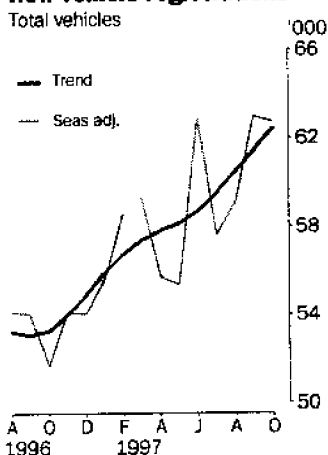


NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 28 NOV 1997

New vehicle registrations



OCTOBER KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

	Oct 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	62 408	1.6	17.1
Passenger vehicles	53 233	1.8	19.3
Other vehicles	9 175	0.4	5.9

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Oct 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	62 752	-0.4	21.4
Passenger vehicles	53 852	0.3	24.4
Other vehicles	8 900	-4.4	5.9

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Oct 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	66 638	6.6	19.5
Passenger vehicles	57 509	7.0	22.0
Other vehicles	9 129	3.9	6.0

OCTOBER KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations has increased in each month since September 1996. Passenger vehicle registrations for October 1997 rose by 1.8% and other vehicle registrations by 0.4% compared with the previous month. Decreases were recorded for Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory while increases occurred in the remaining States and Territory.

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

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations for October 1997 decreased by 0.4% compared with September 1997. Passenger vehicles increased by 0.3% whereas other vehicles fell by 4.4%. All States and Territories recorded rises except for New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- In October 1997, total new motor vehicle registrations showed an increase of 6.6% compared with September 1997. All States and Territories recorded increases with the exception of Tasmania. Registrations increased for all vehicle types.

INQUIRIES

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
November 1997	24 December 1997
December 1997	30 January 1998
January 1998	27 February 1998

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

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TREND REVISIONS

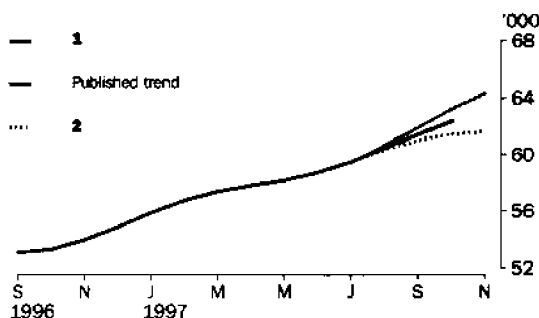
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

- 1** The November seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the October seasonally adjusted estimate by 5.1%.
- 2** The November seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the October seasonally adjusted estimate by -5.1%.

The percentage change of 5.1% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change, based on the last 11 years, has been 5.1%.

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



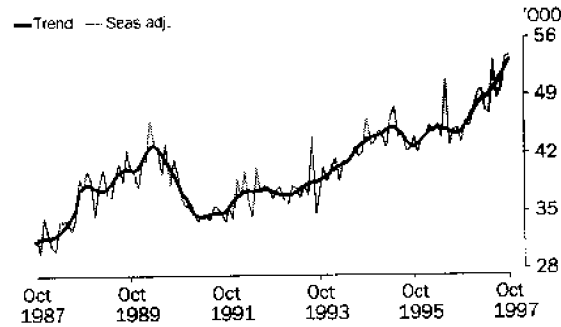
W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND

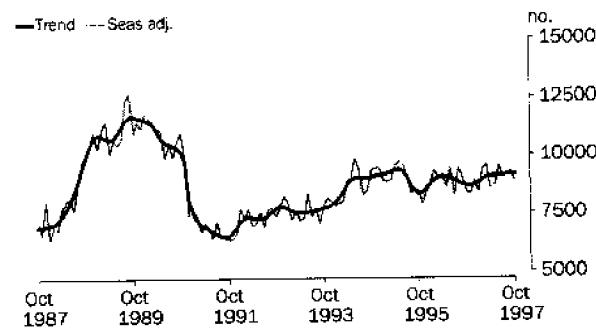
PASSENGER VEHICLES

There has been a strong rise in trend for passenger vehicles since September 1996 and the level in October 1997 is now 18.0% above the previous peak in April 1996.



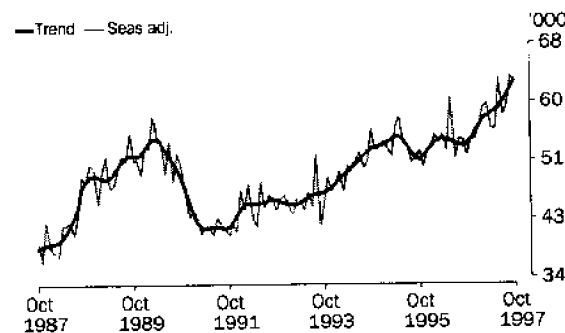
OTHER VEHICLES

The trend level for other vehicle registrations has remained essentially flat since April 1994. The October 1997 level is 21.7% below the October 1989 peak and 41.4% above the low of September 1991.



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)

Total motor vehicle registrations trend for October 1997 continued with strong increases over the previous 12 months. The trend level is now 15.2% above the April 1990 high and 51.5% above the low in September 1991.



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

NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations by Type: All series

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
1996			
August	45 574	8 783	54 357
September	42 893	8 210	51 103
October	47 131	8 613	55 744
November	45 253	8 355	53 608
December	46 165	8 423	54 588
1997			
January	39 604	6 566	46 170
February	46 563	8 308	54 871
March	46 366	8 628	54 994
April	47 959	9 162	57 121
May	48 932	9 689	58 621
June	55 551	12 126	67 677
July	52 302	9 800	62 102
August	49 235	8 348	57 583
September	53 726	8 789	62 515
October	57 509	9 129	66 638
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1996			
August	44 716	9 405	54 121
September	45 057	9 001	54 058
October	43 292	8 403	51 694
November	45 785	8 320	54 105
December	45 129	8 914	54 043
1997			
January	47 213	8 381	55 594
February	49 231	9 349	58 580
March	49 766	9 579	59 345
April	47 191	8 537	55 728
May	46 696	8 672	55 368
June	53 342	9 550	62 892
July	48 621	9 007	57 627
August	49 938	9 167	59 104
September	53 684	9 305	62 989
October	53 852	8 900	62 752
TREND ESTIMATES(a)			
1996			
August	44 407	8 845	53 252
September	44 338	8 745	53 083
October	44 610	8 668	53 278
November	45 314	8 663	53 977
December	46 167	8 714	54 881
1997			
January	47 059	8 812	55 871
February	47 823	8 917	56 740
March	48 392	9 012	57 404
April	48 744	9 059	57 803
May	49 075	9 073	58 148
June	49 605	9 087	58 692
July	50 392	9 107	59 499
August	51 337	9 131	60 468
September	52 275	9 141	61 416
October	53 233	9 175	62 408

(a) Trend estimates for April 1997 to September 1997 have been revised.



NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations by Type: Original

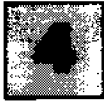
Month	Passenger vehicles	Light commercial vehicles	Rigid trucks	Articulated trucks	Non-freight carrying trucks	Buses	Total (excludes motor cycles)	Motor cycles
1996								
August	45 574	7 236	793	304	105	345	54 357	1 653
September	42 893	6 890	727	238	72	283	51 103	1 562
October	47 131	7 100	777	307	96	333	55 744	2 052
November	45 253	6 814	833	275	95	338	53 608	2 389
December	46 165	6 893	851	255	128	296	54 588	2 002
1997								
January	39 604	5 506	515	157	55	333	46 170	1 881
February	46 563	7 069	674	186	58	321	54 871	1 926
March	46 366	7 227	772	241	94	294	54 994	1 913
April	47 959	7 567	886	298	58	353	57 121	1 868
May	48 932	8 067	897	276	96	353	58 621	2 111
June	55 551	10 474	914	302	68	368	67 677	1 745
July	52 302	8 091	978	355	88	288	62 102	1 914
August	49 235	6 672	935	306	131	304	57 583	2 021
September	53 726	7 172	881	308	140	288	62 515	2 101
October	57 509	7 264	948	425	150	342	66 638	2 899



NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations by State: All series

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
ORIGINAL									
1996									
August	18 213	12 880	10 903	3 569	5 753	1 336	599	1 104	54 357
September	17 335	12 553	9 789	3 437	5 338	1 348	535	768	51 103
October	18 877	14 098	10 298	3 365	6 296	1 307	561	942	55 744
November	18 455	13 399	9 823	3 515	5 677	1 267	610	862	53 608
December	17 793	13 737	10 544	3 582	5 903	1 737	501	791	54 588
1997									
January	16 047	10 975	8 552	2 942	5 397	935	519	803	46 170
February	18 926	13 958	9 823	3 827	5 961	898	551	927	54 871
March	19 390	13 559	10 619	3 627	5 224	958	704	913	54 994
April	19 916	14 167	10 521	3 716	5 886	1 047	852	1 016	57 121
May	20 717	14 508	10 546	3 640	6 164	1 211	773	1 062	58 621
June	24 181	14 948	13 961	4 439	6 728	1 128	873	1 419	67 677
July	20 470	15 483	12 345	3 896	6 489	1 476	664	1 279	62 102
August	18 647	15 249	10 749	3 876	5 937	1 314	589	1 222	57 583
September	21 330	15 552	11 712	4 174	6 297	1 503	632	1 315	62 515
October	21 814	17 452	11 997	4 333	7 488	1 387	712	1 455	66 638
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1996									
August	18 086	12 572	11 351	3 453	5 740	1 264	627	1 027	54 121
September	18 746	13 194	10 300	3 431	5 776	1 232	571	808	54 058
October	18 025	12 970	9 166	3 077	5 884	1 150	526	895	51 694
November	17 875	13 758	10 749	3 456	5 447	1 344	626	850	54 105
December	18 534	13 553	10 123	3 563	5 739	1 169	573	790	54 043
1997									
January	19 426	13 714	9 928	3 673	5 919	1 215	728	991	55 594
February	20 232	14 533	10 813	4 012	6 234	1 093	664	999	58 580
March	20 602	15 529	11 206	3 750	5 414	1 165	662	1 018	59 345
April	18 917	13 503	10 040	3 935	6 222	1 270	822	1 019	55 728
May	18 918	13 580	10 364	3 600	5 934	1 236	692	1 043	55 368
June	22 409	13 531	13 422	4 066	6 259	1 222	694	1 300	62 892
July	19 113	14 631	10 616	3 729	6 359	1 386	589	1 204	57 627
August	19 272	15 232	11 456	3 930	6 179	1 270	629	1 138	59 104
September	21 890	15 704	11 737	3 946	6 478	1 306	651	1 277	62 989
October	21 322	16 054	10 883	4 046	7 099	1 242	685	1 421	62 752
TREND ESTIMATES(a)									
1996									
August	17 989	12 954	10 459	3 389	5 734	1 231	587	910	53 252
September	18 026	13 003	10 283	3 344	5 727	1 244	576	880	53 083
October	18 198	13 162	10 151	3 357	5 729	1 239	578	864	53 278
November	18 526	13 457	10 123	3 437	5 748	1 222	594	868	53 977
December	18 854	13 820	10 166	3 554	5 776	1 202	624	886	54 881
1997									
January	19 223	14 105	10 292	3 679	5 812	1 183	659	917	55 871
February	19 587	14 220	10 455	3 779	5 865	1 179	693	963	56 740
March	19 843	14 188	10 691	3 837	5 929	1 187	713	1 016	57 404
April	19 950	14 090	10 936	3 851	5 988	1 211	713	1 065	57 803
May	19 970	14 057	11 172	3 844	6 054	1 244	698	1 110	58 148
June	20 040	14 193	11 360	3 849	6 149	1 273	676	1 153	58 692
July	20 231	14 514	11 455	3 872	6 282	1 289	657	1 199	59 499
August	20 500	14 959	11 482	3 908	6 432	1 295	645	1 247	60 468
September	20 788	15 410	11 452	3 950	6 591	1 293	640	1 292	61 416
October	21 131	15 907	11 430	3 981	6 705	1 286	635	1 333	62 408

(a) Trend estimates for April 1997 to September 1997 have been revised.



NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Selected Make/Models: **Original**—October 1997

Make/Model	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 693	1 817	981	397	644	77	46	223	5 878
Festiva	475	384	329	138	119	19	16	25	1 505
Laser	263	249	156	46	66	16	1	12	809
Other	379	340	184	56	128	14	15	12	1 128
Total	2 810	2 790	1 650	637	957	126	78	272	9 320
Holden									
Commodore/Calais	2 826	2 279	1 274	571	750	115	36	133	7 984
Barina	317	182	169	59	75	19	7	10	838
Statesman/Caprice	89	112	62	12	56	4	3	4	342
Other	323	354	168	89	133	59	2	13	1 141
Total	3 555	2 927	1 673	731	1 014	197	48	160	10 305
Hyundai									
Excel	1 225	773	657	248	699	56	44	76	3 778
Lantra	272	195	169	46	156	35	18	23	914
Sonata	131	114	75	21	67	14	8	6	436
Other	51	32	30	2	21	3	2	2	143
Total	1 679	1 114	931	317	943	108	72	107	5 271
Mazda									
323	338	266	161	54	113	12	5	18	967
121	189	204	138	61	141	7	9	18	767
626	160	126	73	24	35	12	2	11	443
Other	17	16	4	1	6	1	..	2	47
Total	704	612	376	140	295	32	16	49	2 224
Mitsubishi									
Magna	885	982	519	579	305	65	45	170	3 550
Lancer	299	437	176	72	124	12	11	18	1 149
Mirage	467	190	129	46	63	6	5	28	934
Other	485	278	289	111	125	24	20	31	1 363
Total	2 136	1 887	1 113	808	617	107	81	247	6 996
Nissan									
Pulsar	331	337	303	56	176	25	5	36	1 269
Patrol	99	49	95	9	60	3	10	1	326
Maxima	74	136	56	8	26	4	3	7	314
Other	105	80	78	26	31	5	1	3	329
Total	609	602	532	99	293	37	19	47	2 238
Toyota									
Corolla	763	547	287	155	328	53	33	125	2 291
Camry	607	653	320	145	243	63	28	46	2 105
Vienta	633	323	173	66	107	9	7	22	1 340
Other	980	792	645	140	340	57	62	52	3 068
Total	2 983	2 315	1 425	506	1 018	182	130	245	8 804

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

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

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

- 3** Motor vehicle registration statistics are obtained from State and Territory motor vehicle registration authorities. The statistics reflect information recorded in registration documents. With the exception of Queensland, the statistics do not depart significantly from actual registrations during the period. In the case of Queensland, a number of registrations processed in a month actually relate to vehicles registered prior to that month.
- 4** New motor vehicle registrations are obtained from New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia registration authorities on a weekly basis. Other registries provide data for each calendar month. The ABS processes the weekly registration data provided for the above-mentioned States and includes data for the relevant month in this publication. Data referring to the next month are withheld and included in the next month's publication. In some months, the ABS processes five weeks of data for the above States, while other months include four weeks of data. In months where five weeks of data are processed and depending on the actual pattern of registration processing, it is possible that there will be a greater number of registrations recorded because the carry forward from the previous month is likely to be greater than the carry over to the next month.
- 5** The scope of the statistics:
 - includes:
 - passenger vehicles
 - light commercial vehicles
 - trucks
 - buses
 - motorcycles (note: not included in totals)
 - vehicles with diplomatic and consular plates
 - State and Commonwealth owned vehicles.
 - excludes:
 - vehicles belonging to the defence forces
 - recreation vehicles such as trail bikes and sand dune buggies (in those States where registration is required).

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

- 6** Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences can be more clearly recognised.
- 7** Seasonal adjustment does not remove from the series the effect of irregular or non-seasonal influences (e.g. the introduction of new models, processing delays, industrial disputes).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT *continued*

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

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

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

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

TREND ESTIMATES

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

13 While this smoothing technique enables trend estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions to the trend estimates for the most recent months as data for subsequent months become available. Generally subsequent revisions become smaller and after three months, usually have a negligible impact on the series. Changes in the original data and re-estimation of seasonal factors may also lead to revisions to the trend. For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring 'Trends': an Overview* (1348.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (02) 6252 6345.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

14 For a more detailed break-up of the monthly figures presented here, inquiries should be made to Robin Walden on 07 3222 6180 or to any ABS office. Data on total vehicle registrations, both new and re-registrations, is available in *Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 October 1996* (9309.0).

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

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

GLOSSARY

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





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