



NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 24 DEC 1997

NOVEMBER KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

	Nov 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	63 707	1.4	17.9
Passenger vehicles	54 680	1.7	20.5
Other vehicles	9 047	-0.6	4.2

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Nov 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	63 402	-0.8	17.1
Passenger vehicles	54 750	0.3	20.0
Other vehicles	8 652	-7.2	1.8

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Nov 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	61 460	-7.8	14.6
Passenger vehicles	52 985	-7.8	17.1
Other vehicles	8 475	-7.7	1.4

NOVEMBER KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations has continued to increase each month since September 1996. Passenger vehicle registrations in November 1997 rose by 1.7% while other vehicle registrations fell by 0.6% compared with the previous month. The trend rose in all States and Territories with the exception of Tasmania.

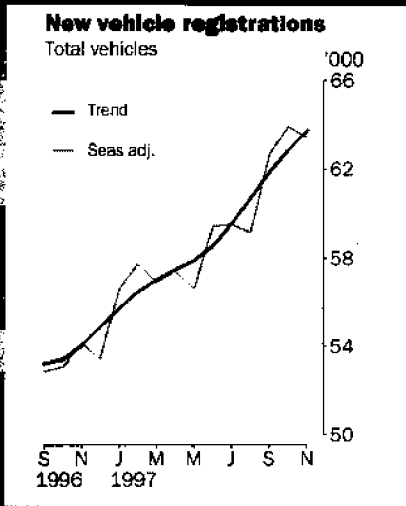
TAKE CARE!
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations for November 1997 decreased by 0.8% compared with October 1997. Passenger vehicles increased by 0.3% whereas other vehicles decreased by 7.2%. Most States and Territories fell except for Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total motor vehicle registrations for November 1997 showed a decrease of 7.8% compared with October 1997, with passenger vehicles down by 7.8% and other vehicles down by 7.7%. Registrations decreased for all vehicle types. All States and Territories recorded falls.



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
December 1997	30 January 1998
January 1998	27 February 1998
February 1998	27 March 1998

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This edition includes changes to the seasonally adjusted series and the trend estimate series as a result of the annual re-estimation of seasonal factors.

TREND REVISIONS

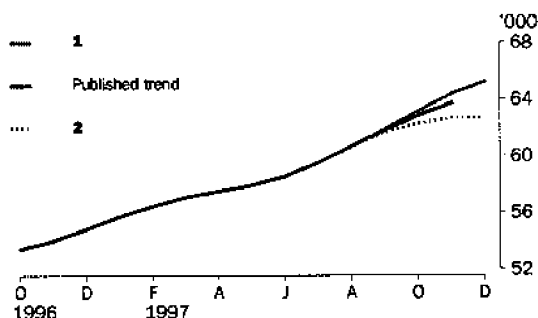
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

- 1 The December seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the November seasonally adjusted estimate by 4.6%.
- 2 The December seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the November seasonally adjusted estimate by -4.6%.

The percentage change of 4.6% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change, based on the last 11 years, has been 4.6%.

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

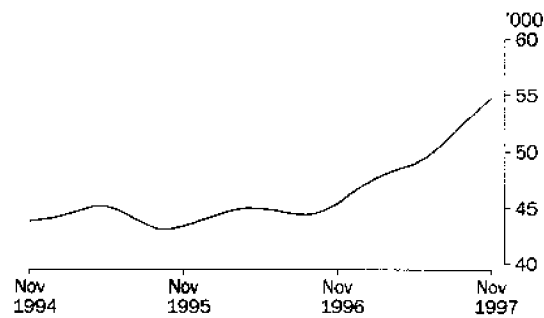


W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE: Trend series

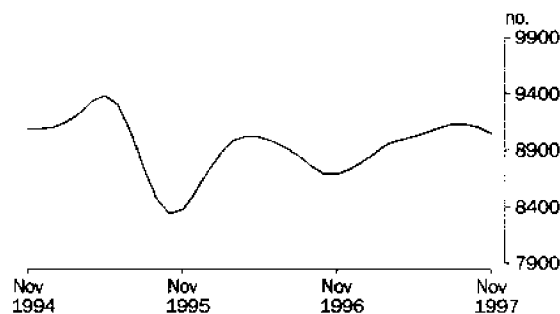
PASSENGER VEHICLES

The trend for new passenger vehicle registrations has risen in each of the last fifteen months. The trend level is now 23.1% above the most recent low of August 1996.



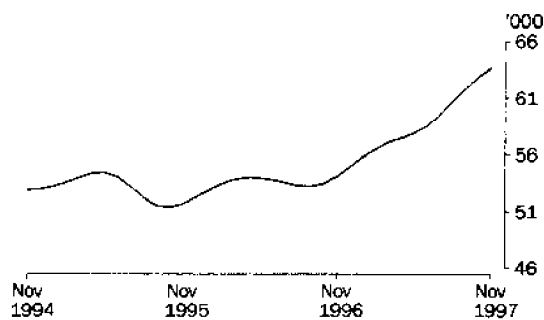
OTHER VEHICLES

Following a high in September 1997, the trend has declined slightly to be now 8.6% above the October 1995 low and 4.2% above the recent low of November 1996.



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)

The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations has risen consecutively over the last fifteen months and is now 24.1% above the low in October 1995 and 19.6% above the most recent low in August 1996.



NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations by Type: All series

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
1996			
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	57 471	9 180	66 651
November	52 985	8 475	61 460
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1996			
September	43 976	8 884	52 859
October	44 603	8 480	53 083
November	45 627	8 503	54 131
December	44 718	8 688	53 406
1997			
January	48 011	8 626	56 637
February	48 487	9 237	57 724
March	47 739	9 183	56 921
April	48 657	8 738	57 394
May	47 915	8 685	56 600
June	50 096	9 319	59 415
July	50 414	9 094	59 508
August	50 076	9 082	59 158
September	53 465	9 230	62 695
October	54 573	9 328	63 901
November	54 750	8 652	63 402
TREND ESTIMATES(a)			
1996			
September	44 422	8 756	53 178
October	44 720	8 687	53 406
November	45 353	8 682	54 035
December	46 140	8 719	54 860
1997			
January	46 902	8 787	55 689
February	47 574	8 870	56 444
March	48 103	8 947	57 050
April	48 475	8 983	57 459
May	48 878	9 014	57 892
June	49 492	9 053	58 545
July	50 410	9 096	59 506
August	51 536	9 130	60 666
September	52 674	9 131	61 805
October	53 726	9 103	62 829
November	54 660	9 047	63 707

(a) Trend estimates for May 1997 to October 1997 have been revised.

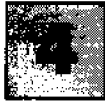
NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations by Type: Original

Month	Passenger vehicles	Light commercial vehicles	Rigid trucks	Articulated trucks	Non-freight carrying trucks	Buses	Total (excludes motor cycles)	Motor cycles
1996								
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	2 369
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	57 471	7 311	952	425	151	341	66 651	2 850
November	52 985	6 873	902	328	117	255	61 460	2 492

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									
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	21 813	17 462	11 998	4 335	7 489	1 387	712	1 455	66 651
November	21 057	15 247	11 265	4 197	6 533	1 109	618	1 434	61 460
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1996									
September	17 856	13 028	10 261	3 434	5 716	1 234	580	751	52 859
October	18 632	13 038	9 793	3 146	5 837	1 181	547	909	53 083
November	18 288	13 737	10 422	3 454	5 526	1 228	593	883	54 131
December	17 773	13 508	10 172	3 584	5 756	1 168	607	838	53 406
1997									
January	19 895	13 708	10 648	3 694	5 848	1 248	672	924	56 637
February	19 820	14 407	10 739	3 881	6 138	1 084	652	1 003	57 724
March	19 598	14 707	10 538	3 713	5 548	1 184	665	967	56 921
April	19 831	13 926	10 348	3 936	6 178	1 265	829	1 081	57 394
May	19 694	13 977	10 362	3 637	5 961	1 260	660	1 049	56 600
June	20 706	13 556	11 910	3 951	6 203	1 200	674	1 216	59 415
July	20 141	14 622	11 372	3 766	6 379	1 381	635	1 211	59 508
August	19 709	15 390	11 039	3 848	6 128	1 237	619	1 187	59 158
September	21 165	15 757	11 991	4 064	6 500	1 285	677	1 276	62 695
October	21 650	16 108	11 775	4 110	6 935	1 268	668	1 387	63 901
November	21 509	15 991	11 874	4 165	6 563	1 145	649	1 507	63 402
TREND ESTIMATES(a)									
1996									
September	18 084	12 973	10 323	3 376	5 730	1 229	587	874	53 178
October	18 224	13 105	10 298	3 386	5 729	1 222	582	862	53 406
November	18 481	13 377	10 318	3 454	5 741	1 205	591	868	54 035
December	18 781	13 714	10 354	3 553	5 766	1 190	615	887	54 860
1997									
January	19 113	13 978	10 394	3 660	5 802	1 178	647	917	55 689
February	19 452	14 099	10 467	3 749	5 859	1 181	679	958	56 444
March	19 734	14 106	10 581	3 801	5 925	1 197	701	1 007	57 050
April	19 897	14 081	10 702	3 813	5 987	1 219	705	1 054	57 459
May	19 992	14 119	10 870	3 810	6 058	1 247	696	1 100	57 892
June	20 090	14 301	11 088	3 824	6 149	1 270	679	1 145	58 545
July	20 286	14 637	11 317	3 863	6 267	1 278	663	1 195	59 506
August	20 569	15 082	11 523	3 926	6 391	1 271	652	1 251	60 666
September	20 876	15 527	11 683	3 998	6 506	1 256	648	1 310	61 805
October	21 180	15 913	11 813	4 066	6 604	1 237	647	1 369	62 829
November	21 456	16 213	11 898	4 139	6 701	1 218	656	1 426	63 707

(a) Trend estimates for May 1997 to October 1997 have been revised.



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

Make/Model	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 704	1 538	993	314	582	61	26	282	5 500
Festiva	416	276	295	127	112	8	6	16	1 256
Laser	257	205	134	45	71	13	1	13	739
Other	371	341	178	68	135	13	10	19	1 135
Total	2 748	2 360	1 600	554	900	95	43	330	8 630
Holden									
Commodore/Calais	2 568	2 119	1 288	633	759	141	33	195	7 736
Barina	138	78	89	38	36	5	..	13	397
Statesman/Caprice	98	128	46	17	43	7	..	1	340
Other	312	343	186	92	100	20	2	8	1 063
Total	3 116	2 668	1 609	780	938	173	35	217	9 536
Hyundai									
Excel	1 338	897	635	274	584	71	23	74	3 896
Lantra	305	125	134	29	101	24	7	12	737
Sonata	122	66	65	20	42	6	4	5	330
Other	82	56	21	13	24	3	1	2	202
Total	1 847	1 144	855	336	751	104	35	93	5 165
Mazda									
323	356	263	131	62	82	9	6	13	922
121	215	155	147	63	76	68	6	18	748
626	131	140	63	27	32	12	4	5	414
Other	27	13	5	5	1	..	2	1	54
Total	729	571	346	157	191	89	18	37	2 138
Mitsubishi									
Magna	783	755	448	428	294	49	47	237	3 041
Mirage	478	190	141	51	52	8	5	26	951
Lancer	259	297	172	73	79	12	14	17	923
Other	398	249	196	80	84	16	15	27	1 065
Total	1 918	1 491	957	632	509	85	81	307	5 980
Nissan									
Pulsar	431	412	265	88	114	30	9	33	1 382
Patrol	60	37	85	16	56	2	3	2	261
Maxima	69	94	49	6	23	10	..	7	258
Other	120	92	74	9	46	5	1	2	349
Total	680	635	473	119	239	47	13	44	2 250
Toyota									
Corolla	741	419	283	140	280	47	32	102	2 044
Camry	509	422	336	94	176	45	32	14	1 628
Vienta	547	321	177	66	79	11	10	24	1 235
Other	1 089	624	654	175	349	41	62	29	3 023
Total	2 886	1 786	1 450	475	884	144	136	169	7 930

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

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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

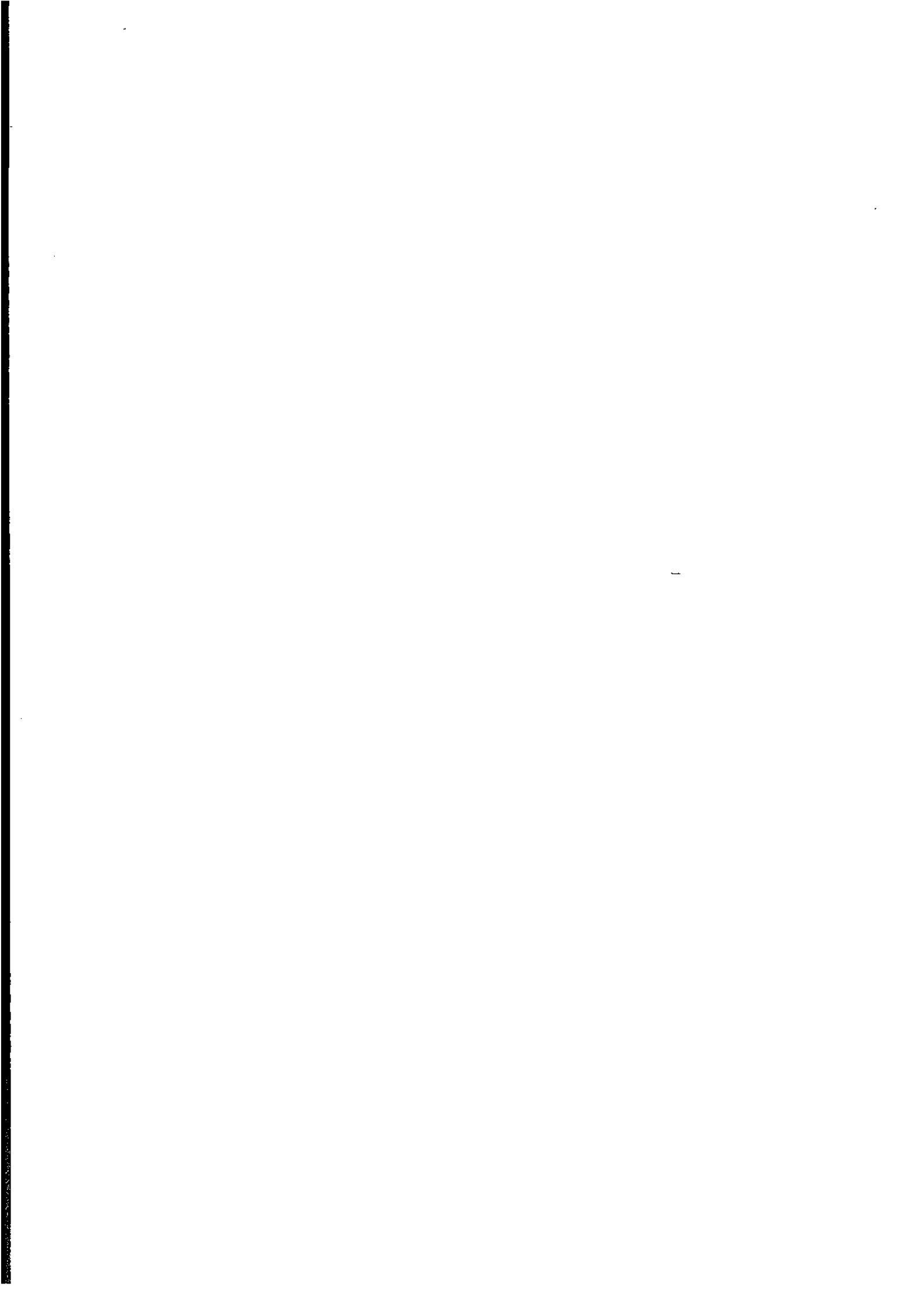
14 For a more detailed break-up of the monthly figures presented here, inquiries should be made to Robin Walden on 07 3222 6180 or to any ABS office. Data on total vehicle registrations, both new and re-registrations, is available in *Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 October 1996* (9309.0).

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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