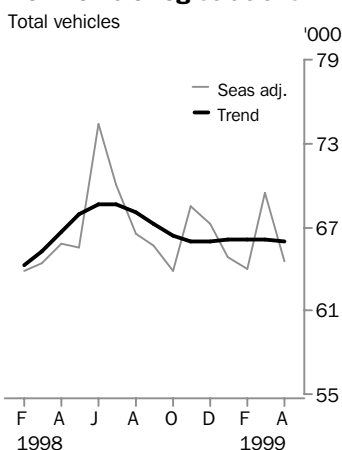


NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 28 MAY 1999

New vehicle registrations



APRIL KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

	Apr 1999	% change Mar 1999 to Apr 1999	% change Apr 1998 to Apr 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	66 015	-0.1	-1.0
Passenger vehicles	55 710	0.3	-1.1
Other vehicles	10 305	-1.9	0.0

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Apr 1999	% change Mar 1999 to Apr 1999	% change Apr 1998 to Apr 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	64 550	-7.0	-1.8
Passenger vehicles	54 950	-6.2	-0.7
Other vehicles	9 600	-11.6	-8.0

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Apr 1999	% change Mar 1999 to Apr 1999	% change Apr 1998 to Apr 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	58 403	-23.4	-3.7
Passenger vehicles	49 649	-22.4	-2.1
Other vehicles	8 754	-28.2	-11.7

APRIL KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations fell by 0.1% this month continuing the gradual fall from 66 137 recorded in January 1999. Registrations of passenger vehicles rose during this period while those for other vehicles fell.

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

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Seasonally adjusted total new motor vehicle registrations fell by 7.0% this month from the March 1999 figure of 69 415. Passenger vehicles fell this month by 6.2% and other vehicles fell by 11.6%.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- In original terms, the April 1999 estimates for new motor vehicle registrations fell by 23.4% from the March 1999 total of 76 201. Registrations of passenger vehicles and other vehicles both rose each month from January 1999 to March 1999 before falling 22.4% and 28.2% respectively this month.

- 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

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
May 1999	25 June 1999
June 1999	30 July 1999
July 1999	27 August 1999
August 1999	24 September 1999
September 1999	29 October 1999
October 1999	26 November 1999

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

Some data were unavailable for Western Australia and New South Wales at the time of publishing and these were estimated for the month of April 1999.

A new processing system was introduced by the Queensland Registry in April 1999.

TREND REVISIONS

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

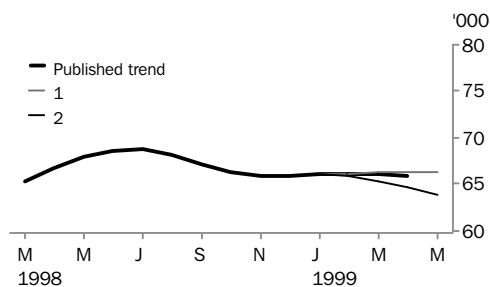
The graph below presents the effect of two possible scenarios on the previous trend estimates:

1 The May seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the April seasonally adjusted estimate by 4.5%.

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

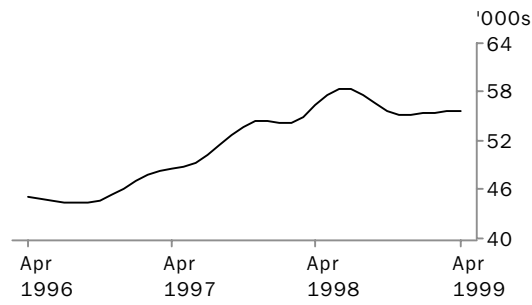
TAKE CARE!
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available.



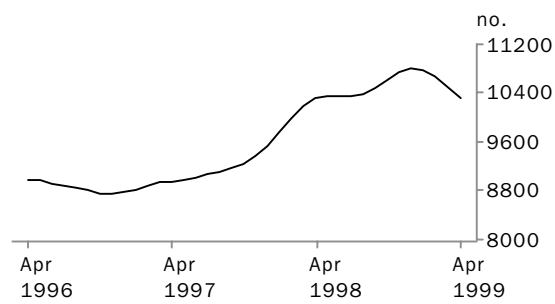
W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE: Trend series

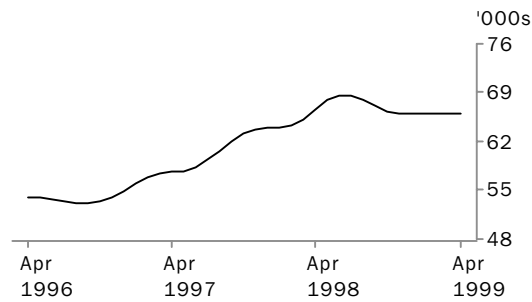
PASSENGER VEHICLES



OTHER VEHICLES



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)



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

<i>Month</i>	<i>Passenger vehicles</i>	<i>Other vehicles</i>	<i>Total</i>
ORIGINAL			
1998			
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	54 632	9 986	64 618
November	57 161	10 679	67 840
December	60 418	10 667	71 085
1999			
January	42 137	7 954	50 091
February	50 775	9 557	60 332
March	64 011	12 190	76 201
April	49 649	8 754	58 403
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1998			
February	53 502	10 347	63 849
March	54 396	9 942	64 338
April	55 315	10 432	65 747
May	55 372	10 095	65 467
June	63 566	10 809	74 375
July	59 927	10 153	70 080
August	56 044	10 411	66 455
September	55 385	10 254	65 639
October	53 456	10 429	63 885
November	57 457	11 079	68 536
December	56 523	10 680	67 203
1999			
January	53 657	11 228	64 884
February	53 440	10 477	63 916
March	58 555	10 861	69 415
April	54 950	9 600	64 550
TREND ESTIMATES			
1998			
February	54 262	9 983	64 245
March	55 039	10 176	65 214
April	56 347	10 303	66 650
May	57 599	10 349	67 948
June	58 312	10 356	68 667
July	58 323	10 359	68 682
August	57 722	10 397	68 119
September	56 712	10 479	67 191
October	55 737	10 613	66 349
November	55 177	10 749	65 926
December	55 168	10 821	65 989
1999			
January	55 348	10 789	66 137
February	55 455	10 669	66 125
March	55 564	10 504	66 068
April	55 710	10 305	66 015

(a) Trend estimates for October 1998 to March 1999 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
1998								
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	54 632	7 987	1 077	401	176	345	64 618	2 692
November	57 161	8 853	1 099	358	107	262	67 840	2 869
December	60 418	8 732	1 222	295	111	307	71 085	2 740
1999								
January	42 137	6 823	625	207	43	256	50 091	2 178
February	50 775	7 996	942	247	57	315	60 332	2 451
March	64 011	10 230	1 215	310	111	324	76 201	2 720
April	49 649	7 202	965	269	68	250	58 403	2 236

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									
1998									
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	21 881	16 794	12 048	4 237	6 515	1 233	730	1 180	64 618
November	23 924	17 170	12 658	4 475	6 443	1 324	609	1 237	67 840
December	23 041	18 902	13 934	4 342	7 060	1 773	684	1 349	71 085
1999									
January	17 168	12 677	9 449	3 045	5 402	976	442	932	50 091
February	20 483	15 786	11 371	3 923	6 104	928	650	1 087	60 332
March	26 240	19 529	14 784	4 809	7 395	1 227	916	1 301	76 201
April	19 456	17 001	9 497	3 816	5 676	1 098	826	1 033	58 403
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1998									
February	21 898	15 721	12 212	4 100	6 536	1 240	752	1 390	63 849
March	21 609	15 757	12 526	4 067	6 708	1 381	777	1 512	64 338
April	22 275	16 366	12 117	4 526	6 871	1 376	733	1 483	65 747
May	21 952	16 506	11 832	4 653	7 220	1 296	707	1 300	65 467
June	24 258	18 201	15 194	4 804	7 902	1 623	881	1 513	74 375
July	24 796	17 351	12 371	4 911	7 147	1 368	630	1 504	70 080
August	22 355	16 584	12 695	4 588	6 872	1 313	700	1 348	66 455
September	23 217	16 610	12 139	4 102	6 459	1 273	614	1 225	65 639
October	21 731	16 347	11 940	4 232	6 478	1 198	726	1 233	63 885
November	23 212	17 208	14 123	4 340	6 397	1 371	672	1 214	68 536
December	23 117	17 385	12 946	4 092	6 436	1 118	759	1 352	67 203
1999									
January	22 177	17 392	11 825	4 111	6 228	1 372	620	1 159	64 884
February	21 504	16 544	12 409	4 037	6 339	1 149	761	1 173	63 916
March	23 601	17 719	13 323	4 372	7 170	1 306	756	1 169	69 415
April	21 100	18 966	10 509	4 224	6 232	1 490	868	1 161	64 550
TREND ESTIMATES									
1998									
February	21 647	15 935	12 231	4 241	6 677	1 306	756	1 452	64 245
March	21 936	16 148	12 413	4 336	6 825	1 344	766	1 447	65 214
April	22 415	16 484	12 647	4 474	7 033	1 384	764	1 449	66 650
May	22 903	16 818	12 812	4 605	7 203	1 407	752	1 449	67 948
June	23 248	17 028	12 890	4 679	7 249	1 410	731	1 433	68 667
July	23 390	17 077	12 889	4 665	7 163	1 388	711	1 399	68 682
August	23 332	17 011	12 844	4 569	6 967	1 349	694	1 354	68 119
September	23 105	16 904	12 758	4 419	6 710	1 304	681	1 309	67 191
October	22 836	16 816	12 719	4 275	6 493	1 264	675	1 271	66 349
November	22 633	16 842	12 723	4 182	6 385	1 240	680	1 241	65 926
December	22 537	17 012	12 738	4 149	6 390	1 242	697	1 222	65 989
1999									
January	22 474	17 251	12 630	4 156	6 438	1 260	719	1 210	66 137
February	22 342	17 507	12 396	4 172	6 485	1 286	744	1 193	66 125
March	22 171	17 784	12 120	4 194	6 530	1 320	772	1 176	66 068
April	22 054	18 070	11 812	4 208	6 559	1 357	796	1 159	66 015

(a) Trend estimates for October 1998 to March 1999 have been revised.

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Top Make/models: **Original**—April 1999

<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	1 845	2 004	966	470	579	113	80	141	6 198
Vectra	229	305	95	54	44	12	3	15	757
Astra	235	169	86	39	49	7	3	11	599
Other	356	303	175	94	112	13	6	18	1 077
Total	2 665	2 781	1 322	657	784	145	92	185	8 631
Toyota									
Camry/Vienta	1 173	789	393	157	240	59	53	72	2 936
Corolla	915	645	249	126	203	34	71	42	2 285
Landcruiser	238	200	196	63	116	16	30	15	874
Other	627	422	327	96	157	43	44	27	1 743
Total	2 953	2 056	1 165	442	716	152	198	156	7 838
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 577	1 710	740	268	524	66	101	94	5 080
Festiva	285	301	211	153	115	20	24	20	1 129
Laser	213	196	90	46	73	5	1	9	633
Other	191	247	118	29	58	9	5	12	669
Total	2 266	2 454	1 159	496	770	100	131	135	7 511
Hyundai									
Excel	1 565	1 422	967	319	547	118	40	61	5 039
Lantra	289	221	160	35	149	33	11	13	911
Sonata	67	78	50	16	56	5	2	4	278
Other	6	20	5	2	1		1		35
Total	1 927	1 741	1 182	372	753	156	54	78	6 263
Mitsubishi									
Magna	493	442	204	372	172	31	25	65	1 804
Lancer	294	298	107	50	92	16	13	32	902
Pajero	199	154	98	17	65	11	6	6	556
Other	322	200	93	40	59	8	7	21	750
Total	1 308	1 094	502	479	388	66	51	124	4 012
Nissan									
Pulsar	529	411	229	65	140	21	28	45	1 468
Patrol	201	171	170	50	116	14	20	8	750
Pathfinder	95	72	50	12	27	1	1	4	262
Other	41	51	51	13	9	4	1	2	172
Total	866	705	500	140	292	40	50	59	2 652
Honda									
Civic	264	248	48	22	56	12	2	6	658
CRV	179	191	66	33	49	12	3	7	540
Accord	97	87	31	12	23	5	2	6	263
Other	185	157	36	14	32	7	1	5	437
Total	725	683	181	81	160	36	8	24	1 898

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* (Cat. no. 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. Additional statistics, including registrations of trailers and caravans, are also available in the Special Data Service, *New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia* (9303.0.40.003). Data on total vehicle registrations are published annually in *Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 October 1997* (Cat. no. 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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Brisbane	07 3222 6351	07 3222 6283
Perth	08 9360 5140	08 9360 5955
Adelaide	08 8237 7400	08 8237 7566
Hobart	03 6222 5800	03 6222 5995
Darwin	08 8943 2111	08 8981 1218



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