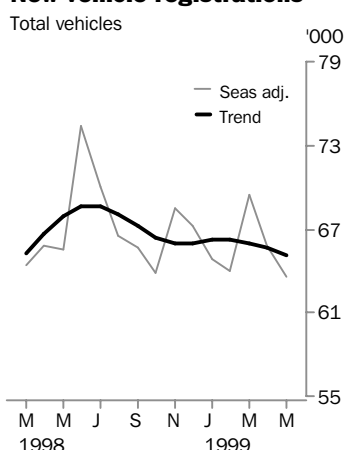


# NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA  
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 25 JUN 1999

## New vehicle registrations



## MAY KEY FIGURES

### TREND ESTIMATES

	May 1999	% change Apr 1999 to May 1999	% change May 1998 to May 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	65 155	-0.8	-4.1
Passenger vehicles	55 117	-0.5	-4.3
Other vehicles	10 038	-2.2	-3.0

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	May 1999	% change Apr 1999 to May 1999	% change May 1998 to May 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	63 515	-3.5	-3.0
Passenger vehicles	53 602	-4.3	-3.2
Other vehicles	9 913	1.1	-1.8

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	May 1999	% change Apr 1999 to May 1999	% change May 1998 to May 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	63 900	7.3	-1.8
Passenger vehicles	53 046	4.8	-2.1
Other vehicles	10 854	21.5	-0.1

## MAY KEY POINTS

### TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations fell by 0.8% this month continuing the decline since January 1999. Registrations of both passenger vehicles and other vehicles fell during this period.

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

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Seasonally adjusted total new motor vehicle registrations fell by 3.5% this month. Registrations of passenger vehicles fell this month while registrations of other vehicles rose.

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- In original terms, the May 1999 estimates for new motor vehicle registrations rose by 7.3% from the April 1999 total of 59 570 but remain below the March 1999 total of 76 201. Registrations of passenger vehicles and of other vehicles rose by 4.8% and 21.5% respectively from the April 1999 estimates.

- 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
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
November 1999	24 December 1999

.....

## CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

April 1999 reference month data for New South Wales have been revised from last month's publication. Data estimated in the April 1999 publication have been replaced with data supplied after the time of the April publication.

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## TREND REVISIONS

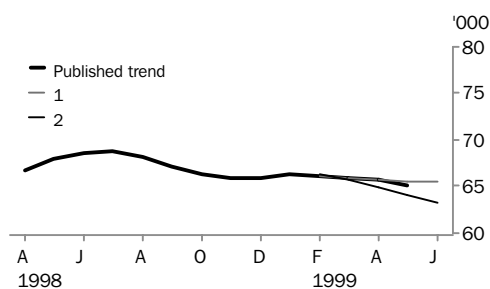
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

- 1 The June seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the May seasonally adjusted estimate by 4.5%.
- 2 The June seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the May 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%.

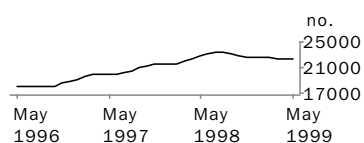
**TAKE CARE!**  
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available.



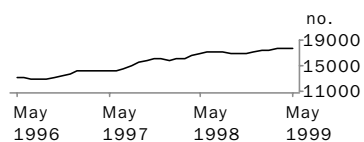
W. McLennan  
Australian Statistician

# VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY STATE: Trend series

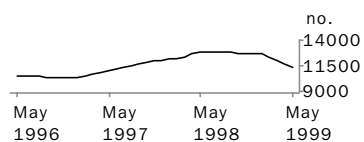
## NEW SOUTH WALES



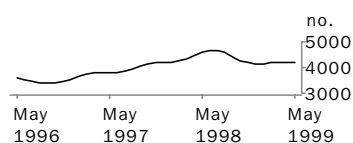
## VICTORIA



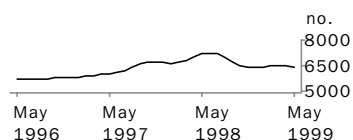
## QUEENSLAND



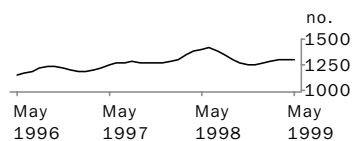
## SOUTH AUSTRALIA



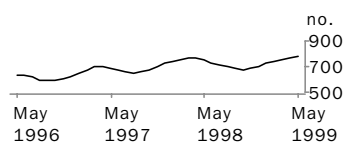
## WESTERN AUSTRALIA



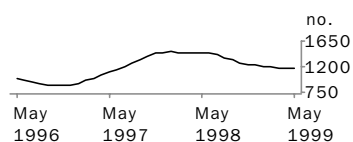
## TASMANIA



## NORTHERN TERRITORY



## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



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

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
<b>1998</b>			
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
<b>1999</b>			
January	42 137	7 954	50 091
February	50 775	9 557	60 332
March	64 011	12 190	76 201
April	50 635	8 935	59 570
May	53 046	10 854	63 900
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
<b>1998</b>			
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
<b>1999</b>			
January	53 657	11 228	64 884
February	53 440	10 477	63 916
March	58 555	10 861	69 415
April	56 008	9 805	65 814
May	53 602	9 913	63 515
TREND ESTIMATES			
<b>1998</b>			
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	55 716	10 609	66 325
November	55 163	10 756	65 919
December	55 169	10 840	66 008
<b>1999</b>			
January	55 423	10 811	66 234
February	55 504	10 671	66 175
March	55 473	10 474	65 946
April	55 402	10 260	65 661
May	55 117	10 038	65 155

(a) Trend estimates for November 1998 to April 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
<b>1998</b>								
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
<b>1999</b>								
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	50 635	7 384	953	268	80	250	59 570	2 209
May	53 046	8 981	1 200	342	77	254	63 900	2 509

## 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									
<b>1998</b>									
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
<b>1999</b>									
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	20 664	17 003	9 460	3 815	5 671	1 098	826	1 033	59 570
May	23 160	16 430	11 134	3 966	6 204	1 113	772	1 121	63 900
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
<b>1998</b>									
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
<b>1999</b>									
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	22 410	18 967	10 468	4 222	6 227	1 490	868	1 161	65 814
May	21 924	16 709	11 454	4 168	6 215	1 170	692	1 184	63 515
TREND ESTIMATES									
<b>1998</b>									
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	22 811	16 816	12 720	4 275	6 493	1 264	675	1 271	66 325
November	22 597	16 862	12 734	4 179	6 384	1 242	681	1 239	65 919
December	22 520	17 045	12 746	4 144	6 389	1 245	700	1 219	66 008
<b>1999</b>									
January	22 537	17 273	12 638	4 154	6 440	1 263	721	1 209	66 234
February	22 507	17 442	12 368	4 173	6 474	1 279	739	1 195	66 175
March	22 449	17 563	12 040	4 187	6 482	1 292	754	1 179	65 946
April	22 399	17 649	11 716	4 199	6 466	1 301	765	1 167	65 661
May	22 270	17 656	11 349	4 209	6 437	1 301	775	1 158	65 155

(a) Trend estimates for November 1998 to April 1999 have been revised.

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Top Make/models: **Original**—May 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>	<b><i>Australia</i></b>
<b>Holden</b>									
Commodore/Calais	1 985	1 907	1 149	511	615	93	79	123	6 462
Vectra	235	278	133	82	58	13	1	16	816
Astra	261	155	121	36	55	16	1	21	666
Other	389	433	202	118	125	14	3	11	1 295
Total	2 870	2 773	1 605	747	853	136	84	171	9 239
<b>Ford</b>									
Falcon/Fairmont	2 233	1 738	880	296	522	75	60	176	5 980
Festiva	544	371	287	175	101	14	5	17	1 514
Laser	231	157	106	39	64	12	3	12	624
Other	248	272	105	37	89	5	4	22	782
Total	3 256	2 538	1 378	547	776	106	72	227	8 900
<b>Toyota</b>									
Camry/Vienta	1 270	755	552	131	241	57	40	60	3 106
Corolla	1 082	656	344	110	245	61	77	44	2 619
Landcruiser	253	215	178	70	124	13	31	6	890
Other	819	419	403	102	170	36	46	34	2 029
Total	3 424	2 045	1 477	413	780	167	194	144	8 644
<b>Mitsubishi</b>									
Magna	503	520	270	293	139	24	46	41	1 836
Lancer	409	293	150	61	117	9	15	26	1 080
Pajero	249	134	180	40	79	11	22	18	733
Other	406	155	105	70	77	16	3	29	861
Total	1 567	1 102	705	464	412	60	86	114	4 510
<b>Hyundai</b>									
Excel	1 089	658	529	177	415	83	12	50	3 013
Lantra	331	168	138	52	145	33	6	22	895
Sonata	90	52	49	14	29	7	3	3	247
Other	13	25	11	3	7	1			60
Total	1 523	903	727	246	596	124	21	75	4 215
<b>Nissan</b>									
Pulsar	719	389	342	76	119	18	43	42	1 748
Patrol	276	203	201	57	119	14	21	3	894
Pathfinder	107	78	61	17	30	3		6	302
Other	51	55	55	10	11			3	185
Total	1 153	725	659	160	279	35	64	54	3 129
<b>Honda</b>									
CRV	397	259	103	37	96	16	7	14	929
Civic	375	284	78	46	85	14	2	12	896
Accord	121	89	47	10	34	6		4	311
Other	228	151	58	20	46	2	1	1	507
Total	1 121	783	286	113	261	38	10	31	2 643

## 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

<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>	Vehicles constructed for the carriage of passengers. Included are all passenger vehicles with 10 seats or more, including the driver's seat.
<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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	Melbourne	03 9615 7755	03 9615 7798
	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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