1: 2010 System and Processing Changes for information on these changes.



ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
Aust.	Australia
ERP	estimated resident population
GCM	gross combination mass
GVM	gross vehicle mass
LPG	liquefied petroleum gas
MVC	Motor Vehicle Census
NMVS	new motor vehicle sales
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Qld	Queensland
SA	South Australia
Tas.	Tasmania
Vic.	Victoria
VIN	vehicle identification number
WA	Western Australia

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

TOTAL NUMBER OF VEHICLES ON REGISTER

There were 16.1 million motor vehicles, including motor cycles, registered in Australia at 31 March 2010. This is 2.5% higher than the number of registrations from the 31 March 2009 Motor Vehicle Census (MVC), and an increase of 15.4% since the 2005 MVC snapshot, when there were 13.9 million vehicles registered in Australia. The average annual growth over this five year period was 2.9%.

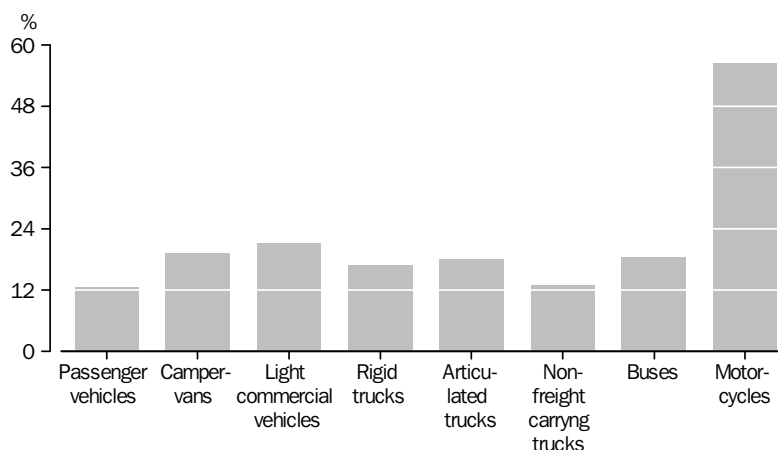
TYPE OF VEHICLE(a), Census years 2005, 2009 and 2010

	2005	2009	2010	Change 05/10	Change 09/10	Average annual growth 05/10
	no.	no.	no.	%	%	%
Passenger vehicles	10 896 410	12 023 098	12 269 305	12.6	2.0	2.4
Campervans	40 693	46 535	48 504	19.2	4.2	3.6
Light commercial vehicles	2 030 254	2 371 082	2 460 568	21.2	3.8	3.9
Rigid trucks	368 520	421 702	431 278	17.0	2.3	3.2
Articulated trucks	69 723	81 217	82 436	18.2	1.5	3.4
Non-freight carrying trucks	19 962	22 299	22 533	12.9	1.0	2.5
Buses	72 620	84 413	86 367	18.9	2.3	3.5
Motor cycles	421 923	624 090	660 107	56.5	5.8	9.4
Total motor vehicles	13 920 105	15 674 436	16 061 098	15.4	2.5	2.9

(a) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data

In the 5 years between 31 March 2005 and 31 March 2010, the passenger vehicle fleet has grown 12.6% from 10.9 million to 12.3 million. Motor cycles and light commercial vehicles were the vehicle types showing the largest growth over this time with increases of 56.5% and 21.2% respectively. Campervans rose by 19.2%, buses rose by 18.9% and articulated trucks by 18.2%. Rigid trucks and non-freight carrying trucks had increases of 17.0% and 12.9% respectively over the same period.

TYPE OF VEHICLE, Percent change—Between census years 2005 and 2010



STATES AND TERRITORIES

New South Wales had the largest share of the Australian fleet at 31 March 2010 with 4.7 million vehicles or 29.1% of all registered vehicles. Victoria had the second largest share with 4.1 million (25.6%) and Queensland had 3.4 million vehicles (20.9%). The Northern Territory had the smallest share with 0.1 million (0.8%) registered vehicles.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

STATES AND TERRITORIES *continued*

These shares are comparable with the distribution of the population across states and territories.

STATE OF REGISTRATION, Census years 2005, 2009 and 2010

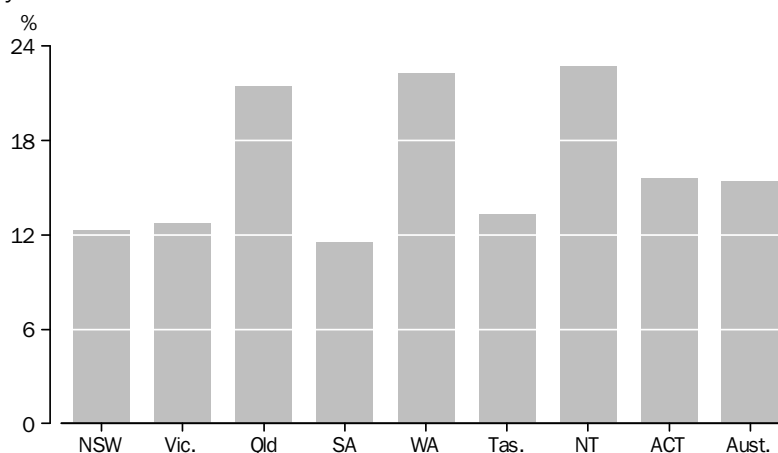
	2005	2009	2010	Change 05/10	Change 09/10	Average annual growth 05/10
	no.	no.	no.	%	%	%
New South Wales	4 170 387	4 567 386	4 681 471	12.3	2.5	2.3
Victoria	3 649 582	4 010 276	4 112 908	12.7	2.6	2.4
Queensland	2 767 304	3 283 243	3 358 221	21.4	2.3	3.9
South Australia	1 111 712	1 208 926	1 239 672	11.5	2.5	2.2
Western Australia	1 529 615	1 828 346	1 870 068	22.3	2.3	4.1
Tasmania (a)	362 134	400 516	410 210	13.3	2.4	2.5
Northern Territory	109 819	128 758	134 700	22.7	4.6	4.2
Australian Capital Territory (b)	219 552	246 985	253 848	15.6	2.8	2.9
Australia (b)	13 920 105	15 674 436	16 061 098	15.4	2.5	2.9

(a) Prior to 2009, excludes vehicles with registration expiry less than one month before the census date.

(b) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data

From 31 March 2005 to 31 March 2010, three states experienced growth above the national average of 15.4%. Registrations in Northern Territory at 31 March 2010 were 22.7% above those at 31 March 2005, an average annual growth rate of 4.2%. In the same five year period, registrations in Western Australia increased 22.3% (an average annual growth rate of 4.1%) and Queensland registrations rose 21.4%, with an average annual increase of 3.9%. South Australia's growth in fleet size between 31 March 2005 and 31 March 2010 of 11.5% was the smallest. In this state, the average annual growth was 2.2%.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, Percent change—Between census years 2005 and 2010



VEHICLES AND RESIDENT POPULATION

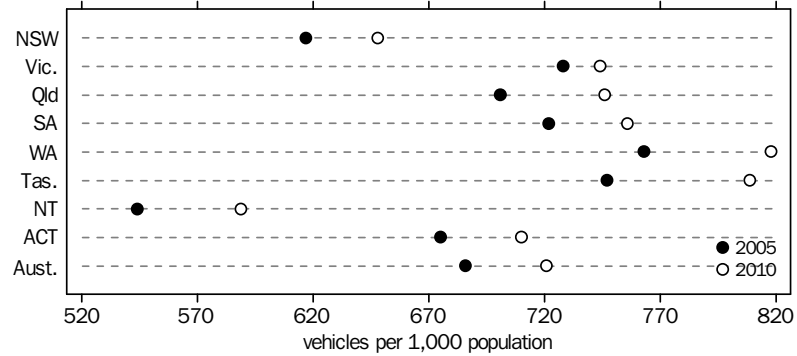
There were 721.1 motor vehicles per 1,000 resident population in Australia at 31 March 2010. This compares with 686.3 vehicles per 1,000 residents at the end of March 2005, an increase of 34.8 vehicles per 1,000 residents over this time.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

VEHICLES AND RESIDENT POPULATION *continued*

Western Australia had the highest rate of all states and territories with 818.0 vehicles per 1,000 residents at 31 March 2010, while the Northern Territory had the lowest rate with 589.4 vehicles per 1,000 residents. New South Wales, which had both the largest vehicle fleet and the largest population at 31 March 2010, averaged 648.3 vehicles per 1,000 residents, the second lowest of all states or territories.

MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET PER POPULATION (a), State/territory of registration



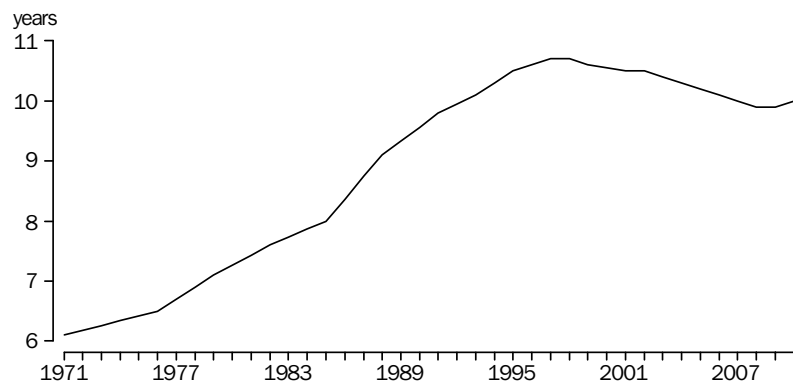
(a) Both Estimated Resident Population data and Motor Vehicle Census data are at 31 March.

Source: ABS Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

AVERAGE AGE OF THE FLEET

At 31 March 2010, the average age of all vehicles registered in Australia was 10.0 years. This is older than the 9.9 years recorded in the 2009 MVC, but younger than the 10.2 years recorded in the 2005 MVC. Over this five year period, all vehicle types except buses recorded a drop in the average age. Campervans and motorcycles showed the largest decreases in average age, dropping 0.9 and 0.8 years respectively, while buses increased 0.1 years over this five year period.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE VEHICLE AGE (a) OF VEHICLE FLEET (b)



(a) For more details on the calculation of average vehicle age refer to the Glossary.

(b) See Explanatory Notes for Motor Vehicle Census dates.

At 31 March 2010, campervans were the oldest vehicles registered with an average age of 18.0 years, while motor cycles were the youngest vehicle type with an average age of 8.8 years.

The average age of passenger vehicles has dropped from 9.9 years at 31 March 2005 to 9.7 years at 31 March 2010.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

AVERAGE AGE OF THE FLEET *continued*

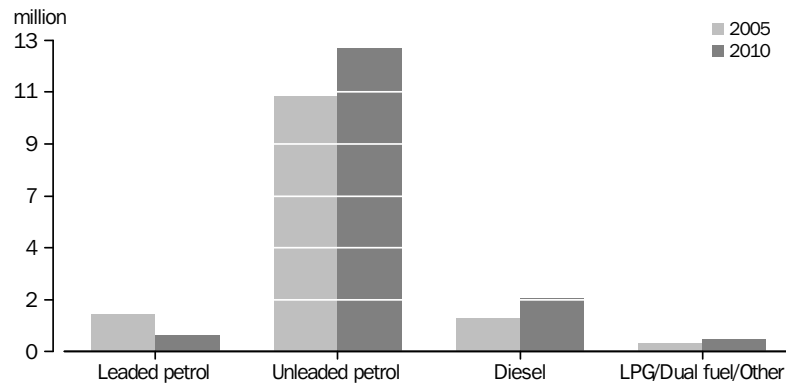
Tasmania had the oldest fleet with an average age of 11.9 years at 31 March 2010, with 30.2% of vehicles manufactured before 1995. This was followed by South Australia with an average age of 11.1 years and 25.4% manufactured before 1995. Northern Territory had the youngest fleet in Australia with an average age of 8.8 years and 16.8% of vehicles manufactured before 1995.

TYPE OF FUEL

At the 31 March 2010 MVC snapshot, 13.3 million vehicles in Australia (83.0% of the total vehicle fleet) were registered with a petrol fuel type. This compares with the 12.2 million vehicles registered at the 31 March 2005 snapshot 5 years earlier, when 87.5% of registrations fell into this category.

When comparing 31 March 2010 with 31 March 2005 snapshots, the number of vehicles registered with diesel fuel has increased by 57.4%. The number of vehicles registered with diesel fuel at 31 March 2010 accounted for 13.8% (or 2.2 million vehicles) of the total fleet. Five years earlier, 10.1% of vehicles were registered with diesel fuel.

MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET, Type of fuel(a)



(a) Relates to the type of fuel recorded by the motor vehicle registry.

Greater numbers of passenger vehicles and light commercial vehicles registered with diesel were the major contributors to this increase. Overall passenger vehicle registrations increased by 12.6% between the 2005 and 2010 MVC snapshots, yet the number of passenger vehicles registered with diesel fuel increased by 91.5%.

At 31 March 2010, there were 958,393 light commercial vehicles registered with diesel fuel. This is 43.2% of all vehicle registrations in the diesel category. For light commercial vehicles, the number of registrations with diesel fuel at 31 March 2010 was 64.3% higher than at 31 March 2005.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FLEET

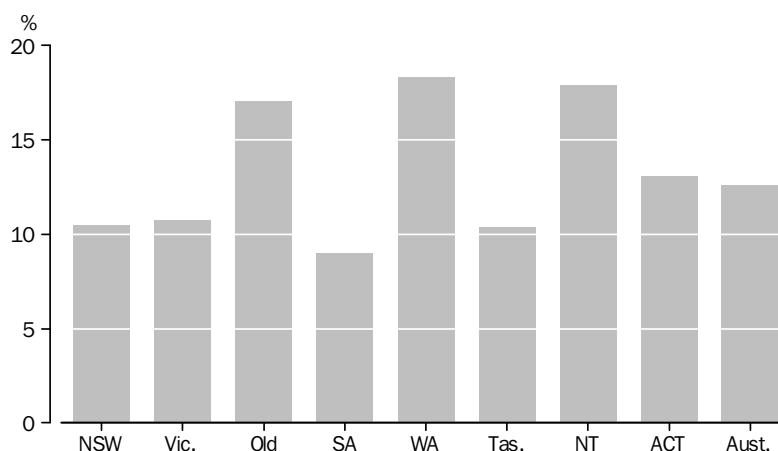
Passenger vehicles

Passenger vehicles accounted for 76.4% of all vehicles registered in Australia at 31 March 2010. Since 31 March 2005, all states and territories have recorded increases in registrations of this vehicle type, with Western Australia showing the largest percentage growth (18.3%) and South Australia the smallest (9.0%).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Passenger vehicles *continued*

PASSENGER VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, Percent change—Census years 2005 and 2010



In the Australian Capital Territory, passenger vehicles accounted for 84.0% of all registrations. This was the highest proportion of any state/territory. The Northern Territory had the smallest proportion with 62.5%.

A total of 6.2 million passenger vehicles were either Toyota, Holden or Ford. These three makes accounted for 19.9%, 16.8% and 13.8% of the total passenger vehicle fleet registered at 31 March 2010.

Light commercial vehicles

Light commercial vehicles accounted for 15.3% of all vehicles registered in Australia at 31 March 2010, the second highest proportion behind passenger vehicles. Since 31 March 2005, all states and territories have recorded increases in registrations of this vehicle type, with Queensland showing the largest percentage growth (30.4%) and New South Wales the smallest (14.8%).

While Queensland accounted for the third highest number of vehicle registrations of all states, it had the second highest number of light commercial vehicles registered in Australia (26.0%) behind New South Wales (26.7%). Victoria had 25.6% of all vehicles registered in Australia (behind New South Wales, 29.1%) but only 22.2% of total light commercial vehicles.

Trucks

Rigid trucks accounted for 2.7% of the total number of vehicles registered at 31 March 2010. Registrations of rigid trucks with a gross vehicle mass (GVM) greater than 20 tonnes have increased by 29.8% since 31 March 2005, while registrations of rigid trucks with a GVM of 20 tonnes or less have increased by 14.3% over the same period.

At 31 March 2010, 82,436 articulated trucks were registered in Australia. While this is 18.2% higher than the number of registrations five years earlier, the growth has been exclusively in articulated trucks in the larger gross combination mass (GCM) categories. Over this period, the number of registrations of articulated trucks with a GCM up to and including 60 tonnes has dropped by 2.3% and the number of articulated trucks with GCM over 60 tonnes has increased by 49.3%. This has resulted in an articulated truck fleet where the proportion of registrations with GCM over 60 tonnes has increased from 39.8% at 31 March 2005 to 50.2% at 31 March 2010.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Trucks continued

Victoria had the largest number of articulated trucks on register. It was also the state with the highest number of registrations with a GCM greater than 60 tonnes (13,019). This is 55.0% greater than the number of registrations in this category at 31 March 2005. At 31 March 2010, 82.8% of Northern Territory articulated trucks had a GCM greater than 60 tonnes (855). Western Australia had the lowest proportion of articulated trucks with a GCM greater than 60 tonnes, with only 1.4% of vehicles in this class (170).

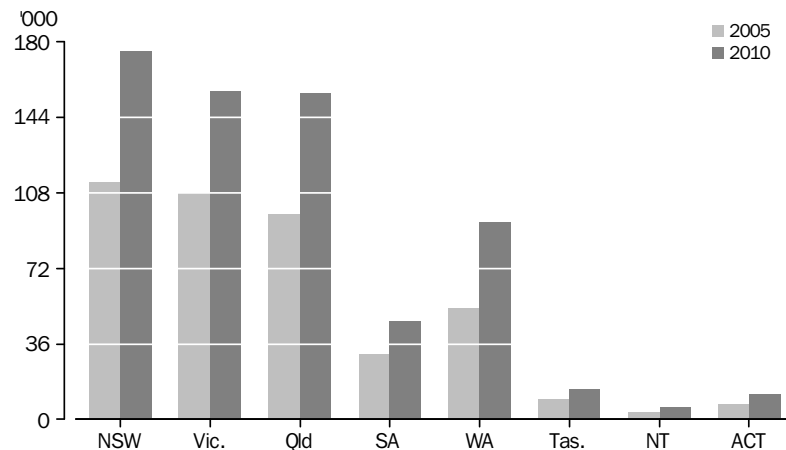
Motor cycles

Motor cycles accounted for 4.1% of all vehicles registered in Australia at 31 March 2010, up from 3.0% in 2005.

Between 31 March 2005 and 31 March 2010, motor cycle registrations increased by 56.5% and had the largest increase of any vehicle type.

Increases in registrations over this five year period have been observed in all states and territories, with Western Australia recording the largest percentage increase (77.0%), followed by the Northern Territory (74.8%). The smallest percentage increase was in Victoria where registrations of motor cycles at 31 March 2010 were 45.4% above those recorded 5 years earlier.

MOTOR CYCLE FLEET, State/territory of registration



MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER, Type of Vehicle—Census years

	<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>Victoria</i>	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>South Australia</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>	<i>Tasmania(a)</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Australian Capital Territory(b)</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
PASSENGER VEHICLES									
2005	3 326 926	2 933 746	2 058 092	897 332	1 156 923	263 365	71 385	188 641	10 896 410
2009	3 602 556	3 178 777	2 362 505	958 904	1 345 494	285 803	80 563	208 496	12 023 098
2010	3 675 163	3 249 418	2 409 273	978 041	1 369 133	290 793	84 167	213 317	12 269 305
CAMPERVANS									
2005	8 322	9 055	7 970	4 176	7 093	3 414	158	505	40 693
2009	9 288	10 526	10 550	4 035	7 535	3 940	197	464	46 535
2010	9 963	10 721	11 365	4 071	7 611	4 079	242	452	48 504
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES									
2005	571 410	467 557	490 016	141 041	241 876	71 516	27 366	19 472	2 030 254
2009	630 947	526 193	617 171	159 285	299 638	81 524	33 442	22 882	2 371 082
2010	656 233	545 898	638 801	167 251	308 516	84 811	34 864	24 194	2 460 568
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS									
2005	32 123	18 618	21 380	4 605	8 562	2 301	570	609	88 768
2009	36 810	23 355	28 930	5 747	11 984	2 538	686	713	110 763
2010	38 341	24 821	30 157	6 018	12 438	2 609	674	785	115 843
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS									
2005	78 981	70 079	57 724	21 559	39 312	7 436	2 974	1 687	279 752
2009	82 056	75 588	69 804	22 595	47 340	8 171	3 687	1 698	310 939
2010	83 267	76 604	70 000	23 241	48 352	8 385	3 888	1 698	315 435
ARTICULATED TRUCKS									
2005	15 951	21 183	15 093	6 344	8 602	1 571	741	238	69 723
2009	16 893	24 069	18 420	7 047	11 944	1 679	949	216	81 217
2010	16 907	24 476	18 648	7 310	12 229	1 637	1 033	196	82 436
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS									
2005	3 391	5 926	3 977	1 746	3 624	933	273	92	19 962
2009	3 599	6 107	5 030	1 805	4 360	1 014	300	84	22 299
2010	3 440	6 173	5 154	1 868	4 470	1 027	319	82	22 533
BUSES									
2005	20 279	15 837	15 682	4 233	10 572	2 138	2 956	923	72 620
2009	22 401	18 061	19 127	4 916	13 007	2 422	3 439	1 040	84 413
2010	22 865	18 407	19 403	5 118	13 418	2 548	3 577	1 031	86 367
MOTOR CYCLES									
2005	113 004	107 581	97 370	30 676	53 051	9 460	3 396	7 385	421 923
2009	162 836	147 600	151 706	44 592	87 044	13 425	5 495	11 392	624 090
2010	175 292	156 390	155 420	46 754	93 901	14 321	5 936	12 093	660 107
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES									
2005	4 170 387	3 649 582	2 767 304	1 111 712	1 529 615	362 134	109 819	219 552	13 920 105
2009	4 567 386	4 010 276	3 283 243	1 208 926	1 828 346	400 516	128 758	246 985	15 674 436
2010	4 681 471	4 112 908	3 358 221	1 239 672	1 870 068	410 210	134 700	253 848	16 061 098

(a) Prior to 2009, excludes vehicles with registration expiry less than one month before the census date.

(b) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data

MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER PER 1000 POPULATION(a), Census Years

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania (b)	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory (c)	Australia (c)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
PASSENGER VEHICLES									
2005	491.8	585.3	521.6	582.6	577.4	543.3	353.8	580.2	537.3
2009	509.0	588.0	539.0	593.0	605.0	570.0	361.0	596.0	552.0
2010	509.0	587.7	535.5	596.1	598.9	573.5	368.3	596.4	550.9
CAMPERVANS									
2005	1.2	1.8	2.0	2.7	3.5	7.0	0.8	1.6	2.0
2009	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	8.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
2010	1.4	1.9	2.5	2.5	3.3	8.0	1.1	1.3	2.2
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES									
2005	84.5	93.3	124.2	91.6	120.7	147.5	135.6	59.9	100.1
2009	89.0	97.0	141.0	98.0	135.0	162.0	150.0	65.0	109.0
2010	90.9	98.7	142.0	101.9	135.0	167.3	152.6	67.6	110.5
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS									
2005	4.7	3.7	5.4	3.0	4.3	4.7	2.8	1.9	4.4
2009	5.0	4.0	7.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	3.0	2.0	5.0
2010	5.3	4.5	6.7	3.7	5.4	5.1	2.9	2.2	5.2
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS									
2005	11.7	14.0	14.6	14.0	19.6	15.3	14.7	5.2	13.8
2009	12.0	14.0	16.0	14.0	21.0	16.0	17.0	5.0	14.0
2010	11.5	13.9	15.6	14.2	21.2	16.5	17.0	4.7	14.2
ARTICULATED TRUCKS									
2005	2.4	4.2	3.8	4.1	4.3	3.2	3.7	0.7	3.4
2009	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	3.0	4.0	1.0	4.0
2010	2.3	4.4	4.1	4.5	5.3	3.2	4.5	0.5	3.7
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS									
2005	0.5	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.8	1.9	1.4	0.3	1.0
2009	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	—	1.0
2010	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.1	2.0	2.0	1.4	0.2	1.0
BUSES									
2005	3.0	3.2	4.0	2.7	5.3	4.4	14.7	2.8	3.6
2009	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	6.0	5.0	15.0	3.0	4.0
2010	3.2	3.3	4.3	3.1	5.9	5.0	15.7	2.9	3.9
MOTOR CYCLES									
2005	16.7	21.5	24.7	19.9	26.5	19.5	16.8	22.7	20.8
2009	23.0	27.0	35.0	28.0	39.0	27.0	25.0	33.0	29.0
2010	24.3	28.3	34.5	28.5	41.1	28.2	26.0	33.8	29.6
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES									
2005	616.5	728.1	701.3	721.8	763.4	747.1	544.3	675.3	686.3
2009	645.0	742.0	750.0	747.0	822.0	798.0	577.0	706.0	720.0
2010	648.3	743.8	746.5	755.6	818.0	809.0	589.4	709.7	721.1

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Prior to 2009, excludes vehicles with registration expiry less than one month before the census date.

(a) Both Motor Vehicle Census and Estimated Resident Population Data are as at March 31.

(c) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data

ESTIMATED AVERAGE AGE OF MOTOR VEHICLES(a), Type of vehicle—Census years

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia(b)	Western Australia	Tasmania(c)	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory(d)	Australia(d)
	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years
PASSENGER VEHICLES									
2005	9.0	10.2	9.8	11.2	10.3	11.5	8.9	9.5	9.9
2009	9.2	10.1	9.3	10.9	9.7	11.5	8.6	9.4	9.7
2010	9.3	10.1	9.3	11.0	9.7	11.6	8.7	9.4	9.7
CAMPERVANS									
2005	17.0	19.7	16.2	20.8	21.5	20.3	19.3	20.0	18.9
2009	16.7	18.0	14.8	21.7	21.4	20.5	20.2	19.8	18.1
2010	16.6	18.2	14.4	21.8	21.3	20.6	19.6	19.1	18.0
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES									
2005	10.0	11.7	10.7	11.8	11.7	13.0	9.8	10.0	11.0
2009	10.1	11.2	9.8	11.2	10.5	12.6	8.9	9.6	10.4
2010	10.1	11.1	9.8	11.1	10.4	12.5	8.9	9.5	10.4
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS									
2005	10.8	12.4	11.1	12.5	12.9	15.7	9.1	11.0	11.6
2009	10.8	11.2	10.2	11.5	11.3	15.3	10.0	10.3	10.9
2010	10.8	11.1	10.2	11.5	11.3	15.1	10.5	10.3	10.9
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS									
2005	14.0	17.5	14.9	17.6	18.3	17.2	13.5	11.5	16.0
2009	14.0	17.1	13.7	16.7	17.1	16.7	12.6	10.9	15.4
2010	14.0	17.0	13.8	16.7	16.9	16.7	12.6	10.9	15.4
ARTICULATED TRUCKS									
2005	10.4	11.6	11.1	11.3	13.0	10.3	13.1	8.3	11.3
2009	10.0	11.2	10.2	10.7	11.7	9.4	12.1	8.4	10.7
2010	10.1	11.4	10.3	10.8	11.8	9.5	12.1	9.1	10.9
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS									
2005	13.0	15.0	11.5	15.0	16.8	17.0	14.0	13.2	14.4
2009	12.5	15.6	10.6	15.0	15.8	15.8	13.9	13.0	13.9
2010	12.8	15.7	10.7	14.9	15.7	16.1	13.3	11.0	14.0
BUSES									
2005	10.9	11.0	10.7	12.0	10.6	14.9	8.8	10.7	10.9
2009	11.3	11.4	10.1	11.8	10.9	14.9	8.4	11.3	11.0
2010	11.2	11.5	10.0	11.8	10.9	14.5	8.7	11.8	11.0
MOTOR CYCLES									
2005	8.9	9.5	9.7	9.0	11.7	10.2	8.2	9.0	9.6
2009	8.4	9.0	8.2	8.3	9.8	10.0	6.7	8.5	8.7
2010	8.5	9.1	8.4	8.6	9.8	10.3	6.7	8.4	8.8
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES									
2005	9.3	10.6	10.1	11.4	10.9	12.0	9.3	9.6	10.2
2009	9.4	10.4	9.5	11.0	10.1	11.9	8.8	9.4	9.9
2010	9.5	10.4	9.5	11.1	10.1	11.9	8.8	9.4	10.0

(a) For more details on the calculation of average age refer to the Glossary.

(b) The year of manufacture for motor cycles in South Australia is not well reported.

(c) Prior to 2009, excludes vehicles with registration expiry less than one month before the census date.

(d) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data

MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER (a)(b), Type of fuel by type of vehicle—Census years

	PETROL			Diesel	LPG/DUEL fuel/Other	Total(c)
	Leaded	Unleaded	Total			
	no.	no.	no.			
PASSENGER VEHICLES						
2005	1 136 273	9 188 871	10 325 144	351 652	219 614	10 896 410
2009	524 059	10 575 704	11 099 763	579 688	343 647	12 023 098
2010	449 930	10 786 803	11 236 733	673 287	359 285	12 269 305
CAMPERVANS						
2005	13 115	6 453	19 568	18 972	2 153	40 693
2009	9 595	7 900	17 495	26 557	2 483	46 535
2010	8 875	8 573	17 448	28 584	2 472	48 504
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES						
2005	289 902	1 060 818	1 350 720	583 155	96 379	2 030 254
2009	162 723	1 208 755	1 371 478	862 392	137 212	2 371 082
2010	142 758	1 217 677	1 360 435	958 393	141 740	2 460 568
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS						
2005	9 476	4 647	14 123	72 880	1 765	88 768
2009	5 946	4 903	10 849	97 974	1 940	110 763
2010	5 294	4 892	10 186	103 749	1 908	115 843
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS						
2005	27 288	3 951	31 239	246 630	1 883	279 752
2009	18 932	4 393	23 325	285 972	1 642	310 939
2010	17 262	4 333	21 595	292 261	1 579	315 435
ARTICULATED TRUCKS						
2005	718	966	1 684	67 994	45	69 723
2009	461	1 165	1 626	79 477	114	81 217
2010	437	1 160	1 597	80 714	125	82 436
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS						
2005	2 997	2 051	5 048	14 283	631	19 962
2009	2 034	1 946	3 980	17 721	598	22 299
2010	1 854	1 839	3 693	18 273	567	22 533
BUSES						
2005	2 146	13 041	15 187	55 559	1 874	72 620
2009	1 210	15 753	16 963	64 053	3 397	84 413
2010	1 004	16 238	17 242	65 399	3 726	86 367
MOTOR CYCLES						
2005	70 563	351 354	421 917	2	4	421 923
2009	58 303	565 633	623 936	3	151	624 090
2010	55 450	604 522	659 972	2	133	660 107
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES						
2005	1 552 478	10 632 152	12 184 630	1 411 127	324 348	13 920 105
2009	783 263	12 386 152	13 169 415	2 013 837	491 184	15 674 436
2010	682 864	12 646 037	13 328 901	2 220 662	511 535	16 061 098

(a) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data
 (b) Relates to the type of fuel recorded by the motor vehicle registry
 (c) Prior to 2009, excludes vehicles with registration expiry less than one month before the census date.

MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER(a), Type of fuel by state/territory—Census years

	PETROL					
	Leaded	Unleaded	Total	Diesel	LPG/Duel fuel/Other	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
NEW SOUTH WALES						
2005	336 762	3 395 118	3 731 880	385 101	53 369	4 170 387
2009	164 932	3 783 241	3 948 173	507 566	111 647	4 567 386
2010	144 287	3 856 448	4 000 735	560 677	120 059	4 681 471
VICTORIA						
2005	447 390	2 752 989	3 200 379	275 423	173 740	3 649 582
2009	226 647	3 134 122	3 360 769	412 248	237 259	4 010 276
2010	198 904	3 204 218	3 403 122	462 767	247 019	4 112 908
QUEENSLAND						
2005	307 832	2 051 056	2 358 888	367 795	40 616	2 767 304
2009	156 101	2 528 772	2 684 873	543 821	54 549	3 283 243
2010	133 277	2 573 707	2 706 984	595 490	55 747	3 358 221
SOUTH AUSTRALIA						
2005	174 215	840 705	1 014 920	86 721	10 066	1 111 712
2009	84 988	988 620	1 073 608	123 374	11 944	1 208 926
2010	73 811	1 015 109	1 088 920	138 660	12 092	1 239 672
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
2005	190 482	1 085 342	1 275 824	216 649	37 132	1 529 615
2009	100 832	1 348 885	1 449 717	314 436	64 193	1 828 346
2010	89 404	1 376 858	1 466 262	339 103	64 703	1 870 068
TASMANIA (b)						
2005	65 381	249 849	315 230	43 522	3 377	362 134
2009	35 720	300 183	335 903	60 584	4 029	400 516
2010	31 192	308 631	339 823	66 209	4 178	410 210
NORTHERN TERRITORY						
2005	8 683	73 136	81 819	26 781	1 218	109 819
2009	3 815	87 460	91 275	36 297	1 186	128 758
2010	3 321	90 844	94 165	39 305	1 230	134 700
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (c)						
2005	21 733	183 957	205 690	9 135	4 723	219 552
2009	10 228	214 869	225 097	15 511	6 377	246 985
2010	8 668	220 222	228 890	18 451	6 507	253 848
AUSTRALIA (c)						
2005	1 552 478	10 632 152	12 184 630	1 411 127	324 241	13 920 105
2009	783 263	12 386 152	13 169 415	2 013 837	491 184	15 674 436
2010	682 864	12 646 037	13 328 901	2 220 662	511 535	16 061 098

(a) Relates to the type of fuel recorded by the motor vehicle registry

(b) Prior to 2009, excludes vehicles with registration expiry less than one month before the census date.

(c) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data

PASSENGER VEHICLES ON REGISTER, Top 30 makes—Census years

Make	2005(a)	2009	2010(b)	Change	Change
	no.	no.	no.	05/10	09/10
				%	%
Toyota	2 018 323	2 373 418	2 446 284	21.2	3.1
Holden	2 053 044	2 061 894	2 061 786	0.4	0.0
Ford	1 907 876	1 743 355	1 695 255	-11.1	-2.8
Mitsubishi	990 345	948 469	932 292	-5.9	-1.7
Nissan	737 870	743 103	732 184	-0.8	-1.5
Mazda	493 971	661 922	709 491	43.6	7.2
Hyundai	497 243	621 009	666 564	34.1	7.3
Honda	372 756	542 582	567 762	52.3	4.6
Subaru	300 545	419 614	446 923	48.7	6.5
BMW	164 636	223 286	238 233	44.7	6.7
Mercedes					
Benz	163 699	206 260	212 582	29.9	3.1
Suzuki	127 625	181 438	195 213	53.0	7.6
Volkswagen	96 064	170 124	193 091	101.0	13.5
Kia	85 250	158 239	175 036	105.3	10.6
Daewoo	133 153	114 186	104 428	-21.6	-8.5
Daihatsu	136 485	108 013	96 797	-29.1	-10.4
Peugeot	54 987	78 065	80 597	46.6	3.2
Volvo	79 024	75 242	74 511	-5.7	-1.0
Audi	36 403	61 881	71 590	96.7	15.7
Jeep	48 555	65 713	68 164	40.4	3.7
Land Rover	53 562	62 526	62 589	16.9	0.1
Lexus	28 509	55 614	60 692	112.9	9.1
Chrysler	45 858	44 978	43 818	-4.4	-2.6
Saab	42 441	41 132	39 489	-7.0	-4.0
Jaguar	26 074	26 297	26 705	2.4	1.6
Renault	18 013	23 085	23 999	33.2	4.0
Alfa Romeo	20 368	22 627	23 042	13.1	1.8
Citroen	10 520	20 396	21 128	100.8	3.6
Porsche	15 843	20 124	20 953	32.3	4.1
Proton	16 201	18 798	18 415	13.7	-2.0
Other	121 167	129 709	159 692	31.8	23.1
Total	10 896 410	12 023 098	12 269 305	12.6	2.0

(a) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data
 (b) See Technical Note 1 2010 System and Processing Changes regarding 2010 data

RIGID TRUCKS ON REGISTER , Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM)—Census years

GVM (TONNES)						
	4.5 and under	Over 4.5 to 8	Over 8 to 12	Over 12 to 20	Greater than 20	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
NEW SOUTH WALES						
2005	32 123	22 147	23 377	15 345	18 112	111 104
2009	36 810	21 537	25 259	15 085	20 175	118 866
2010	38 341	21 553	25 796	15 202	20 716	121 608
VICTORIA						
2005	18 618	19 342	20 630	15 177	14 930	88 697
2009	23 355	18 328	22 644	15 618	18 998	98 943
2010	24 821	18 278	22 983	15 616	19 727	101 425
QUEENSLAND						
2005	21 380	13 156	15 708	14 743	14 117	79 104
2009	28 930	14 535	19 220	16 219	19 830	98 734
2010	30 158	14 401	19 600	16 106	19 892	100 157
SOUTH AUSTRALIA						
2005	4 605	5 258	6 816	4 712	4 773	26 164
2009	5 747	5 109	6 876	4 788	5 822	28 342
2010	6 018	5 133	7 044	4 904	6 160	29 259
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
2005	8 562	9 710	9 667	10 175	9 760	47 874
2009	11 984	11 505	11 613	10 927	13 295	59 324
2010	12 438	11 769	11 819	10 942	13 822	60 790
TASMANIA (a)						
2005	2 301	2 440	1 728	1 488	1 780	9 737
2009	2 538	2 459	1 967	1 601	2 144	10 709
2010	2 610	2 732	2 080	1 505	2 067	10 994
NORTHERN TERRITORY						
2005	570	1 095	715	657	507	3 544
2009	686	1 334	900	753	700	4 373
2010	674	1 398	947	772	771	4 562
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (b)						
2005	609	489	473	301	424	2 296
2009	713	437	531	300	430	2 411
2010	785	416	542	296	444	2 483
AUSTRALIA						
2005	88 768	73 637	79 114	62 598	64 403	368 520
2009	110 763	75 244	89 010	65 291	81 394	421 702
2010	115 845	75 680	90 811	65 343	83 599	431 278

(a) Prior to 2009, excludes vehicles with registration expiry less than one month before the census date.

(b) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data

GCM (TONNES)						
	Over 3 to 20	Over 20 to 40	Over 40 to 60	Over 60 to 100	Greater than 100	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
NEW SOUTH WALES						
2005	69	1 562	6 953	6 889	478	15 951
2009	48	1 110	5 682	9 472	581	16 893
2010	44	1 018	5 364	9 872	609	16 907
VICTORIA						
2005	420	3 687	8 678	8 391	7	21 183
2009	388	2 968	8 340	12 366	7	24 069
2010	382	2 805	8 270	13 012	7	24 476
QUEENSLAND						
2005	69	1 470	5 661	6 102	1 791	15 093
2009	42	1 200	5 377	9 044	2 757	18 420
2010	44	1 152	5 159	9 392	2 901	18 648
SOUTH AUSTRALIA						
2005	34	657	3 217	2 081	355	6 344
2009	28	531	3 159	2 858	471	7 047
2010	33	509	3 266	2 967	535	7 310
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
2005	82	1 432	6 925	122	41	8 602
2009	83	1 185	10 496	144	36	11 944
2010	76	1 120	10 863	139	31	12 229
TASMANIA (a)						
2005	3	107	654	805	2	1 571
2009	180	85	482	930	2	1 679
2010	145	71	446	974	1	1 637
NORTHERN TERRITORY						
2005	2	43	107	161	428	741
2009	2	39	129	198	581	949
2010	4	39	135	229	626	1 033
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (b)						
2005	6	25	135	72	—	238
2009	—	23	102	91	—	216
2010	1	17	80	97	1	196
AUSTRALIA (b)						
2005	685	8 983	32 330	24 623	3 102	69 723
2009	771	7 141	33 767	35 103	4 435	81 217
2010	729	6 731	33 583	36 682	4 711	82 436

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Prior to 2009, excludes vehicles with registration expiry less than one month before the census date.

(b) See Technical Note 2 ACT Data regarding 2005 data

MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER, Type of vehicle—Year of manufacture

Year of manufacture	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.

PASSENGER VEHICLES

To 1994	610 710	663 408	432 776	242 364	261 900	81 018	12 841	36 965	2 341 982
1995 to 1999	786 464	688 338	475 784	215 861	274 876	62 556	16 373	44 210	2 564 462
2000 - 2004	1 056 968	887 771	651 831	257 425	360 576	71 415	22 624	62 104	3 370 714
2005 - 2009	1 183 361	975 705	811 313	256 337	457 954	73 635	31 275	68 427	3 858 007
2010(a)	37 657	34 002	26 027	6 037	13 824	2 155	1 054	1 609	122 365
Not stated	3	194	11 542	17	3	14	—	2	11 775
Total	3 675 163	3 249 418	2 409 273	978 041	1 369 133	290 793	84 167	213 317	12 269 305

CAMPERVANS

To 1994	4 947	5 832	4 821	2 897	4 939	2 696	151	260	26 543
1995 to 1999	1 461	712	1 093	365	705	416	35	59	4 846
2000 - 2004	1 781	1 185	1 793	463	1 132	547	32	64	6 997
2005 - 2009	1 743	2 921	3 321	344	829	416	24	68	9 666
2010(a)	31	66	90	2	6	3	—	1	199
Not stated	—	5	247	—	—	1	—	—	253
Total	9 963	10 721	11 365	4 071	7 611	4 079	242	452	48 504

LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

To 1994	145 562	141 679	143 278	44 906	76 105	29 179	6 271	4 950	591 930
1995 to 1999	120 104	91 526	103 708	29 651	49 919	15 023	5 787	3 677	419 395
2000 - 2004	171 215	138 615	151 947	40 891	69 668	18 849	8 624	6 509	606 318
2005 - 2009	212 582	168 949	231 812	50 550	109 580	21 132	13 877	8 822	817 304
2010(a)	6 769	5 082	5 863	1 248	3 244	626	305	235	23 372
Not stated	1	47	2 193	5	—	2	—	1	2 249
Total	656 233	545 898	638 801	167 251	308 516	84 811	34 864	24 194	2 460 568

LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS

To 1994	10 772	6 989	7 440	1 797	3 772	1 160	155	195	32 280
1995 to 1999	5 487	2 631	3 515	686	1 365	314	166	91	14 255
2000 - 2004	9 621	6 014	7 683	1 434	2 878	595	158	207	28 590
2005 - 2009	12 106	9 009	10 984	2 057	4 360	529	194	286	39 525
2010(a)	355	174	218	41	62	11	1	6	868
Not stated	—	4	317	3	1	—	—	—	325
Total	38 341	24 821	30 157	6 018	12 438	2 609	674	785	115 843

HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS

To 1994	34 403	38 781	28 033	12 017	24 784	4 531	1 447	498	144 494
1995 to 1999	11 893	9 279	8 861	2 711	5 479	951	627	212	40 013
2000 - 2004	16 434	12 326	12 458	3 497	6 101	1 187	629	391	53 023
2005 - 2009	20 233	15 955	19 861	4 951	11 817	1 691	1 168	594	76 270
2010(a)	304	233	211	65	171	25	17	3	1 029
Not stated	—	30	576	—	—	—	—	—	606
Total	83 267	76 604	70 000	23 241	48 352	8 385	3 888	1 698	315 435

ARTICULATED TRUCKS

To 1994	3 780	6 958	4 418	1 965	3 623	323	335	38	21 440
1995 to 1999	2 782	3 572	2 807	1 194	1 957	240	180	30	12 762
2000 - 2004	4 151	5 321	4 248	1 619	2 692	479	185	49	18 744
2005 - 2009	6 033	8 464	6 947	2 491	3 884	591	329	78	28 817
2010(a)	161	156	157	41	73	4	4	1	597
Not stated	—	5	71	—	—	—	—	—	76
Total	16 907	24 476	18 648	7 310	12 229	1 637	1 033	196	82 436

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes vehicles manufactured in the first three months of 2010

MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER, Type of vehicle—Year of manufacture *continued*

Year of manufacture	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS									
To 1994	1 190	2 814	1 280	852	1 891	470	119	26	8 642
1995 to 1999	431	960	829	274	605	146	65	6	3 316
2000 - 2004	821	1 159	1 080	297	865	197	46	23	4 488
2005 - 2009	995	1 229	1 893	442	1 096	212	89	27	5 983
2010(a)	3	7	35	1	13	1	—	—	60
Not stated	—	4	37	2	—	1	—	—	44
Total	3 440	6 173	5 154	1 868	4 470	1 027	319	82	22 533
BUSES									
To 1994	6 909	5 516	4 792	1 701	4 026	1 232	660	428	25 264
1995 to 1999	4 883	3 780	3 617	964	2 314	390	654	144	16 746
2000 - 2004	4 342	3 902	4 093	993	2 846	377	776	159	17 488
2005 - 2009	6 510	5 017	6 660	1 428	4 095	540	1 457	290	25 997
2010(a)	221	192	204	32	137	9	30	10	835
Not stated	—	—	37	—	—	—	—	—	37
Total	22 865	18 407	19 403	5 118	13 418	2 548	3 577	1 031	86 367
MOTOR CYCLES									
To 1994	27 352	27 871	23 976	6 634	19 798	3 131	627	1 889	111 278
1995 to 1999	23 951	21 420	18 740	5 629	10 546	2 242	615	1 648	84 791
2000 - 2004	39 248	37 547	34 116	9 284	16 094	3 011	1 066	2 709	143 075
2005 - 2009	83 685	68 485	75 222	22 056	46 470	5 869	3 587	5 776	311 150
2010(a)	1 056	859	743	247	992	68	41	71	4 077
Not stated	—	208	2 623	2 904	1	—	—	—	5 736
Total	175 292	156 390	155 420	46 754	93 901	14 321	5 936	12 093	660 107
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES									
To 1994	845 625	899 848	650 814	315 133	400 838	123 740	22 606	45 249	3 303 853
1995 to 1999	957 456	822 218	618 954	257 335	347 766	82 278	24 502	50 077	3 160 586
2000 - 2004	1 304 581	1 093 840	869 249	315 903	462 852	96 657	34 140	72 215	4 249 437
2005 - 2009	1 527 248	1 255 734	1 168 013	340 656	640 085	104 615	52 000	84 368	5 172 719
2010(a)	46 557	40 771	33 548	7 714	18 522	2 902	1 452	1 936	153 402
Not stated	4	497	17 643	2 931	5	18	—	3	21 101
Total	4 681 471	4 112 908	3 358 221	1 239 672	1 870 068	410 210	134 700	253 848	16 061 098

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes vehicles manufactured in the first three months of 2010

EXPLANATORY NOTES

MOTOR VEHICLE CENSUS

1 This publication presents statistics relating to vehicles which were registered with a motor vehicle registration authority at 31 March 2010.

2 Motor Vehicle Censuses (MVC) have been conducted periodically from 1971 on each of the following dates:

2010, 31 March	
2009, 31 March	1997, 31 October
2008, 31 March	1996, 31 October
2007, 31 March	1995, 30 May
2006, 31 March	1993, 30 June
2005, 31 March	1991, 30 September
2004, 31 March	1988, 30 September
2003, 31 March	1985, 30 September
2002, 31 March	1982, 30 September
2001, 31 March	1979, 30 September
1999, 31 October	1976, 30 September
1998, 31 October	1971, 30 September

SCOPE

3 The Motor Vehicle Census includes all vehicles registered with a state or territory motor vehicle registry for unrestricted use on public roads with the following exceptions:

- recreational vehicles such as trail bikes and sand dune buggies intended for off-road use in most states and territories (in Victoria and Queensland these vehicles must be registered and are thus included in the statistics);
- consular vehicles; and
- vehicles registered by the defence forces.

4 Vehicles on register are defined as those vehicles registered at the date of the census, or which had registration expire less than one month before that date.

5 Motor vehicle registration statistics are derived from data made available by various state and territory motor vehicle registration authorities and reflect the information as recorded in registration documents.

6 Vintage and veteran vehicles are excluded from vehicle counts in the published data, but are available for consultancy data requests. These vehicles are identified using a unique insurance code, with the following exceptions:

- in New South Wales this insurance code is not provided and it is not possible to separately identify these vehicles. Therefore veteran and vintage vehicles are included in the number of registered vehicles for New South Wales.
- while Victoria does provide an insurance code for these vehicles, this insurance code also applies to tractors, motorcycles and self propelled farm machinery owned by primary producers and used solely in connection with the business of a primary producer. These records are deemed out of scope. (Note: tractors and motor cycles not used solely in connection with the business of a primary producer have a different insurance code which deems them in scope.) Therefore, the number of veteran and vintage vehicles cannot be obtained for Victoria.

7 The estimated proportion of motor vehicles, excluding motor cycles, taken off the register since the previous MVC is referred to as the attrition rate. The attrition rates in the following table have been calculated using Motor Vehicle Census and New Motor Vehicle Sales data. Motor cycles are excluded from the attrition rate calculation as they are not included in New Motor Vehicle Sales data.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SCOPE *continued*

ESTIMATED ATTRITION, STATE/TERRITORY, CENSUS YEARS

	<i>Between 2005 and 2006</i>		<i>Between 2006 and 2007</i>		<i>Between 2007 and 2008</i>		<i>Between 2008 and 2009</i>		<i>Between 2009 and 2010</i>	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
NSW	214 431.0	4.9	217 518.0	4.9	178 856.0	3.9	256 868.0	5.5	197 826.0	4.2
Vic.	171 489.0	4.5	179 505.0	4.6	178 750.0	4.5	176 676.0	4.4	165 499.0	4.0
Qld	98 452.0	3.4	97 337.0	3.2	107 629.0	3.4	105 556.0	3.3	135 271.0	4.1
SA	40 073.0	3.5	45 253.0	3.9	43 554.0	3.7	36 588.0	3.0	35 204.0	2.9
WA	38 310.0	2.4	46 866.0	2.8	61 171.0	3.5	38 675.0	2.2	68 840.0	3.7
Tas.	8 272.0	2.2	13 258.0	3.5	10 679.0	2.7	10 111.0	2.5	9 661.0	2.4
NT	5 925.0	5.1	5 649.0	4.7	5 983.0	4.8	4 761.0	3.7	4 034.0	3.0
ACT	10 799.0	4.7	10 227 R	4.3 R	10 554.0	4.4	11 073.0	4.5	9 206.0	3.7
Aust.	587 751.0	4.1	615 613 R	4.1 R	597 176.0	3.9	640 308.0	4.1	625 541.0	3.9

METHODOLOGY

8 The 2010 Motor Vehicle Census is a count of all in-scope vehicles registered with a state or territory motor vehicle registration authority (MVR) at 31 March 2010. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) receives the data from the individual motor vehicle registration authorities. At this stage all records are compared to the previous MVC data for vehicles that match (on-going registrations) and relevant details are updated for these vehicles. The matching is based primarily on a unique identifier given by the registries to each record. After the primary match is done, a secondary match is run based on the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), engine number and chassis number to improve the number of matched records.

9 The unmatched records (new vehicle registrations) undergo editing of such items as bodycode, make, model, year of manufacture, weight, heavy vehicle code, postcode and fuel. See Technical Note 1: 2010 System and Processing Changes.

10 The editing of on-going registrations is limited as these records have been edited in past years. Aggregate data is checked across time, states and vehicle types to ensure coherency.

DATA QUALITY

11 The size of the registered motor vehicle fleet (over 16 million vehicles) dictates that quality assurance of each record is not possible. Considerable effort is made, both by motor vehicle registration authorities and the ABS, to improve data quality. This is achieved through internal checks to ensure the vehicle counts track consistently in a time series when compared to previous MVCs. However, there remains some variation in the reporting from different state and territory registries and hence care should still be taken when comparing data across jurisdictions.

12 While the data are made available at a detailed level, the quality of this detailed data is less certain, therefore the ABS is unable to guarantee that it is necessarily sufficient for all purposes for which it is used.

13 Each year, for new vehicle registrations, vehicle model description for each Registry is converted to a standard ABS model. This is necessary as model descriptions can vary between Registries. Some vehicles have a blank model and these are coded to 'model unknown'. See Technical Note 1: 2010 System and Processing Changes for more detail.

Data confrontation

14 There are no data sources available in which to directly assess the quality of MVC data, new motor vehicle sales data and population data provide an indication of data quality as they give some context to the size of the motor vehicle fleet. Assessing the quality of data by comparison against other datasets is known as data confrontation. The ABS has been using sales of new motor vehicles data and estimated resident population (ERP) data to 'confront' MVC data for several years.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Data confrontation *continued*

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES (NMVS)

15 Sales of new motor vehicles can be compared with data from the MVC based upon the year of manufacture. The following assumptions have been made:

- vehicles manufactured in one year are not available for sale until after 31 March of that year;
- vehicles manufactured in one year are sold as new vehicles until at least 31 March of the following year;
- vehicles sold over recent years will remain on the MVC year after year.

16 Therefore, it can be assumed that vehicles manufactured in 2009 (as reflected in 2010 MVC data) would most likely have been sold in the period between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2010 (as captured by sales of new motor vehicles data). Similarly, vehicles manufactured in 2008 would have been sold between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009, and so on.

17 Figures for NMVS by year have shown to be generally comparable with the number of registered vehicles by year of manufacture on the MVC.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION (ERP)

18 Over the past few years, strong motor vehicle sales have meant that the growth in motor vehicle registrations has been higher than the growth in ERP. However, growth in MVC and ERP has tended to be in the same direction.

STATISTICAL GEOGRAPHY

19 Geographic data available from the MVC are postcode of owner and state or territory of registration.

20 If analysis of regional data based on postcodes is being undertaken, the following considerations need to be taken into account:

- there are some instances where the postcode of the vehicle's owner is in a different state or territory from that in which the vehicle was registered. For example, the postcode of the owner of the vehicle could be in Sydney, yet the vehicle could be registered in Queensland;
- some official postcodes (PO boxes, competition postcodes) do not correspond to residential areas;
- some postcodes could be invalid.

UPCOMING CHANGES TO THE MVC SNAPSHOT DATE

21 The MVC snapshot date has been 31 March since 2001. From 2011, the snapshot date will change to 31 January each year. This is due to a change in reference period for the Survey of Motor Vehicle Use (SMVU), for which the MVC provides the survey frame. The time period covered by the SMVU will be changed in 2011, from the 12 month period ending 31 October to the 12 month period ending 30 June. Therefore, the MVC snapshot date needs to occur earlier each year in order for the SMVU frame to be available when required.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

22 This publication draws extensively on information provided freely by the state and territory motor vehicle registration authorities. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated. Without it, many of the transport statistics published by the ABS would not be available.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTS

23 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications and products which contain information relating to motor vehicles in Australia:

- Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, (Electronic Publication) cat. no. 9314.0 (issued monthly)
- Survey of Motor Vehicle Use, Australia cat. no. 9208.0
- Information Paper: Experimental Estimates of Motor Vehicle Use, 12 months ended 31 October 2008 cat. no. 9222.0

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON
REQUEST

24 As well as the statistics included in this publication, the ABS has other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

TECHNICAL NOTE 1 2010 SYSTEM AND PROCESSING CHANGES

INTRODUCTION

1 Significant changes have been made to the system and processing method for the 2010 Motor Vehicle Census (MVC). This technical note details the system changes and the impact these have had on the MVC data. These changes were introduced to accommodate an upcoming change in the MVC snapshot date and ensure the processing system can be maintained into the future.

DETAILS OF CHANGES

2 The ABS Survey of Motor Vehicle Use (SMVU) draws its frame from the MVC. From 2011, the SMVU reference period will be moving forward from the 12 months ending 31 October to the 12 months ending 30 June to improve usability for ABS clients. To facilitate this, the MVC snapshot date is being moved from 31 March to 31 January from 2011 as announced in ABS Information Paper: Changes to the Motor Vehicle Census date (ABS cat. no. 9309.0.55.002). To ensure the SMVU frame is available when required, processing time for the MVC has been reduced by improving processing systems and practices.

3 The specific changes made to the MVC system were:

- A significant reduction in manual individual record editing (microediting). Due to the volume of records, this has been a very time consuming process.
- Introduction of an autocorrection facility, to undertake the majority of changes which were previously done through microediting. MVC data is now corrected automatically where certain pre-defined logic is met.
- Identifying consistent make and model using information directly obtained from the Registries. This was previously identified by decoding the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), which was a time consuming process to maintain.
- Removing the sub-model classification, which has not been routinely used in output.
- The number of codes used to classify bodycodes was reduced, with similar bodycodes being combined. Sedans and station wagons were combined as were utilities and cab-chassis.

IMPACT

4 The new system of MVC processing produces comparable aggregate data for significantly less effort when compared to previous MVCs. Autocorrections now correct the majority of records which would have been microedited in the previous system. The overall impact on aggregate data appears to be small. Similar estimates have been obtained by state and territory for 2010 as those which were obtained for 2009 (after accounting for historical growth). However, users should use caution when comparing more disaggregated data between 2009 and 2010.

5 The key impacts for users are:

- An increase in the proportion of "unknown" makes for Passenger Vehicles from 0.03% to 0.25% due to the removal of the VIN decoding system. This may improve in future as the ABS is able to identify and map these makes to standard ABS makes.
- Sub model will no longer be available for output.
- Bodycode classifications have changed as similar bodycodes have been combined.

TECHNICAL NOTE 2 ACT DATA

INTRODUCTION

1 A minor error in the calculation of registered motor vehicles for the Australian Capital Territory was identified for previous years. This Technical Note outlines the problem and the likely impact on vehicle registration numbers in ACT for MVCs conducted from 31 March 2004 to 31 March 2007.

ISSUE

2 Vehicles on register are defined as those vehicles registered at the date of the census, or had registration expire less than one month before that date. For ACT however, vehicles for which registration expired prior to 31 March were incorrectly removed by processing systems used before MVC 2008.

IMPACT

3 For each MVC conducted from 2004 to 2007, approximately 2% of ACT registrations had been omitted. The error has had little impact on ACT annual fleet growth rates.

4 The impact of the error on ACT data has been estimated in the following table.

ACT REGISTRATIONS, Type of vehicle—Census years

	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Vehicle type</i> (a)	no.	no.	no.	no.

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Passenger vehicles	3 893	3 864	3 988	4 160
Campervans	19	13	22	21
Light commercial vehicles	523	502	567	572
Light rigid trucks	13	18	16	16
Heavy rigid trucks	34	42	31	35
Articulated trucks	5	4	4	8
Non-freight carrying trucks	1	4	—	1
Buses	15	6	11	14
Motor cycles	352	423	444	462
Total motor vehicles	4 855	4 876	5 083	5 289

REVISED MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

Passenger vehicles	189 496	192 505	195 751	200 015
Campervans	526	518	496	480
Light commercial vehicles	19 399	19 974	20 755	21 347
Light rigid trucks	642	627	643	651
Heavy rigid trucks	1 763	1 729	1 755	1 724
Articulated trucks	241	242	239	233
Non-freight carrying trucks	102	96	97	89
Buses	931	929	957	948
Motor cycles	7 444	7 808	8 466	9 147
Total motor vehicles	220 544	224 428	229 159	234 634

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Estimates only. Based on motor vehicle registry broad vehicle descriptions.

5 Note that 2005 data for ACT presented in this publication does not include the additional registrations presented in this technical note.

GLOSSARY

Articulated trucks	Motor vehicles constructed primarily for load carrying, consisting of a prime mover having no significant load carrying area, but with a turntable device which can be linked to one or more trailers.
Attrition rate	<p>The estimated proportion of motor vehicles taken off the register since the previous MVC. The attrition rate is also referred to as the motor vehicle retirement or scrappage rate. The number of registration lapses is calculated by adding the total registrations at the earlier MVC to the number of new motor vehicle sales between the MVCs, and subtracting the total registrations at the later MVC. The attrition rate measures the number of registration lapses as a percentage of the total potential vehicle fleet, where the potential vehicle fleet is the number of registrations at the first MVC date plus the number of new motor vehicle sales between the two MVCs. To calculate the annualised attrition rate as a percentage apply the following formula:</p> $\left[1 - \left\{T_2 / (T_1 + N_1)\right\}^{12/M}\right] \times 100$ <p>where T₁ is the number of registrations at the first time point, N₁ is the number of new sales between the first and second time points, T₂ is the number of registrations at the second time point and M is the number of months between the two time points.</p>
Average age of vehicle	<p>The estimated average age of registered motor vehicles in Australia. The age of a vehicle is defined as the number of years since it was first manufactured. The formulae below allow for the census being conducted on different months. Although the Motor Vehicle Census has been taken on different dates, it has always been taken on the last day of the month. These formulae also assume that vehicles are manufactured at a constant rate over the year, or three month period for the current year.</p> <p>For vehicles manufactured in the current year: Vehicle age = snapshot month/24</p> <p>For vehicles manufactured in previous years: Vehicle age = snapshot year - Year of manufacture + (snapshot month - 6)/12</p> <p>The average age is then calculated as the sum of all vehicle ages divided by the total number of vehicles. Vehicles that have a year of manufacture unknown are excluded from calculations of average age.</p>
Average annual growth rate	<p>The average annual growth rate is calculated as a percentage using the following formula:</p> $\left[\left(\frac{P_n}{P_0}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1\right] \times 100$ <p>where P₀ is the population at the start of the period, P_n is the population at the end of the period and n is the length of the period between P_n and P₀ in years.</p>
Buses	Motor vehicles constructed for the carriage of passengers. Included are all motor vehicles with 10 or more seats, including the driver's seat.
Campervans	Self-propelled motor vehicles containing an area primarily used for accommodation. Included are motor homes and powered caravans.
Estimated Resident Population (ERP)	The official ABS estimate of the Australian population. Based on results from the Census of Population and Housing, it is updated annually between censuses using demographic statistics. To obtain ERP figures, the census count is adjusted for under enumeration and for Australian residents temporarily overseas on census night.
Fuel	The type of fuel is as reported to the registering authority and includes leaded petrol, unleaded petrol, diesel, LPG/other gases, dual fuel and other which includes electric.
Gross Combination Mass (GCM)	Tare weight (i.e. unladen weight) of the motor vehicle and attached trailers, plus its maximum carrying and towing capacity. GCM is the weight measurement used for trailer towing vehicles such as articulated trucks.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM)	Tare weight (i.e. unladen weight) of the motor vehicle, plus its maximum carrying capacity excluding trailers.
Heavy rigid trucks	Rigid trucks of GVM greater than 4.5 tonnes.
Light commercial vehicles	Vehicles primarily constructed for the carriage of goods, and which are less than or equal to 3.5 tonnes GVM. Included are utilities, panel vans, cab-chassis and forward-control load carrying vehicles (whether four-wheel drive or not).
Light rigid trucks	Rigid trucks of GVM greater than 3.5 tonnes and less than or equal to 4.5 tonnes.
Make	The manufacturer of the motor vehicle (e.g. Ford, Holden, Mitsubishi, Toyota).
Motorcycles	Two and three wheeled motor vehicles constructed primarily for the carriage of one or two persons. Included are two and three wheeled mopeds, scooters, motor tricycles and motorcycles with sidecars.
Non-freight carrying trucks	Specialist motor vehicles or motor vehicles fitted with special purpose equipment, and having little or no goods carrying capacity (e.g. ambulances, cherry pickers, fire trucks and tow trucks).
Passenger vehicles	Motor vehicles constructed primarily for the carriage of persons and containing up to nine seats (including the driver's seat). Included are cars, station wagons, four-wheel drive passenger vehicles and forward-control passenger vehicles. Excluded are campervans.
Rigid trucks	Motor vehicles of GVM greater than 3.5 tonnes, constructed with a load carrying area. Included are normal rigid trucks with a tow bar, draw bar or other non-articulated coupling on the rear of the vehicle. Rigid trucks are divided into two categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Light rigid trucks of GVM greater than 3.5 tonnes and less than or equal to 4.5 tonnes■ Heavy rigid trucks of GVM greater than 4.5 tonnes.
State/territory	The state or territory of the motor registry at which a vehicle is registered.

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EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au

FAX 1300 135 211

POST Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

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