



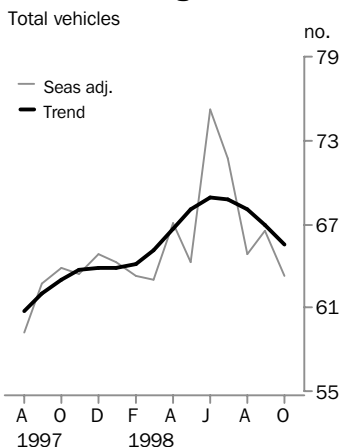
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 27 NOV 1998

OCTOBER KEY FIGURES

New vehicle registrations



TREND ESTIMATES

	Oct 1998	% change Sep 1998 to Oct 1998	% change Oct 1997 to Oct 1998
Total new motor vehicle registrations	65 527	-2.0	4.0
Passenger vehicles	55 263	-2.3	2.7
Other vehicles	10 264	-0.9	11.6

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Oct 1998	% change Sep 1998 to Oct 1998	% change Oct 1997 to Oct 1998
Total new motor vehicle registrations	63 252	-4.9	-1.0
Passenger vehicles	53 069	-5.4	-2.8
Other vehicles	10 182	-2.5	9.2

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Oct 1998	% change Sep 1998 to Oct 1998	% change Oct 1997 to Oct 1998
Total new motor vehicle registrations	64 519	-1.1	-3.2
Passenger vehicles	54 600	-1.3	-5.0
Other vehicles	9 919	0.3	8.1

OCTOBER KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for new motor vehicle registrations has fallen this month by 2.0%. This continues the downward trend over the last four months since the record high in June 1998. Registrations of passenger vehicles in October 1998 fell by 2.3% and other vehicles by 0.9% compared with last month.

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

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle registrations for October 1998 fell by 4.9%. Registrations of passenger vehicles fell by 5.4% and other vehicles by 2.5%.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations decreased by 1.1% this month compared with September 1998 with passenger vehicles down by 1.3%, while other vehicles rose by 0.3%.

For further information about these and related statistics, contact Robin Walden on Brisbane 07 3222 6181, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
November 1998	24 December 1998
December 1998	29 January 1999
January 1999	26 February 1999
February 1999	26 March 1999
March 1999	30 April 1999
April 1999	28 May 1999

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

Northern Territory data was unavailable at the time of publishing and has been estimated for the month of October 1998.

TREND REVISIONS

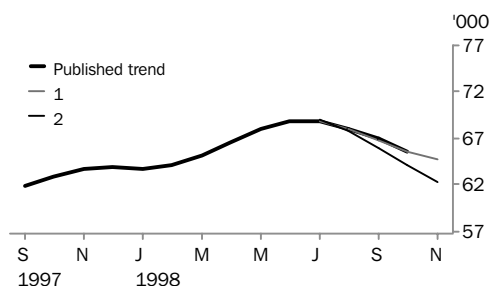
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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 4.5%.
- 2** The November seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the October seasonally adjusted estimate by -4.5%.

The percentage change of 4.5% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change, based on the last 11 years, has been 4.5%.

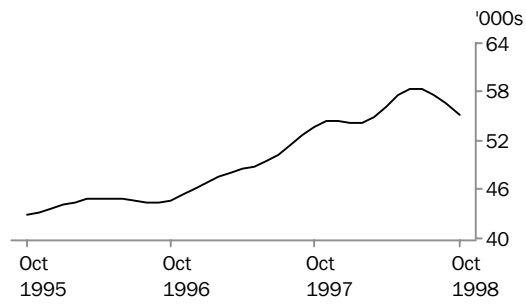
TAKE CARE!
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available.



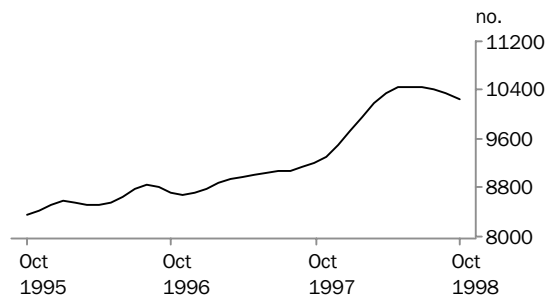
W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE: Trend series

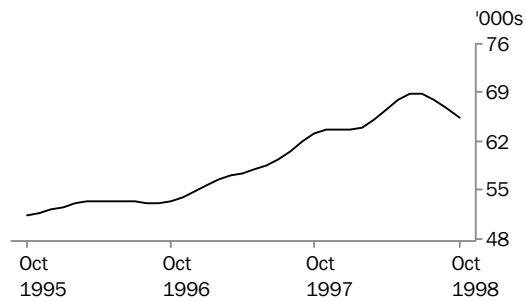
PASSENGER VEHICLES



OTHER VEHICLES



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)



NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By Type: All series(a)

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
1997			
August	49 235	8 348	57 583
September	53 726	8 789	62 515
October	57 471	9 180	66 651
November	52 945	8 521	61 466
December	58 252	9 675	67 927
1998			
January	44 164	7 163	51 327
February	50 794	9 424	60 218
March	57 735	10 567	68 302
April	50 735	9 912	60 647
May	54 185	10 868	65 053
June	73 153	14 901	88 054
July	63 188	10 781	73 969
August	54 789	9 551	64 340
September	55 336	9 893	65 229
October	54 600	9 919	64 519
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1997			
August	50 076	9 082	59 158
September	53 465	9 230	62 695
October	54 573	9 328	63 901
November	54 708	8 700	63 408
December	55 012	9 839	64 852
1998			
January	54 762	9 503	64 265
February	52 813	10 492	63 305
March	53 351	9 617	62 968
April	56 294	10 828	67 123
May	54 372	9 940	64 312
June	64 081	11 082	75 163
July	61 469	10 282	71 752
August	54 574	10 233	64 807
September	56 071	10 442	66 513
October	53 069	10 182	63 252
TREND ESTIMATES			
1997			
August	51 614	9 092	60 706
September	52 855	9 139	61 994
October	53 807	9 200	63 007
November	54 364	9 317	63 681
December	54 360	9 493	63 853
1998			
January	54 095	9 722	63 817
February	54 169	9 966	64 134
March	54 913	10 188	65 101
April	56 271	10 355	66 626
May	57 628	10 438	68 066
June	58 419	10 458	68 877
July	58 377	10 441	68 818
August	57 633	10 401	68 034
September	56 539	10 359	66 898
October	55 263	10 264	65 527

(a) Trend estimates for April 1998 to September 1998 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
1997								
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	52 945	6 927	891	328	120	255	61 466	2 452
December	58 252	7 926	1 019	351	103	276	67 927	2 549
1998								
January	44 164	6 068	562	197	42	294	51 327	2 181
February	50 794	7 909	859	270	77	309	60 218	2 231
March	57 735	8 800	994	354	85	334	68 302	2 123
April	50 735	8 153	1 003	341	105	310	60 647	2 185
May	54 185	9 031	1 038	353	101	345	65 053	2 013
June	73 153	12 702	1 275	418	104	402	88 054	2 145
July	63 188	8 760	1 178	372	110	361	73 969	2 333
August	54 789	7 700	1 040	413	85	313	64 340	2 276
September	55 336	8 012	1 132	327	127	295	65 229	2 681
October	54 600	7 932	1 076	401	165	345	64 519	2 734

NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By State: All series(a)

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
ORIGINAL									
1997									
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	21 056	15 252	11 265	4 199	6 533	1 108	619	1 434	61 466
December	21 879	17 038	13 152	4 483	6 977	2 153	644	1 601	67 927
1998									
January	17 342	12 273	9 884	3 366	5 862	925	574	1 101	51 327
February	20 840	14 996	11 176	3 980	6 290	1 007	641	1 288	60 218
March	23 659	17 029	12 646	4 348	6 959	1 224	873	1 564	68 302
April	20 571	14 962	11 760	4 063	6 190	1 033	750	1 318	60 647
May	22 357	16 074	11 489	4 379	7 456	1 242	784	1 272	65 053
June	29 143	21 013	18 552	5 761	8 977	1 600	1 212	1 796	88 054
July	25 440	18 620	13 800	5 092	7 239	1 497	648	1 633	73 969
August	21 692	16 286	12 018	4 540	6 386	1 351	638	1 429	64 340
September	22 314	16 597	12 434	4 166	6 378	1 496	606	1 238	65 229
October	21 876	16 796	12 047	4 237	6 509	1 231	643	1 180	64 519
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1997									
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	1 265	677	1 276	62 695
October	21 650	16 108	11 775	4 110	6 935	1 268	668	1 387	63 901
November	21 507	15 996	11 873	4 167	6 563	1 144	650	1 507	63 408
December	21 335	16 179	12 332	4 537	6 726	1 400	762	1 581	64 852
1998									
January	22 083	15 915	12 002	4 300	6 569	1 268	787	1 342	64 265
February	21 760	15 503	12 190	4 033	6 464	1 206	758	1 390	63 305
March	20 725	15 604	12 342	3 961	6 667	1 338	788	1 542	62 968
April	22 791	16 465	12 740	4 597	6 895	1 448	762	1 425	67 123
May	21 923	16 210	11 064	4 472	7 355	1 276	669	1 343	64 312
June	24 020	18 624	15 413	5 018	8 054	1 590	911	1 532	75 163
July	25 391	17 595	13 096	4 990	7 137	1 419	591	1 534	71 752
August	21 528	16 216	12 139	4 658	6 914	1 307	699	1 346	64 807
September	23 601	16 855	12 496	4 044	6 416	1 286	636	1 180	66 513
October	22 268	16 110	11 538	4 098	6 238	1 161	641	1 198	63 252
TREND ESTIMATES									
1997									
August	20 558	15 108	11 532	3 925	6 406	1 273	646	1 258	60 706
September	20 897	15 586	11 711	4 036	6 526	1 265	649	1 324	61 994
October	21 206	15 912	11 837	4 138	6 602	1 258	670	1 384	63 007
November	21 448	16 030	11 973	4 207	6 632	1 257	702	1 433	63 681
December	21 567	15 954	12 049	4 226	6 608	1 260	730	1 460	63 853
1998									
January	21 572	15 830	12 101	4 220	6 603	1 273	754	1 464	63 817
February	21 651	15 856	12 193	4 234	6 675	1 302	770	1 454	64 134
March	21 910	16 079	12 382	4 318	6 848	1 340	776	1 449	65 101
April	22 361	16 456	12 656	4 466	7 081	1 381	770	1 454	66 626
May	22 841	16 842	12 892	4 614	7 258	1 409	753	1 457	68 066
June	23 199	17 094	13 004	4 701	7 293	1 413	731	1 443	68 877
July	23 366	17 142	12 945	4 686	7 180	1 390	706	1 404	68 818
August	23 337	17 022	12 746	4 583	6 968	1 346	680	1 351	68 034
September	23 199	16 822	12 470	4 440	6 722	1 295	656	1 292	66 898
October	22 925	16 569	12 173	4 265	6 470	1 244	638	1 243	65 527

(a) Trend estimates for April 1998 to September 1998 have been revised.

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Top Make/models: **Original**—October 1998

<i>Make/Model</i>	<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>Victoria</i>	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>South Australia</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>	<i>Tasmania</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Australian Capital Territory</i>	Australia
Holden									
Commodore/Calais	2 508	2 227	1 271	662	629	164	30	178	7 669
Vectra	229	278	81	79	49	9	2	14	741
Barina	242	157	113	62	51	9	2	9	645
Other	286	289	166	85	108	24	7	16	981
Total	3 265	2 951	1 631	888	837	206	41	217	10 036
Toyota									
Camry/Vienta	1 278	981	588	160	358	68	44	55	3 532
Corolla	1 064	619	423	120	299	69	39	65	2 698
Starlet	465	211	175	56	108	15	26	19	1 075
Other	853	503	554	131	304	46	41	33	2 465
Total	3 660	2 314	1 740	467	1 069	198	150	172	9 770
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	2 334	2 243	1 239	402	643	85	35	144	7 125
Festiva	250	280	227	100	71	17	6	9	960
Laser	201	180	127	38	70	17	3	15	651
Other	167	272	109	33	58	14	8	9	670
Total	2 952	2 975	1 702	573	842	133	52	177	9 406
Mitsubishi									
Magna	714	556	543	443	184	52	23	75	2 590
Lancer	425	450	226	102	120	17	12	27	1 379
Mirage	368	107	95	26	49	5	2	13	665
Other	259	178	170	50	102	12	10	8	789
Total	1 766	1 291	1 034	621	455	86	47	123	5 423
Hyundai									
Excel	1 004	571	561	212	493	48	27	49	2 965
Lantra	189	112	77	46	122	23	5	7	581
Sonata	147	94	69	22	48	10	4	3	397
Other	27	14	9	4	8	1	1		64
Total	1 367	791	716	284	671	82	37	59	4 007
Nissan									
Pulsar	598	485	445	119	189	75	15	63	1 989
Patrol	282	179	265	54	121	9	15	14	939
Maxima	47	90	55	4	29	1	2	3	231
Other	70	62	61	10	14	2	1	4	224
Total	997	816	826	187	353	87	33	84	3 383
Mazda									
323	315	251	137	57	104	18		18	900
626	160	132	43	12	38	3	1	11	400
121	115	70	69	12	45	10	3	5	329
Other	91	64	26	11	16	3		4	215
Total	681	517	275	92	203	34	4	38	1 844

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 system 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 more 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, enquiries should be made to Robin Walden on 07 3222 6181 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.

G L O S S A R Y

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 seats or more, 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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