

**MOTOR VEHICLE CENSUS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 14 JAN 2009

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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 2008 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.

Estimates of the size and composition of the vehicle fleet were first published in 1921. However, it is only since 1971 that a Motor Vehicle Census (MVC) has been conducted on a more regular basis. The MVC has not been conducted in each and every year since 1971 and the census dates have varied over those years. Therefore, care should be taken when attempting to compare movements over the years.

Statistics are provided on vehicle types comprising passenger vehicles, campervans, light commercial vehicles, all types of 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 for trucks, Gross Vehicle Mass or Gross Combination Mass. The size of the motor vehicle fleet is also compared with the estimated resident population.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

Data for the geographic regions of Statistical Divisions have been removed from this issue. The data items previously contained in those tables are available by postcode and state and territory in the data cubes released on the website with this publication.

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

TOTAL NUMBER OF VEHICLES ON REGISTER

There were 15.3 million motor vehicles, including motor cycles, registered in Australia at 31 March 2008. This is 3.5% higher than the number of registrations from the 31 March 2007 Motor Vehicle Census (MVC), and an increase of 16.2% since the 2003 MVC snapshot, when there were 13.2 million vehicles registered in Australia. The average annual growth over this five year period was 3.0%.

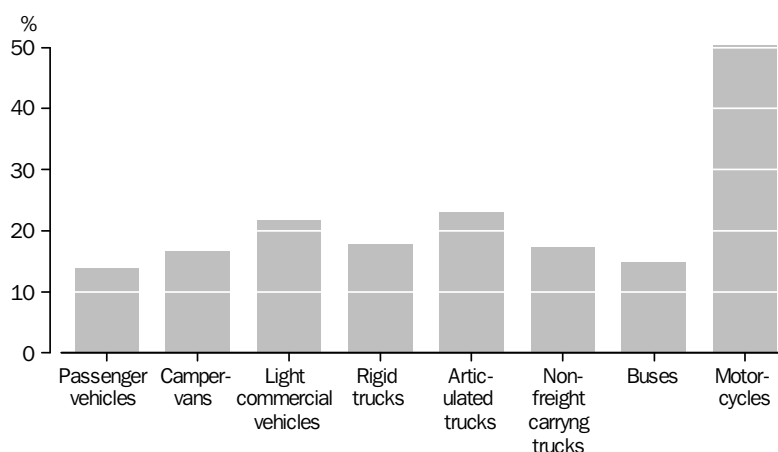
TYPE OF VEHICLE, Census years 2003, 2007 and 2008

	2003	2007	2008	Change 03/08	Change 07/08	Average annual growth 03/08
	no.	no.	no.	%	%	%
Passenger vehicles	10 365 941	r11 466 560	11 803 536	13.9	2.9	2.6
Campervans	38 337	r43 287	44 790	16.8	3.5	3.2
Light commercial vehicles	1 879 755	r2 190 131	2 288 216	21.7	4.5	4.0
Rigid trucks	348 673	r394 542	410 910	17.8	4.1	3.3
Articulated trucks	64 261	r74 452	79 132	23.1	6.3	4.3
Non-freight carrying trucks	18 599	r21 248	21 808	17.3	2.6	3.2
Buses	70 122	r77 562	80 581	14.9	3.9	2.8
Motor cycles	377 271	r512 428	567 569	50.4	10.8	8.5
Total motor vehicles	13 162 959	r14 780 210	15 296 542	16.2	3.5	3.0

r revised

In the 5 years between 31 March 2003 and 31 March 2008, the passenger vehicle fleet has grown 13.9% from 10.4 million to 11.8 million. Motor cycles and articulated trucks were the vehicle types showing the largest growth over this time with increases of 50.4% and 23.1% respectively. Light commercial vehicles rose by 21.7%, rigid trucks rose by 17.8% and non-freight carrying trucks rose by 17.3%. Buses and passenger vehicles had the smallest growth over the same period, with increases of 14.9% and 13.9% respectively.

TYPE OF VEHICLE, Percent change—Between census years 2003 and 2008



STATES AND TERRITORIES

New South Wales had the largest share of the Australian fleet with 4.5 million vehicles or 29.5% of all registered vehicles, followed by Victoria with 3.9 million (25.6%) and Queensland with 3.2 million (20.7%). The Northern Territory had the smallest share with 0.1 million (0.8%) registered vehicles. These shares are comparable with the distribution of the population across states and territories.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

STATES AND TERRITORIES
continued

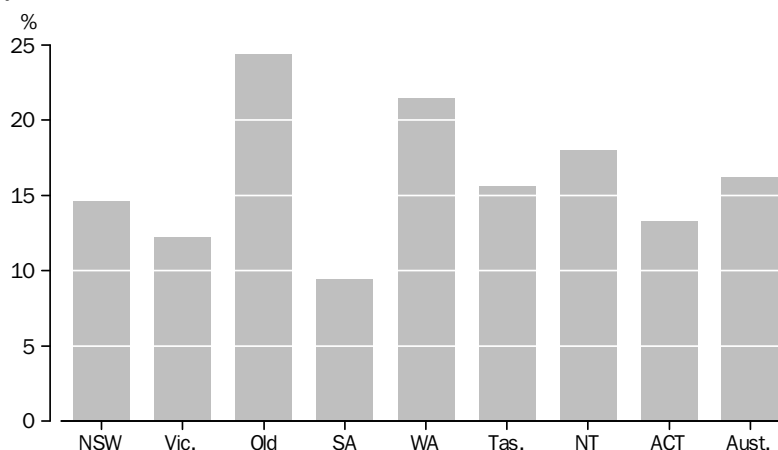
STATE OF REGISTRATION, Census years 2003, 2007 and 2008

	2003	2007	2008	Change 03/08	Change 07/08	Average annual growth 03/08
	no.	no.	no.	%	%	%
New South Wales	3 944 850	4 361 237	4 519 963	14.6	3.6	2.8
Victoria	3 494 314	3 818 062	3 921 574	12.2	2.7	2.3
Queensland	2 552 061	3 033 417	3 173 447	24.3	4.6	4.5
South Australia	1 077 154	1 156 961	1 178 904	9.4	1.9	1.8
Western Australia	1 438 441	1 676 495	1 746 579	21.4	4.2	4.0
Tasmania	338 484	381 226	391 327	15.6	2.6	2.9
Northern Territory	104 259	118 178	122 986	18.0	4.1	3.4
Australian Capital Territory	213 396	r234 634	241 762	13.3	3.0	2.5
Australia	13 162 959	r14 780 210	15 296 542	16.2	3.5	3.0

r revised

From 31 March 2003 to 31 March 2008, three states experienced growth above the national average of 16.2%. The growth in the Queensland motor vehicle fleet exceeded that of other states. Registrations in Queensland at 31 March 2008 were 24.3% above those at 31 March 2003, an average annual growth rate of 4.5%. In the same five year period, registrations in Western Australia increased 21.4%, an average annual growth rate of 4.0% and Northern Territory registrations rose 18.0%, with an average annual increase of 3.4%. South Australia's growth in fleet size between 31 March 2003 and 31 March 2008 of 9.4% was the smallest. In this state, the average annual growth was 1.8%.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, Percent change—Between census years 2003 and 2008



VEHICLES AND RESIDENT
POPULATION

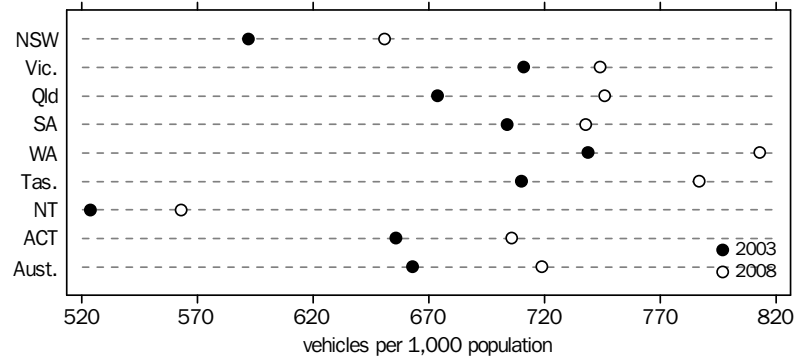
There were 719 motor vehicles per 1,000 resident population in Australia at 31 March 2008. This compares with 663 vehicles per 1,000 residents at the end of March 2003, an increase of 56 vehicles per 1,000 residents over this time.

Western Australia had the highest rate of all states and territories with 813 vehicles per 1,000 residents at 31 March 2008, while the Northern Territory had the lowest rate with 563 vehicles per 1,000 residents. New South Wales, which had both the largest vehicle fleet and the largest population at 31 March 2008, averaged 651 vehicles per 1,000 residents, the second lowest of all states or territories.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

VEHICLES AND RESIDENT POPULATION *continued*

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



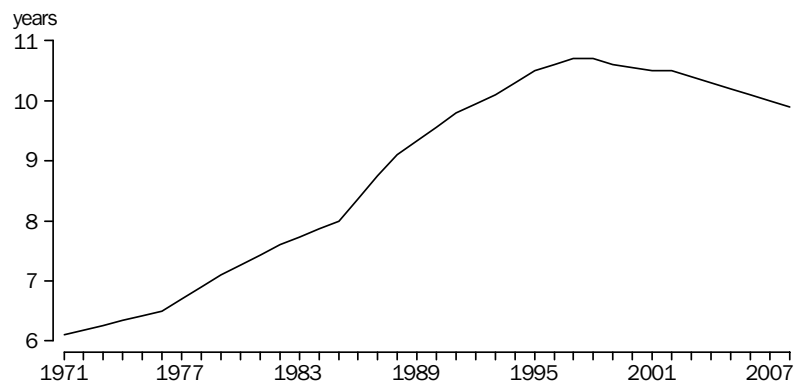
(a) Both Estimated Resident Population data and Motor Vehicle Census data are at 31 March.
Source: ABS Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

AVERAGE AGE OF THE FLEET

The average age of all registered vehicles rose from 6.1 years in the 1971 MVC snapshot to 10.7 years in 1997 snapshot, but has been gradually declining since then.

At 31 March 2008, the average age of all vehicles registered in Australia was 9.9 years. This is younger than the 10.4 years recorded in the 2003 MVC. Over this five year period, a drop in the average age was observed in all vehicle types except buses. Vehicles manufactured before 1993 (those more than 15 years old) comprised 21.2% of the total Australian fleet. This is slightly lower than the 21.9% of registrations recorded 12 months earlier.

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 2008, campervans were the oldest vehicles registered with an average age of 18.4 years, while motor cycles were the youngest vehicle type with an average age of 8.8 years.

The average age of passenger vehicles has fallen from 10.1 years at 31 March 2003 to 9.7 years at 31 March 2008.

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 2008, with 30.8% of vehicles manufactured before 1993. This was followed by South Australia with an average age of 11.1 years and 26.5% manufactured before 1993. Northern Territory had the youngest fleet in Australia with an average age of 8.9 years and 17.3% of vehicles manufactured before 1993.

TYPE OF FUEL

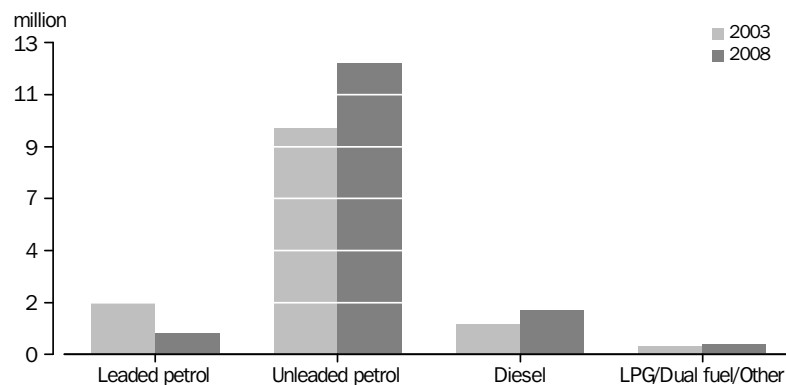
At the 31 March 2008 MVC snapshot, 13.0 million vehicles in Australia (85.2% of the total vehicle fleet) were registered with a petrol fuel type. This compares with the 11.6 million vehicles registered at the 31 March 2003 snapshot 5 years earlier, when 88.2% of registrations fell into this category.

In the 5 years between 31 March 2003 and 31 March 2008, the proportion of total vehicles registered with petrol has declined as the proportion of vehicles registered with diesel fuel has increased. The number of vehicles registered with diesel fuel at 31 March 2008 accounted for 12.0% (or 1.8 million vehicles) of the total fleet. Five years earlier, 9.3% of vehicles were registered with diesel fuel.

Higher proportions of passenger vehicles, light commercial vehicles and light rigid trucks registered with diesel were the major contributors to this increase. Overall passenger vehicle registrations increased by 13.9% between the 2003 and 2008 MVC snapshots, yet the number of passenger vehicles registered with diesel fuel increased by 70.9%.

At 31 March 2008, 777,764 light commercial vehicles were registered with diesel fuel. This is 42.4% of all vehicle registrations in the diesel category. For this vehicle type, the number of registrations with diesel fuel at 31 March 2008 was 56.1% higher than at 31 March 2003. The proportion of light rigid trucks registered with diesel also increased in this period, from 77.1% of registrations of this vehicle type at 31 March 2003 to 87.1% 5 years later.

MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET, Type of fuel(a)



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

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FLEET

Passenger vehicles

Passenger vehicles accounted for 77.2% of all vehicles registered in Australia at 31 March 2008. Since 31 March 2003, all states and territories have recorded increases in registrations of this vehicle type, with Queensland showing the largest growth (20.2%) and South Australia the smallest (7.7%).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Passenger vehicles continued

In the Australian Capital Territory, passenger vehicles accounted for 84.9% of all registrations. This was the highest proportion of any state/territory. The Northern Territory had the smallest proportion with 63.2%.

A total of 6.2 million passenger vehicles were either Toyota, Holden or Ford. These three makes accounted for 19.4%, 17.6% and 15.2% of the total passenger vehicle fleet registered at 31 March 2008.

Trucks

Rigid trucks accounted for 2.7% of the total number of vehicles registered at 31 March 2008. Registrations of the heaviest rigid trucks (those with a gross vehicle mass (GVM) greater than 20 tonnes) have increased by 35.2% since 31 March 2003, while registrations of rigid trucks with a GVM of less than 20 tonnes have increased by 14.4% over the same period.

At 31 March 2008, 79,132 articulated trucks were registered in Australia. While this is 23.1% 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 60 tonnes has dropped 2.1% and the number of articulated trucks with GCM over 60 tonnes has increased 72.4%. This has resulted in an articulated truck fleet where the proportion of registrations with GCM over 60 tonnes has increased from 33.9% at 31 March 2003 to 47.4% at 31 March 2008.

Victoria had the largest number of articulated trucks. It was also the state with the highest number of registrations with a GCM greater than 60 tonnes (11,706). This is 91.7% greater than the number of registrations in this category at 31 March 2003, but vehicles of this size still only make up just under half (49.4%) of all articulated registrations in the state. In comparison, at 31 March 2008, 81.8% of Northern Territory articulated trucks had a GCM greater than 60 tonnes. Western Australia has the lowest proportion of articulated trucks with a GCM greater than 60 tonnes, with only 1.5% of vehicles in this class.

Motor cycles

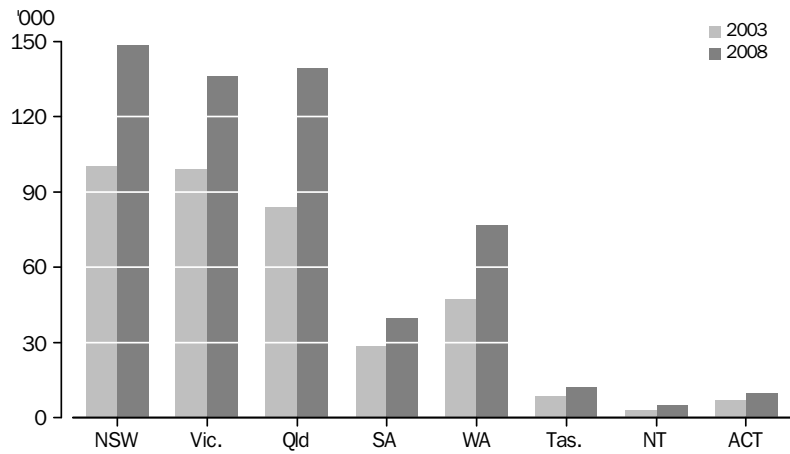
Motor cycles accounted for 3.7% of all vehicles registered in Australia at 31 March 2008, up from 2.9% in 2003.

Between 31 March 2003 and 31 March 2008, the proportional increase in motor cycle registrations was the largest of any vehicle type. Increases in registrations have been observed in all states and territories with Queensland recording the largest increase of 66.3%, followed by Western Australia with 63.6%. The smallest increase was in Victoria where registrations of motor cycles at 31 March 2008 were 37.3% above those recorded 5 years earlier.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Motor cycles continued

MOTOR CYCLE FLEET, State/territory of registration



MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER, Type of vehicle—Census years

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania (a)	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory (b)	Australia
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
PASSENGER VEHICLES									
2003	3 163 322	2 822 384	1 915 327	873 449	1 091 973	247 492	68 275	183 719	10 365 941
2007	3 464 250	3 049 224	2 220 568	927 313	1 254 426	275 146	75 618	r200 015	r11 466 560
2008	3 581 416	3 120 048	2 302 407	940 791	1 295 136	280 856	77 683	205 199	11 803 536
CAMPERVANS									
2003	7 787	8 445	6 818	4 393	7 049	3 163	153	529	38 337
2007	8 620	9 668	9 119	4 164	7 370	3 683	183	r480	r43 287
2008	8 845	10 165	9 874	4 040	7 396	3 813	196	461	44 790
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES									
2003	531 769	438 047	441 358	132 754	226 123	65 453	25 753	18 498	1 879 755
2007	599 420	495 649	550 453	148 920	268 330	76 052	29 960	r21 347	r2 190 131
2008	621 845	511 124	585 861	153 430	283 319	78 762	31 596	22 279	2 288 216
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS									
2003	29 116	16 493	18 026	4 155	7 431	2 151	500	607	78 479
2007	34 291	21 100	25 326	5 011	10 136	2 472	633	r651	r99 620
2008	35 770	22 280	27 293	5 431	11 079	2 518	674	681	105 726
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS									
2003	75 823	69 714	53 708	21 467	37 728	7 131	2 885	1 738	270 194
2007	80 539	73 339	63 709	21 938	42 538	7 917	3 218	r1 724	r294 922
2008	81 811	74 760	67 748	22 335	45 248	8 088	3 478	1 716	305 184
ARTICULATED TRUCKS									
2003	14 766	19 254	13 823	6 436	7 653	1 382	697	250	64 261
2007	16 342	22 389	16 734	6 446	9 985	1 491	832	r233	r74 452
2008	16 735	23 690	17 940	6 914	11 111	1 591	927	224	79 132
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS									
2003	3 413	5 018	3 754	1 761	3 374	936	259	84	18 599
2007	3 597	6 000	4 578	1 727	4 006	976	275	r89	r21 248
2008	3 575	6 090	4 821	1 777	4 182	998	285	80	21 808
BUSES									
2003	18 805	15 887	15 457	4 285	10 044	2 194	2 493	957	70 122
2007	20 772	16 887	17 336	4 544	11 673	2 308	3 094	r948	r77 562
2008	21 657	17 398	18 148	4 693	12 098	2 404	3 217	966	80 581
MOTOR CYCLES									
2003	100 049	99 072	83 790	28 454	47 066	8 582	3 244	7 014	377 271
2007	133 406	123 806	125 594	36 898	68 031	11 181	4 365	r9 147	r512 428
2008	148 309	136 019	139 355	39 493	77 010	12 297	4 930	10 156	567 569
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES									
2003	3 944 850	3 494 314	2 552 061	1 077 154	1 438 441	338 484	104 259	213 396	13 162 959
2007	4 361 237	3 818 062	3 033 417	1 156 961	1 676 495	381 226	118 178	r234 634	r14 780 210
2008	4 519 963	3 921 574	3 173 447	1 178 904	1 746 579	391 327	122 986	241 762	15 296 542

r revised

(b) See Technical Note

(a) Excludes vehicles with registration expiry date less than one month before the census date.

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	Australia
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
PASSENGER VEHICLES									
2003	474	574	506	571	561	519	343	565	522
2008	516	592	541	589	603	565	356	599	555
CAMPERVANS									
2003	1	2	2	3	4	7	1	2	2
2008	1	2	2	3	3	8	1	1	2
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES									
2003	80	89	117	87	116	137	129	57	95
2008	90	97	138	96	132	158	145	65	108
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS									
2003	4	3	5	3	4	5	3	2	4
2008	5	4	6	3	5	5	3	2	5
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS									
2003	11	14	14	14	19	15	14	5	14
2008	12	14	16	14	21	16	16	5	14
ARTICULATED TRUCKS									
2003	2	4	4	4	4	3	4	1	3
2008	2	4	4	4	5	3	4	1	4
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS									
2003	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	—	1
2008	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	—	1
BUSES									
2003	3	3	4	3	5	5	13	3	4
2008	3	3	4	3	6	5	15	3	4
MOTOR CYCLES									
2003	15	20	22	19	24	18	16	22	19
2008	21	26	33	25	36	25	23	30	27
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES									
2003	592	711	674	704	739	710	524	656	663
2008	651	744	746	738	813	787	563	706	719

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Based on Motor Vehicle Census counts which exclude vehicles with registration expiry date less than one month before the census date.

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

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

ESTIMATED AVERAGE AGE OF MOTOR VEHICLES(a), 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(b)</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Australian Capital Territory</i>	<i>Australia</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
PASSENGER VEHICLES									
2003	9.1	10.4	10.1	11.6	10.5	11.9	8.9	9.8	10.1
2008	9.1	10.1	9.3	11.0	9.7	11.4	8.6	9.4	9.7
CAMPERVANS									
2003	17.0	19.7	16.4	20.2	21.2	19.9	19.0	19.4	18.9
2008	17.0	18.4	15.2	21.6	21.3	20.3	19.9	19.7	18.4
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES									
2003	10.3	12.1	11.2	12.4	12.0	13.4	9.9	10.6	11.4
2008	10.0	11.3	9.9	11.3	10.6	12.7	9.1	9.6	10.5
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS									
2003	11.1	13.4	12.0	13.4	13.6	16.5	8.7	11.7	12.3
2008	10.8	11.4	10.3	11.7	11.5	15.3	9.6	10.7	11.0
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS									
2003	14.0	17.4	15.1	17.8	18.1	17.3	13.0	11.5	16.0
2008	13.9	17.2	13.9	17.1	17.3	16.9	13.0	11.0	15.5
ARTICULATED TRUCKS									
2003	10.7	12.0	11.6	11.1	13.5	10.9	12.6	8.1	11.7
2008	9.9	11.1	10.2	10.9	11.8	9.5	12.4	7.8	10.7
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS									
2003	13.5	15.3	11.2	14.5	16.9	16.9	12.8	14.6	14.4
2008	12.4	15.5	10.7	15.2	16.1	16.0	14.1	12.8	14.0
BUSES									
2003	9.9	10.6	10.6	11.6	9.6	14.4	8.9	10.7	10.4
2008	11.4	11.3	10.3	11.9	11.1	15.3	8.6	11.6	11.1
MOTOR CYCLES									
2003	9.0	9.5	10.5	(c)9.4	12.1	10.6	8.3	9.4	9.9
2008	8.5	9.1	8.3	(c)8.3	10.1	10.1	7.0	8.6	8.8
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES									
2003	9.4	10.8	10.5	11.8	11.1	12.4	9.3	9.9	10.4
2008	9.3	10.4	9.5	11.1	10.1	11.9	8.9	9.4	9.9

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

(b) Excludes vehicles with registration expiry date less than one month before the census date.

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

MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER, Type of fuel(a)—Census years

PETROL						
	Leaded	Unleaded	Total	Diesel	LPG/Dual fuel/Other	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
PASSENGER VEHICLES						
2003	1 666 750	8 177 794	9 844 544	295 697	225 700	10 365 941
2008	620 228	10 384 655	11 004 883	505 340	293 313	11 803 536
CAMPERVANS						
2003	14 999	5 593	20 592	15 595	2 150	38 337
2008	10 256	7 363	17 619	24 783	2 388	44 790
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES						
2003	372 987	913 181	1 286 168	498 253	95 334	1 879 755
2008	187 402	1 199 381	1 386 783	777 764	123 669	2 288 216
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS						
2003	11 912	4 240	16 152	60 485	1 842	78 479
2008	6 689	5 070	11 759	92 073	1 894	105 726
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS						
2003	32 458	3 772	36 230	231 879	2 085	270 194
2008	20 728	5 008	25 736	277 820	1 628	305 184
ARTICULATED TRUCKS						
2003	878	885	1 763	62 468	30	64 261
2008	519	1 171	1 690	77 340	102	79 132
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS						
2003	3 572	2 144	5 716	12 219	664	18 599
2008	2 224	1 978	4 202	16 991	615	21 808
BUSES						
2003	2 706	12 974	15 680	52 655	1 787	70 122
2008	1 368	15 213	16 581	61 180	2 820	80 581
MOTOR CYCLES						
2003	83 511	293 753	377 264	7	—	377 271
2008	59 943	507 555	567 498	2	69	567 569
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES						
2003	2 189 773	9 414 336	11 604 109	1 229 258	329 592	13 162 959
2008	909 357	12 127 394	13 036 751	1 833 293	426 498	15 296 542

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER, Type of fuel(a)—Census years

	PETROL			Diesel	LPG/Dual fuel/Other	Total
	Leaded	Unleaded	Total			
NEW SOUTH WALES						
2003	432 328	3 063 342	3 500 670	344 531	49 649	3 944 850
2008	196 516	3 764 429	3 960 945	471 301	87 717	4 519 963
VICTORIA						
2003	627 040	2 446 613	3 073 653	234 069	186 592	3 494 314
2008	264 580	3 076 660	3 341 240	371 707	208 627	3 921 574
QUEENSLAND						
2003	432 153	1 763 483	2 195 636	317 259	39 166	2 552 061
2008	181 538	2 448 725	2 630 263	492 778	50 406	3 173 447
SOUTH AUSTRALIA						
2003	250 325	743 987	994 312	73 696	9 146	1 077 154
2008	95 476	959 747	1 055 223	111 863	11 818	1 178 904
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
2003	260 470	952 367	1 212 837	189 983	35 621	1 438 441
2008	113 052	1 292 388	1 405 440	283 820	57 319	1 746 579
TASMANIA (b)						
2003	86 635	211 863	298 498	36 887	3 099	338 484
2008	41 315	290 752	332 067	55 701	3 559	391 327
NORTHERN TERRITORY						
2003	12 163	66 185	78 348	24 639	1 272	104 259
2008	4 684	84 190	88 874	32 945	1 167	122 986
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY						
2003	33 659	166 496	200 155	8 194	5 047	213 396
2008	12 196	210 503	222 699	13 178	5 885	241 762
AUSTRALIA						
2003	2 189 773	9 414 336	11 604 109	1 229 258	122 925	13 162 959
2008	909 357	12 127 394	13 036 751	1 833 293	426 498	15 296 542

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

(b) Excludes vehicles with registration expiry date less than one month before the census date.

PASSENGER VEHICLES ON REGISTER, Top 30 makes—Census years

	2003	2007	2008	Change 03/08	Change 07/08
	no.	no.	no.	%	%
Toyota	1 845 805	2 189 889	2 294 975	24.3	4.8
Holden	2 004 650	2 071 363	2 078 183	3.7	0.3
Ford	1 961 195	1 837 094	1 795 371	-8.5	-2.3
Mitsubishi	998 111	970 490	965 240	-3.3	-0.5
Nissan	721 607	740 457	743 760	3.1	0.4
Mazda	441 413	568 253	615 369	39.4	8.3
Hyundai	437 805	564 949	596 078	36.2	5.5
Honda	321 156	456 930	505 698	57.5	10.7
Subaru	248 588	359 314	390 512	57.1	8.7
BMW	138 144	192 666	209 652	51.8	8.8
Mercedes Benz	142 287	185 110	197 290	38.7	6.6
Suzuki	120 649	150 331	166 687	38.2	10.9
Volkswagen	81 468	126 378	149 187	83.1	18.0
Kia	51 517	122 717	141 445	174.6	15.3
Daewoo	124 951	126 381	121 143	-3.0	-4.1
Daihatsu	138 553	124 910	116 952	-15.6	-6.4
Volvo	84 583	75 924	76 087	-10.0	0.2
Peugeot	44 802	66 869	73 456	64.0	9.9
Jeep	40 277	57 335	62 230	54.5	8.5
Land Rover	48 971	58 420	60 798	24.2	4.1
Audi	29 276	46 334	53 064	81.3	14.5
Lexus	18 783	41 879	49 804	165.2	18.9
Chrysler	54 545	44 478	44 911	-17.7	1.0
Saab	41 167	42 296	42 065	2.2	-0.5
Jaguar	26 593	26 353	26 329	-1.0	-0.1
Alfa Romeo	19 179	21 665	22 532	17.5	4.0
Renault	14 083	20 516	21 799	54.8	6.3
Porsche	13 437	18 014	19 435	44.6	7.9
Citroen	7 152	15 791	18 649	160.8	18.1
Proton	15 507	17 741	18 491	19.2	4.2
Other	129 687	r(a) 125 713	126 344	-2.6	0.5
Total all makes	10 365 941	r11 466 560	11 803 536	13.9	2.9

r revised

(a) Includes ACT vehicles with March expiry dates for which make is not available. See Technical Note

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						
2003	29 116	22 340	21 969	15 136	16 378	104 939
2008	35 770	21 866	24 924	15 252	19 769	117 581
VICTORIA						
2003	16 493	20 445	20 502	15 231	13 536	86 207
2008	22 280	18 671	22 280	15 534	18 275	97 040
QUEENSLAND						
2003	18 026	12 861	14 482	14 230	12 135	71 734
2008	27 293	14 330	18 625	16 092	18 701	95 041
SOUTH AUSTRALIA						
2003	4 155	5 369	7 012	4 642	4 444	25 622
2008	5 431	5 172	6 854	4 805	5 504	27 766
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
2003	7 431	9 296	9 412	10 281	8 739	45 159
2008	11 079	11 062	11 106	10 651	12 429	56 327
TASMANIA (a)						
2003	2 151	2 443	1 698	1 442	1 548	9 282
2008	2 518	2 447	1 953	1 583	2 105	10 606
NORTHERN TERRITORY						
2003	500	1 135	654	635	461	3 385
2008	674	1 255	834	733	656	4 152
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY						
2003	607	536	493	329	380	2 345
2008	681	447	528	299	442	2 397
AUSTRALIA						
2003	78 479	74 425	76 222	61 926	57 621	348 673
2008	105 726	75 250	87 104	64 949	77 881	410 910

(a) Excludes vehicles with registration expiry date less than one month before the census date.

ARTICULATED TRUCKS ON REGISTER, Gross combination mass (GCM)—Census years

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						
2003	85	1 807	7 105	5 367	402	14 766
2008	56	1 199	5 931	8 996	553	16 735
VICTORIA						
2003	457	4 035	8 654	6 099	9	19 254
2008	385	3 103	8 496	11 699	7	23 690
QUEENSLAND						
2003	72	1 635	5 894	4 807	1 415	13 823
2008	52	1 285	5 473	8 618	2 512	17 940
SOUTH AUSTRALIA						
2003	29	779	3 348	1 966	314	6 436
2008	28	564	3 200	2 689	433	6 914
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
2003	88	1 630	5 787	117	31	7 653
2008	74	1 221	9 644	136	36	11 111
TASMANIA (a)						
2003	5	122	645	608	2	1 382
2008	1	89	514	985	2	1 591
NORTHERN TERRITORY						
2003	3	50	78	133	433	697
2008	2	33	134	204	554	927
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY						
2003	3	22	167	58	—	250
2008	—	13	109	101	1	224
AUSTRALIA						
2003	742	10 080	31 678	19 155	2 606	64 261
2008	598	7 507	33 501	33 428	4 098	79 132

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Excludes vehicles with registration expiry date less than one month before the census date.

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

Year of manufacture	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania(a)	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
PASSENGER VEHICLES									
To 1992	591 404	661 342	431 593	241 665	253 418	79 110	11 923	37 130	2 307 585
1993–1997	707 656	610 522	433 861	196 663	253 755	57 302	14 104	39 834	2 313 697
1998 to 2002	1 031 921	858 631	595 950	243 498	329 285	67 913	21 463	59 037	3 207 698
2003 to 2007	1 210 964	953 660	806 831	253 643	444 215	74 668	29 061	67 614	3 840 656
2008(b)	39 469	35 661	24 789	5 305	14 463	1 849	1 132	1 584	124 252
Not stated	2	232	9 383	17	—	14	—	—	9 648
Total	3 581 416	3 120 048	2 302 407	940 791	1 295 136	280 856	77 683	205 199	11 803 536
CAMPERVANS									
To 1992	4 792	5 923	4 667	2 987	5 083	2 608	134	285	26 479
1993–1997	1 068	549	878	321	497	359	15	60	3 747
1998 to 2002	1 496	918	1 452	407	969	426	32	69	5 769
2003 to 2007	1 472	2 683	2 637	322	847	416	15	47	8 439
2008(b)	17	87	37	3	—	3	—	—	147
Not stated	—	5	203	—	—	1	—	—	209
Total	8 845	10 165	9 874	4 040	7 396	3 813	196	461	44 790
LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES									
To 1992	140 381	142 185	136 852	44 082	73 340	28 068	6 051	4 817	575 776
1993–1997	106 507	79 959	95 643	26 252	49 516	13 872	5 358	3 365	380 472
1998 to 2002	158 160	122 021	127 795	35 681	56 940	16 248	7 383	5 338	529 566
2003 to 2007	209 975	161 276	217 143	46 268	100 077	19 990	12 407	8 504	775 640
2008(b)	6 821	5 628	6 555	1 142	3 445	578	397	255	24 821
Not stated	1	55	1 873	5	1	6	—	—	1 941
Total	621 845	511 124	585 861	153 430	283 319	78 762	31 596	22 279	2 288 216
LIGHT RIGID TRUCKS									
To 1992	10 568	7 013	7 309	1 824	3 673	1 185	136	195	31 903
1993–1997	5 042	2 120	3 277	577	1 368	274	143	80	12 881
1998 to 2002	8 701	4 379	5 789	1 196	2 015	494	199	145	22 918
2003 to 2007	11 213	8 562	10 443	1 789	3 955	561	192	257	36 972
2008(b)	246	199	187	44	68	4	4	4	756
Not stated	—	7	288	1	—	—	—	—	296
Total	35 770	22 280	27 293	5 431	11 079	2 518	674	681	105 726
HEAVY RIGID TRUCKS									
To 1992	34 789	39 654	28 516	12 459	24 579	4 637	1 416	546	146 596
1993–1997	11 056	8 508	8 489	2 500	5 504	907	543	232	37 739
1998 to 2002	15 387	11 105	10 806	2 961	5 406	983	621	375	47 644
2003 to 2007	20 371	15 123	19 143	4 352	9 671	1 550	878	556	71 644
2008(b)	208	338	184	63	88	11	20	7	919
Not stated	—	32	610	—	—	—	—	—	642
Total	81 811	74 760	67 748	22 335	45 248	8 088	3 478	1 716	305 184

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Includes motor vehicles manufactured in the first three months of 2008.

(a) Excludes vehicles with registration expiry date less than one month before the census date.

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

Year of manufacture	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania(a)	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
ARTICULATED TRUCKS									
To 1992	3 682	6 514	4 323	1 918	3 493	351	319	29	20 629
1993–1997	2 684	3 523	2 583	1 143	1 641	232	164	32	12 002
1998 to 2002	3 586	4 483	3 556	1 436	2 159	347	163	57	15 787
2003 to 2007	6 739	8 954	7 346	2 392	3 788	656	278	106	30 259
2008(b)	44	212	58	25	30	4	3	—	376
Not stated	—	4	74	—	—	1	—	—	79
Total	16 735	23 690	17 940	6 914	11 111	1 591	927	224	79 132
NON-FREIGHT CARRYING TRUCKS									
To 1992	1 213	2 862	1 265	831	1 923	474	119	29	8 716
1993–1997	452	879	646	330	553	155	44	6	3 065
1998 to 2002	733	1 155	1 187	274	763	147	64	20	4 343
2003 to 2007	1 155	1 162	1 681	337	940	221	58	25	5 579
2008(b)	22	26	8	3	3	—	—	—	62
Not stated	—	6	34	2	—	1	—	—	43
Total	3 575	6 090	4 821	1 777	4 182	998	285	80	21 808
BUSES									
To 1992	6 433	5 098	4 599	1 571	3 448	1 215	512	379	23 255
1993–1997	4 700	3 531	3 660	972	2 639	419	622	169	16 712
1998 to 2002	5 237	4 236	4 106	977	2 792	340	873	153	18 714
2003 to 2007	5 084	4 322	5 510	1 144	3 104	418	1 135	257	20 974
2008(b)	203	211	238	29	115	12	75	8	891
Not stated	—	—	35	—	—	—	—	—	35
Total	21 657	17 398	18 148	4 693	12 098	2 404	3 217	966	80 581
MOTOR CYCLES									
To 1992	24 514	26 154	23 292	5 380	18 070	2 775	619	1 796	102 600
1993–1997	18 814	16 589	15 490	4 558	8 536	1 791	488	1 281	67 547
1998 to 2002	36 059	34 906	28 703	8 315	13 652	2 843	1 045	2 406	127 929
2003 to 2007	67 683	55 803	68 828	17 701	35 777	4 787	2 724	4 602	257 905
2008(b)	1 239	2 381	1 038	316	975	101	54	71	6 175
Not stated	—	186	2 004	3 223	—	—	—	—	5 413
Total	148 309	136 019	139 355	39 493	77 010	12 297	4 930	10 156	567 569
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES									
To 1992	817 776	896 745	642 416	312 717	387 027	120 423	21 229	45 206	3 243 539
1993–1997	857 979	726 180	564 527	233 316	324 009	75 311	21 481	45 059	2 847 862
1998 to 2002	1 261 280	1 041 834	779 344	294 745	413 981	89 741	31 843	67 600	3 980 368
2003 to 2007	1 534 656	1 211 545	1 139 562	327 948	602 374	103 267	46 748	81 968	5 048 068
2008(b)	48 269	44 743	33 094	6 930	19 187	2 562	1 685	1 929	158 399
Not stated	3	527	14 504	3 248	1	23	—	—	18 306
Total	4 519 963	3 921 574	3 173 447	1 178 904	1 746 579	391 327	122 986	241 762	15 296 542

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Includes motor vehicles manufactured in the first three months of 2008.

(a) Excludes vehicles with registration expiry date less than one month before the census date.

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 2008.

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

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
1997, 31 October	

SCOPE

3 The Motor Vehicle Census includes all vehicles registered with a state, territory or other government 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 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 therefore 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 new motor vehicle sales data.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SCOPE *continued*

ESTIMATED ATTRITION (a), State/territory—Census years

	<i>Between 2003 and 2004</i>		<i>Between 2004 and 2005</i>		<i>Between 2005 and 2006</i>		<i>Between 2006 and 2007</i>		<i>Between 2007 and 2008</i>	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
NSW	196 609	4.7	207 506	4.9	214 431	4.9	217 518	4.9	178 856	3.9
Vic.	179 738	4.9	173 120	4.7	171 489	4.5	179 505	4.6	178 750	4.5
Qld	88 012	3.3	102 952	3.7	98 452	3.4	97 337	3.2	107 629	3.4
SA	44 813	4.0	48 779	4.3	40 073	3.5	45 253	3.9	43 554	3.7
WA	46 330	3.1	46 716	3.1	38 310	2.4	46 866	2.8	61 171	3.5
Tas.	6 768	1.9	8 961	2.5	8 272	2.2	13 258	3.5	10 679	2.7
NT	6 320	5.8	5 390	4.8	5 925	5.1	5 649	4.7	5 983	4.8
ACT	r8 346	r3.8	r11 207	r4.9	r10 799	r4.7	r10 227	r4.3	10 554	4.4
Aust.	r576 936	4.2	r604 139	4.3	r587 751	4.1	r615 613	4.1	597 176	3.9

r revised

(a) These estimates exclude motorcycles. For more details on the calculation of attrition rate refer to glossary.

METHODOLOGY

8 The 2008 Motor Vehicle Census is a count of all vehicles registered with a state or territory motor vehicle registration authority (MVR) at 31 March 2008. The snapshot date has consistently been 31 March since 2001. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) receives the data from the MVRs. At this stage all records are compared to the previous MVC data for vehicles that match (on-going registrations) and relevant details are updated. 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, chassis number, year of manufacture and body to improve the number of matched records.

9 The un-matched records (new vehicle registrations) undergo comprehensive editing. This editing checks such items as body, make, model, year of manufacture, weight, heavy vehicle code, postcode and fuel.

10 The editing of on-going registrations is limited as these records have been edited in past years. Finally, 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 15 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 has been done through the introduction of improved processing and classification systems and the incorporation of additional internal checking to ensure the vehicle counts track consistently in a time series when compared to previous MVCs. While these have improved data accuracy, 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. The ABS recognises the importance of motor vehicle statistics to a large variety of statistical users. 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.

12 For vehicles manufactured during or after 1990, the statistics in this publication are based on procedures using the VIN, adopted by state and territory motor vehicle registration authorities. The VIN system allows accurate identification of the make and model of a vehicle, which can then be used to better identify the vehicle type. Vehicles manufactured earlier than 1990 generally do not have a VIN. For these earlier vehicles, standard ABS makes and models were produced from registry make and model data using information such as engine number and chassis number.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

DATA QUALITY *continued*

13 Each year, for new vehicle registrations, the Registry's vehicle model description is converted to a standard ABS model. This is necessary as model descriptions can vary between Registries. Resource constraints affect the amount of model conversion that can be carried out, resulting in some vehicles being left with a blank model which is then coded to 'model unknown'.

Data confrontation

14 While 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.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES (NMVS)

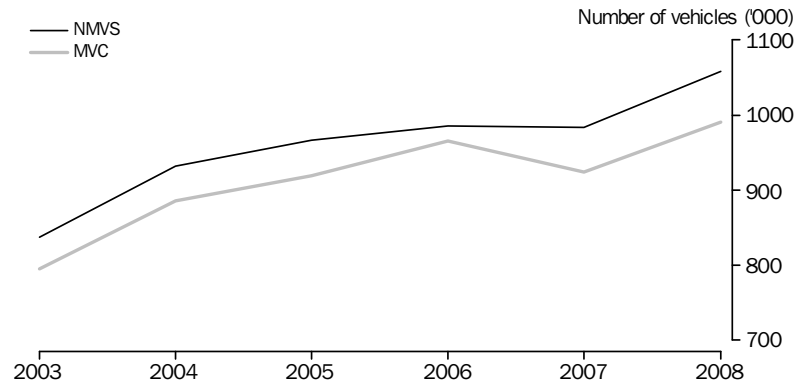
15 Sales of new motor vehicles can be compared with data from the MVC based upon the year of manufacture. The following assumptions have been made:

- 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 2007 (as reflected in 2008 MVC data) would most likely have been sold in the period between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008 (as captured by sales of new motor vehicles data). Similarly, vehicles manufactured in 2006 would have been sold between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007, and so on.

17 The graph below shows the relationship between sales of new motor vehicles and MVC registrations of vehicles manufactured in the year preceding the snapshot date.

NMVS(a) COMPARED WITH MVC(b), Australia



(a) NMVS figures have been sourced from Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (9314.0).

(b) Excluding motor cycles.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION (ERP)

18 The table below shows a comparison of growth on a state/territory basis for both the MVC and ERP. 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 The only geographic data available from the MVC are postcode of owner and state or territory of registration.

20 If analysing regional data based on postcodes, the following considerations need to be taken into account:

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

STATISTICAL GEOGRAPHY

continued

- 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 Qld.
- some official postcodes (P.O. boxes, competition postcodes) do not correspond to residential areas
- some postcodes could be invalid.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTS

21 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 (issued annually since 1998) or 9210.0.55.001 (issued annually)

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

22 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.

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
Aust.	Australia
cat. no.	Catalogue number
ERP	estimated resident population
GCM	gross combination mass
GVM	gross vehicle mass
LPG	liquefied petroleum gas
MVC	Motor Vehicle Census
no.	number
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

TECHNICAL NOTE

INTRODUCTION

1 A system improvement was implemented for the 2008 Motor Vehicle Census (MVC). During this process, 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.

3 Implementation of the new processing system has rectified this error.

IMPACT

4 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.

5 The impact of processing previous ACT data in accordance with MVC 2008 procedures has been estimated in the following table.

ACT REGISTRATIONS, Type of vehicle—Census years

	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Vehicle type (a)</i>	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.

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 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:

$$\left[1 - \left\{T_2 / (T_1 + N_1)\right\}^{12/M}\right] \times 100$$

where T_1 is the number of registrations at the first time point, N_1 is the number of new sales between the first and second time points, T_2 is the number of registrations at the second time point and M is the number of months between the two time points.

Average age of vehicle 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 of the year. They also assume that vehicles are manufactured at a constant rate over the year, or three month period for the current year.

For vehicles manufactured in the current year:

$$\text{Vehicle age} = \text{Reference month} / 24$$

For vehicles manufactured in previous years:

$$\text{Vehicle age} = \text{Current year} - \text{Year of manufacture} + (\text{Reference month} - 6) / 12$$

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.

Average annual growth rate The average annual growth rate is calculated as a percentage using the following formula:

$$\left[\left(\frac{P_n}{P_0}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1\right] \times 100$$

where P_0 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 P_0 in years.

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.

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.

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.

GLOSSARY *continued*

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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