

# NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA  
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30AM THURS 23 MAY 1996

## APRIL KEY FIGURES

### TREND ESTIMATES

	Apr 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	55 102	1.1	1.0
Passenger vehicles	45 686	0.8	1.3
Other vehicles	9 416	2.3	-0.3

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Apr 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	55 427	3.7	-1.4
Passenger vehicles	45 921	3.2	-0.6
Other vehicles	9 507	6.2	-4.6

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Apr 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	50 138	-8.5	5.1
Passenger vehicles	41 710	-8.5	5.7
Other vehicles	8 428	-8.8	2.2

## APRIL KEY POINTS

### TREND ESTIMATES

- The upward trend for new motor vehicle registrations since October 1995 continued in April 1996 with an increase of 1.1% over March 1996. Passenger vehicles continued to increase steadily while other vehicles showed a higher rate of increase. All States have continued the upward trend since October 1995 except for Tasmania and both Territories, which have been essentially flat since October 1995.

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

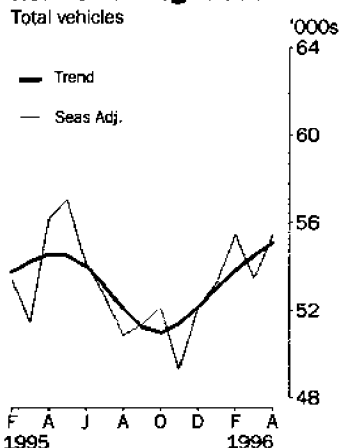
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations for April 1996 rose by 3.7% compared with the previous month. Passenger vehicle registrations rose 3.2% over March 1996, while other vehicle registrations increased 6.2% during the same period.

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- The number of April 1996 registrations decreased for all vehicle types, excluding articulated trucks. All States and Territories recorded falls except for New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

### New vehicle registrations



## INQUIRIES

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

# NEW MOTOR VEHICLE NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
May 1996	28 June 1996
June 1996	26 July 1996
July 1996	23 August 1996

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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.

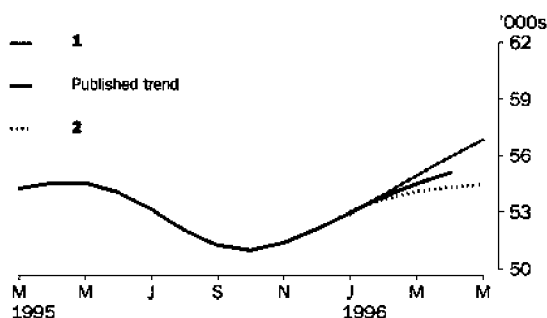
The graph below presents the effect of two possible scenarios on the previous trend estimates:

**1** The May seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the April seasonally adjusted estimate by 5.2%.

**2** The May seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the April seasonally adjusted estimate by -5.2%.

The percentage change of 5.2% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change, based on the last 11 years, has been 5.2%.

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

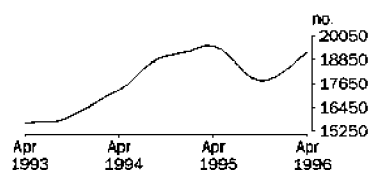


An increase of 5.2% in total seasonally adjusted new vehicle registrations in May 1996 would result in a continuation in the rate of increase in the revised trend from October 1995. A similar fall in the May 1996 seasonally adjusted figure would result in a flattening of the revised trend.

W. McLennan  
Australian Statistician

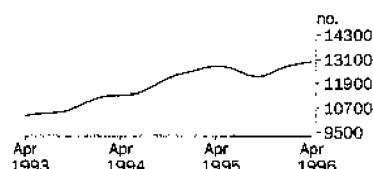
# VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY STATE: Trend series

## NEW SOUTH WALES



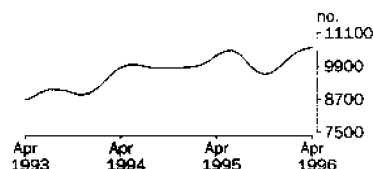
The trend has shown consecutive rises since the low in October 1995 but remains 1.6 per cent below the high in March 1995.

## VICTORIA



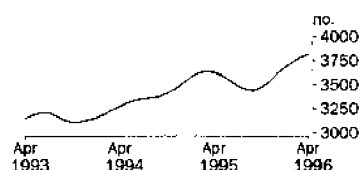
The trend has risen over the last seven months and April 1996 is 1.7% above the previous high in April 1995 and 30.7% above the April 1992 level.

## QUEENSLAND



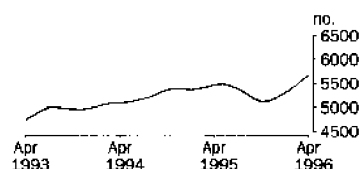
The trend level has risen in each of the last six months and April 1996 was 10.7% above the October 1995 low.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA



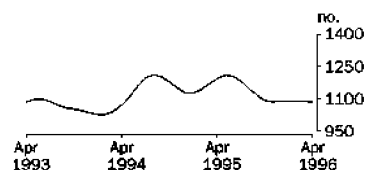
The trend has been rising steadily since the recent low in September 1995 and is now 4.9% above the previous high in March 1995.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA



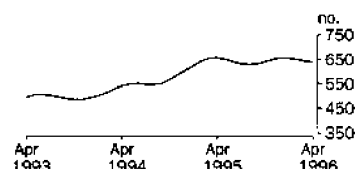
The April 1996 trend level continued the rise of the previous five months to be 3.5 % above the peak in May 1995 and 19.8% above April 1993.

## TASMANIA



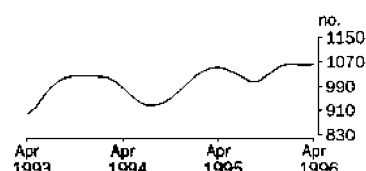
The trend level has flattened since December 1995 and is now 10.1% below the peak recorded in May 1994 but 7.1% above the April 1992 level.

## NORTHERN TERRITORY



The April 1996 trend series has continued the decline since January 1996 and is now 2.7% below the peaks of April and December 1995.

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



The trend has flattened over the last four months after a steady rise from August 1995 to January 1996. April 1996 is 24.8% higher than the April 1992 level.

# NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By Type: All Series

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
<b>1995</b>			
February	41 292	7 900	49 192
March	47 264	9 982	57 246
April	39 470	8 250	47 720
May	52 556	11 566	64 122
June	47 511	12 308	59 819
July	43 723	9 196	52 919
August	45 920	8 215	54 135
September	41 305	7 980	49 285
October	45 179	8 310	53 489
November	43 685	8 266	51 951
December	42 944	7 721	50 665
<b>1996</b>			
January	37 422	7 037	44 459
February	44 645	8 590	53 235
March	45 567	9 239	54 806
April	41 710	8 428	50 138
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
<b>1995</b>			
February	44 471	8 931	53 402
March	42 540	8 928	51 468
April	46 219	9 969	56 188
May	47 388	9 696	57 083
June	44 433	9 684	54 116
July	44 032	8 688	52 720
August	42 434	8 427	50 860
September	42 697	8 643	51 340
October	43 792	8 325	52 117
November	41 573	7 724	49 298
December	43 744	8 379	52 123
<b>1996</b>			
January	44 370	8 886	53 256
February	46 068	9 425	55 493
March	44 486	8 955	53 441
April	45 921	9 507	55 427
TREND ESTIMATES <sup>1</sup>			
<b>1995</b>			
February	44 547	9 252	53 799
March	44 896	9 360	54 255
April	45 122	9 443	54 565
May	45 097	9 451	54 548
June	44 712	9 319	54 031
July	44 101	9 041	53 142
August	43 398	8 680	52 078
September	42 862	8 380	51 242
October	42 730	8 237	50 968
November	43 081	8 294	51 375
December	43 652	8 486	52 138
<b>1996</b>			
January	44 258	8 731	52 989
February	44 822	8 980	53 803
March	45 306	9 206	54 512
April	45 686	9 416	55 102

<sup>1</sup> Trend estimates for October 1995 to March 1996 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
<b>1995</b>								
February	41 292	6 365	830	293	28	384	49 192	1 686
March	47 264	8 196	964	360	78	384	57 246	1 848
April	39 470	6 772	723	317	83	355	47 720	1 458
May	52 556	9 477	1 130	429	83	447	64 122	1 960
June	47 511	9 725	1 229	718	98	538	59 819	1 590
July	43 723	7 547	965	229	98	357	52 919	1 686
August	45 920	6 611	870	227	113	394	54 135	1 751
September	41 305	6 434	867	210	124	345	49 285	1 732
October	45 179	6 680	907	273	62	388	53 489	1 775
November	43 685	6 610	871	303	91	391	51 951	2 251
December	42 944	6 250	776	252	81	362	50 665	1 991
<b>1996</b>								
January	37 422	5 867	599	159	83	329	44 459	2 002
February	44 645	7 257	692	202	109	330	53 235	1 851
March	45 567	7 804	743	234	103	355	54 806	2 025
April	41 710	7 072	710	246	66	334	50 138	1 843

# 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									
<b>1995</b>									
February	17 808	11 740	8 868	3 365	5 008	1 003	530	870	49 192
March	20 896	14 066	9 602	4 025	5 593	1 097	774	1 193	57 246
April	17 485	10 211	10 755	2 786	4 359	819	537	768	47 720
May	22 787	15 465	11 568	4 342	6 355	1 356	976	1 273	64 122
June	20 519	15 586	9 555	4 184	6 558	1 214	956	1 247	59 819
July	19 063	10 489	13 234	2 992	4 676	1 029	534	902	52 919
August	18 859	13 678	9 124	3 963	5 416	1 269	680	1 146	54 135
September	16 345	12 123	9 450	3 452	4 986	1 260	604	1 065	49 285
October	18 775	12 317	10 747	3 647	5 132	1 280	656	935	53 489
November	18 230	13 017	8 456	3 751	5 804	853	688	1 152	51 951
December	16 775	12 067	9 544	3 552	5 410	1 734	539	1 044	50 665
<b>1996</b>									
January	15 632	10 164	9 558	2 829	4 019	873	506	878	44 459
February	18 144	13 258	9 690	3 832	5 781	989	550	991	53 235
March	18 319	13 142	10 992	3 867	5 909	961	666	950	54 806
April	18 369	11 515	9 482	3 292	5 074	817	617	972	50 138
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
<b>1995</b>									
February	19 369	12 430	9 917	3 609	5 267	1 196	642	972	53 402
March	18 375	12 720	8 884	3 602	5 049	1 099	673	1 066	51 468
April	21 028	12 088	11 772	3 430	5 211	1 105	586	967	56 188
May	19 280	13 705	10 456	4 145	6 145	1 411	800	1 140	57 083
June	18 512	13 678	9 426	3 702	5 713	1 194	790	1 101	54 116
July	19 190	10 875	12 000	3 088	5 041	1 081	499	945	52 720
August	17 670	12 523	9 075	3 624	5 162	1 173	639	994	50 860
September	17 512	12 667	9 752	3 419	5 187	1 131	652	1 021	51 340
October	18 904	11 790	10 069	3 448	5 130	1 199	636	939	52 117
November	16 395	12 940	8 575	3 441	5 340	847	663	1 098	49 298
December	18 469	12 184	9 378	3 763	5 407	1 177	650	1 095	52 123
<b>1996</b>									
January	18 486	12 684	11 220	3 508	4 457	1 151	671	1 080	53 256
February	18 911	13 519	10 558	3 880	5 749	1 127	656	1 093	55 493
March	17 448	12 881	11 038	3 778	5 731	1 015	631	919	53 441
April	20 649	12 640	9 709	3 771	5 795	1 095	631	1 136	55 427
TREND ESTIMATES <sup>1</sup>									
<b>1995</b>									
February	19 398	12 632	9 935	3 622	5 387	1 143	644	1 038	53 799
March	19 522	12 717	10 078	3 638	5 428	1 169	655	1 048	54 255
April	19 508	12 778	10 273	3 628	5 475	1 191	658	1 052	54 565
May	19 346	12 763	10 447	3 594	5 491	1 209	652	1 047	54 548
June	19 013	12 654	10 486	3 543	5 454	1 205	641	1 034	54 031
July	18 602	12 501	10 320	3 493	5 392	1 181	633	1 020	53 142
August	18 191	12 340	10 003	3 455	5 303	1 149	630	1 007	52 078
September	17 903	12 246	9 700	3 441	5 195	1 116	632	1 008	51 242
October	17 769	12 283	9 571	3 466	5 123	1 094	641	1 022	50 968
November	17 822	12 442	9 670	3 528	5 132	1 089	651	1 041	51 375
December	17 988	12 642	9 892	3 606	5 203	1 091	658	1 058	52 138
<b>1996</b>									
January	18 262	12 767	10 186	3 669	5 296	1 091	655	1 063	52 989
February	18 579	12 865	10 410	3 728	5 416	1 091	650	1 062	53 803
March	18 915	12 937	10 532	3 781	5 551	1 090	645	1 061	54 512
April	19 217	13 000	10 595	3 817	5 684	1 087	640	1 062	55 102

<sup>1</sup> Trend estimates for October 1995 to March 1996 have been revised.

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Selected Make/Models: **Original**— April 1996

<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>	<i>Australia</i>
<b>Ford</b>									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 904	1 635	999	309	603	85	40	153	5 728
Festiva	383	222	196	95	88	13	18	15	1 030
Laser	308	141	110	44	36	6	6	15	666
Other	354	300	170	65	115	10	11	21	1 046
Total	2 949	2 298	1 475	513	842	114	75	204	9 470
<b>Holden</b>									
Commodore/Calais	2 477	1 648	1 321	759	609	137	65	218	7 234
Barina	350	214	169	44	108	19	4	26	934
Statesman/Caprice	166	104	87	26	44	7	1	7	442
Other	192	175	91	29	75	6	..	8	576
Total	3 185	2 141	1 668	858	836	169	70	259	9 186
<b>Hyundai</b>									
Excel	1 132	551	481	108	459	30	12	50	2 823
Lantra	205	121	67	27	74	17	8	9	528
Sonata	95	47	44	8	41	4	6	2	247
Other	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Total	1 436	721	592	143	574	51	26	61	3 604
<b>Mazda</b>									
323	252	172	102	49	50	11	8	13	657
121	207	76	126	34	37	13	26	23	542
626	77	76	30	14	21	2	1	3	224
Other	59	40	26	6	10	2	1	4	148
Total	595	364	284	103	118	28	36	43	1 571
<b>Mitsubishi</b>									
Magna	613	505	362	251	168	35	21	54	2 009
Lancer	252	147	145	43	60	12	4	10	673
Pajero	160	48	98	22	44	7	4	4	387
Other	62	34	26	25	21	3	1	5	177
Total	1 087	734	631	341	293	57	30	73	3 246
<b>Nissan</b>									
Pulsar	119	70	81	29	27	3	27	6	362
Micra	120	82	73	28	17	7	..	11	338
Patrol	90	46	78	17	41	3	5	2	282
Other	127	81	108	12	18	8	3	7	364
Total	456	279	340	86	103	21	35	26	1 346
<b>Toyota</b>									
Corolla	921	371	341	179	176	36	22	55	2 101
Camry	584	312	281	43	137	28	45	17	1 447
Landcruiser	249	180	237	61	162	10	21	8	928
Other	1 034	463	394	85	187	26	48	36	2 273
Total	2 788	1 326	1 253	368	662	100	136	116	6 749

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

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### INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents monthly data for registrations of new motor vehicles.

**2** The statistics in this publication are based on procedures using the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), adopted by the State and Territory motor vehicle registration authorities. The VIN system 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 the State and Territory motor vehicle registration authorities. The statistics reflect the information recorded in registration documents. With the exception of New South Wales and Queensland, the statistics shown do not depart significantly from actual registrations during the period.

In the case of both New South Wales and Queensland, a number of registrations processed in a month actually relate to vehicles registered prior to that month. Because of the lags from purchase to registration, and processing lags, the published statistics for the period can vary from actual sales of new vehicles for the same period.

**4** 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

**5** 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.

**6** 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).

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

**8** 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.

**9** Seasonal adjustment factors are analysed and revised as necessary annually.



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**TREND ESTIMATES**

**10** 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.

**11** 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 (06) 252 6345.

**RELATED PUBLICATIONS**

**12** For a more detailed break-up of the monthly figures presented here, inquiries should be made to Clare Newman 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, 30 June 1993* (9309.0).

**SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES**

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

## GLOSSARY

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<b>Articulated trucks</b>	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.
<b>Buses</b>	Includes all passenger vehicles having more than nine seats, including the driver.
<b>Light commercial vehicles</b>	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).
<b>Motor cycles</b>	Includes 2 and 3 wheeled mopeds, scooters, motor tricycles and motor cycles with side cars.
<b>Non-freight carrying trucks</b>	Includes specialist vehicles such as ambulances, mobile cranes or vehicles fitted with special purpose equipment and having no goods carrying capacity.
<b>Passenger vehicles</b>	Includes cars, station wagons, four-wheel drive passenger vehicles and forward control passenger vehicles with up to nine seats (including the driver).
<b>Registrations</b>	This includes all registrations processed by the motor vehicle registration authorities in the States and Territories during the relevant period.
<b>Rigid trucks</b>	Vehicles constructed primarily for load carrying with a gross vehicle mass of 3.5 tonnes or more.
<b>VIN</b>	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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