

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 29 AUG 1997

JULY KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

	Jul 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	58 856	0.4	9.9
Passenger vehicles	49 766	0.4	11.5
Other vehicles	9 090	0.3	2.0

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Jul 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	57 619	-8.4	12.5
Passenger vehicles	48 647	-8.8	13.1
Other vehicles	8 972	-6.0	9.2

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Jul 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	62 092	-8.3	12.9
Passenger vehicles	52 331	-5.8	13.8
Other vehicles	9 761	-19.5	8.1

JULY KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations increased in July 1997 for the tenth consecutive month, with the rate of increase continuing to weaken. Decreases were recorded in Victoria, South Australia and Northern Territory while increases occurred in the remaining States and Territories. Passenger vehicle registrations for July 1997 rose by 0.4% and other vehicle registrations by 0.3% compared with the previous month.

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

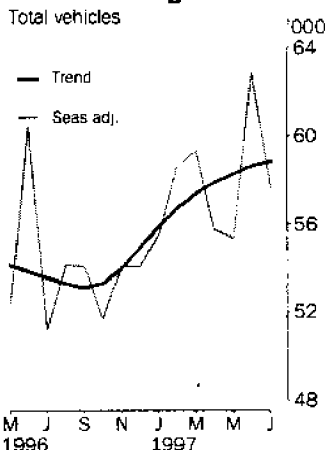
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations fell by 8.4% in July 1997, with passenger vehicles down by 8.8% and other vehicles lower by 6.0%. All States and Territories recorded falls except for Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations for July 1997 showed a decrease of 8.3% compared with June 1997. Light commercial vehicle registrations fell by 23.0%. All States and Territories recorded decreases except for Victoria and Tasmania.

New vehicle registrations



INQUIRIES

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
August 1997	26 September 1997
September 1997	31 October 1997
October 1997	28 November 1997

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

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TREND REVISIONS

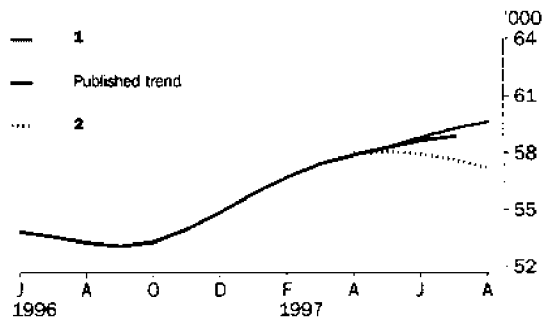
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

- 1** The August seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the July seasonally adjusted estimate by 5.1%.
- 2** The August seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the July seasonally adjusted estimate by -5.1%.

The percentage change of 5.1% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change, based on the last 11 years, has been 5.1%.

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

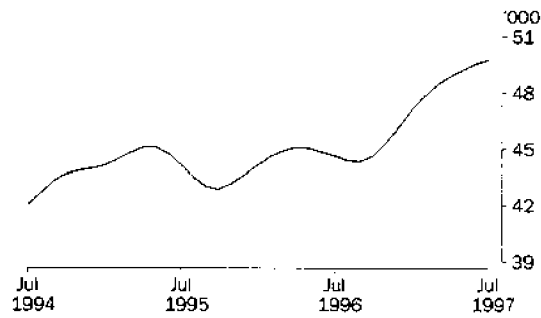


T.J. Skinner
Acting Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE: Trend series

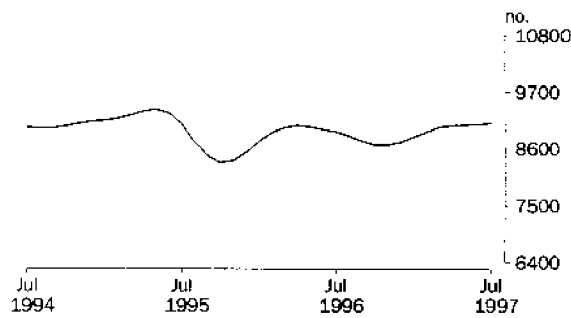
PASSENGER VEHICLES

The trend for new passenger vehicle registrations reached a high in July 1997 with rises in each of the last ten months. The trend level for July 1997 is 12.2% above the most recent low of September 1996.



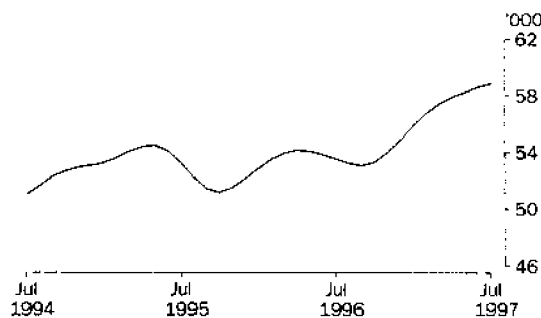
OTHER VEHICLES

Following the high in May 1995 and the low in October 1995, the trend has remained essentially flat. The July 1997 trend level is 2.8% lower than the high of May 1995.



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)

The trend for total motor vehicle registrations peaked in both May 1995 and April 1996, and has now risen consecutively over the last ten months to be 8.7% above the high in April 1996.





NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations by Type: All series

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
1996			
May	47 713	10 131	57 844
June	52 082	11 611	63 693
July	45 971	9 027	54 998
August	45 574	8 783	54 357
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	52 331	9 761	62 092

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

1996			
May	43 762	8 624	52 387
June	50 950	9 449	60 398
July	43 012	8 219	51 231
August	44 716	9 405	54 121
September	45 057	9 001	54 058
October	43 292	8 403	51 694
November	45 785	8 320	54 105
December	45 129	8 914	54 043

1997			
January	47 213	8 381	55 594
February	49 231	9 349	58 580
March	49 766	9 579	59 345
April	47 191	8 537	55 728
May	46 696	8 672	55 368
June	53 342	9 550	62 892
July	48 647	8 972	57 619

TREND ESTIMATES(a)

1996			
May	45 058	9 021	54 080
June	44 863	8 966	53 829
July	44 626	8 915	53 541
August	44 407	8 845	53 252
September	44 338	8 745	53 083
October	44 610	8 668	53 278
November	45 314	8 663	53 977
December	46 167	8 714	54 881

1997			
January	47 059	8 813	55 871
February	47 808	8 920	56 729
March	48 414	9 013	57 427
April	48 841	9 046	57 887
May	49 209	9 057	58 265
June	49 566	9 063	58 629
July	49 766	9 090	58 856

(a) Trend estimates for January 1997 to June 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								
May	47 713	8 531	876	278	79	367	57 844	1 893
June	52 082	9 994	834	295	63	425	63 693	1 578
July	45 971	7 361	831	306	174	355	54 998	1 760
August	45 574	7 236	793	304	105	345	54 357	1 653
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	52 331	8 068	964	355	88	286	62 092	1 959

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									
May	19 411	14 868	10 388	3 792	6 252	1 202	823	1 108	57 844
June	23 395	14 355	13 157	3 932	6 030	994	798	1 032	63 693
July	18 861	13 478	10 585	3 457	5 692	1 341	637	947	54 998
August	18 213	12 880	10 903	3 569	5 753	1 336	599	1 104	54 357
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	20 471	15 476	12 345	3 895	6 487	1 476	663	1 279	62 092
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1996									
May	17 185	13 165	9 674	3 621	5 835	1 207	688	1 011	52 387
June	22 129	13 521	12 783	3 668	5 646	1 055	647	949	60 398
July	17 577	12 693	9 079	3 384	5 761	1 299	551	886	51 231
August	18 086	12 572	11 351	3 453	5 740	1 264	627	1 027	54 121
September	18 746	13 194	10 300	3 431	5 776	1 232	571	808	54 058
October	18 025	12 970	9 166	3 077	5 884	1 150	526	895	51 694
November	17 875	13 758	10 749	3 456	5 447	1 344	626	850	54 105
December	18 534	13 553	10 123	3 583	5 739	1 169	573	790	54 043
1997									
January	19 426	13 714	9 928	3 673	5 919	1 215	728	991	55 594
February	20 232	14 533	10 813	4 012	6 234	1 093	664	999	58 580
March	20 602	15 529	11 206	3 750	5 414	1 165	662	1 018	59 345
April	18 917	13 503	10 040	3 935	6 222	1 270	822	1 019	55 728
May	18 918	13 580	10 364	3 600	5 934	1 236	692	1 043	55 368
June	22 409	13 531	13 422	4 066	6 259	1 222	684	1 300	62 892
July	19 114	14 625	10 617	3 728	6 357	1 386	588	1 204	57 619
TREND ESTIMATES(a)									
1996									
May	18 157	13 039	10 687	3 658	5 758	1 149	641	990	54 080
June	18 052	12 991	10 648	3 576	5 792	1 174	626	970	53 829
July	18 006	12 949	10 579	3 479	5 775	1 205	606	942	53 541
August	17 989	12 954	10 459	3 389	5 734	1 231	587	910	53 252
September	18 026	13 003	10 283	3 344	5 727	1 244	576	880	53 083
October	18 198	13 162	10 151	3 357	5 729	1 239	578	864	53 278
November	18 526	13 457	10 123	3 437	5 748	1 222	594	868	53 977
December	18 854	13 820	10 166	3 554	5 776	1 202	624	886	54 881
1997									
January	19 223	14 105	10 292	3 679	5 812	1 183	659	917	55 871
February	19 561	14 235	10 458	3 778	5 864	1 179	691	962	56 729
March	19 828	14 235	10 689	3 833	5 930	1 188	709	1 014	57 427
April	19 981	14 156	10 911	3 846	6 005	1 210	710	1 067	57 887
May	20 067	14 062	11 145	3 846	6 084	1 242	700	1 119	58 265
June	20 126	13 997	11 367	3 842	6 165	1 278	684	1 169	58 629
July	20 130	13 949	11 536	3 830	6 239	1 308	659	1 206	58 856

(a) Trend estimates for January 1997 to June 1997 have been revised.

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

<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>
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	2 083	1 836	1 197	366	715	78	64	250	6 589
Festiva	331	245	280	122	106	13	5	18	1 120
Laser	268	216	153	52	59	19	2	17	786
Other	324	343	230	43	131	17	7	16	1 111
Total	3 006	2 640	1 860	583	1 011	127	78	301	9 606
Holden									
Commodore/Calais	1 997	1 437	1 226	495	567	134	43	122	6 021
Statesman/Caprice	139	138	59	30	64	5	..	6	441
Barina	117	90	66	32	34	9	21	10	379
Other	339	301	212	73	110	84	5	20	1 144
Total	2 592	1 966	1 563	630	775	232	69	158	7 985
Hyundai									
Excel	1 130	643	513	153	423	60	8	54	2 984
Lantra	542	292	268	70	210	23	19	25	1 449
Sonata	245	191	180	41	108	14	8	7	794
Other	65	55	36	6	21	1	4	2	190
Total	1 982	1 181	997	270	762	98	39	88	5 417
Mazda									
121	281	245	288	82	91	21	9	16	1 033
323	369	313	130	77	72	17	2	25	1 005
626	52	100	24	6	16	3	1	2	204
Other	35	26	11	4	7	1	..	2	86
Total	737	684	453	169	186	42	12	45	2 328
Mitsubishi									
Magna	811	697	514	435	227	66	27	158	2 935
Lancer	354	428	307	107	88	14	15	32	1 345
Mirage	379	153	111	34	42	19	4	17	759
Other	416	258	269	82	115	26	17	18	1 201
Total	1 960	1 536	1 201	658	472	125	63	225	6 240
Nissan									
Pulsar	396	373	295	73	124	16	20	48	1 345
Patrol	119	68	97	21	62	5	16	3	391
Maxima	52	57	39	8	15	3	2	3	179
Other	123	147	107	19	50	2	3	5	456
Total	690	645	538	121	251	26	41	59	2 371
Toyota									
Corolla	651	392	310	123	188	34	32	60	1 790
Camry	377	400	408	66	164	26	25	16	1 482
Vienta	309	258	163	34	62	6	5	13	850
Other	1 119	766	711	183	451	47	42	58	3 377
Total	2 456	1 816	1 592	406	865	113	104	147	7 499

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 (06) 252 6345.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

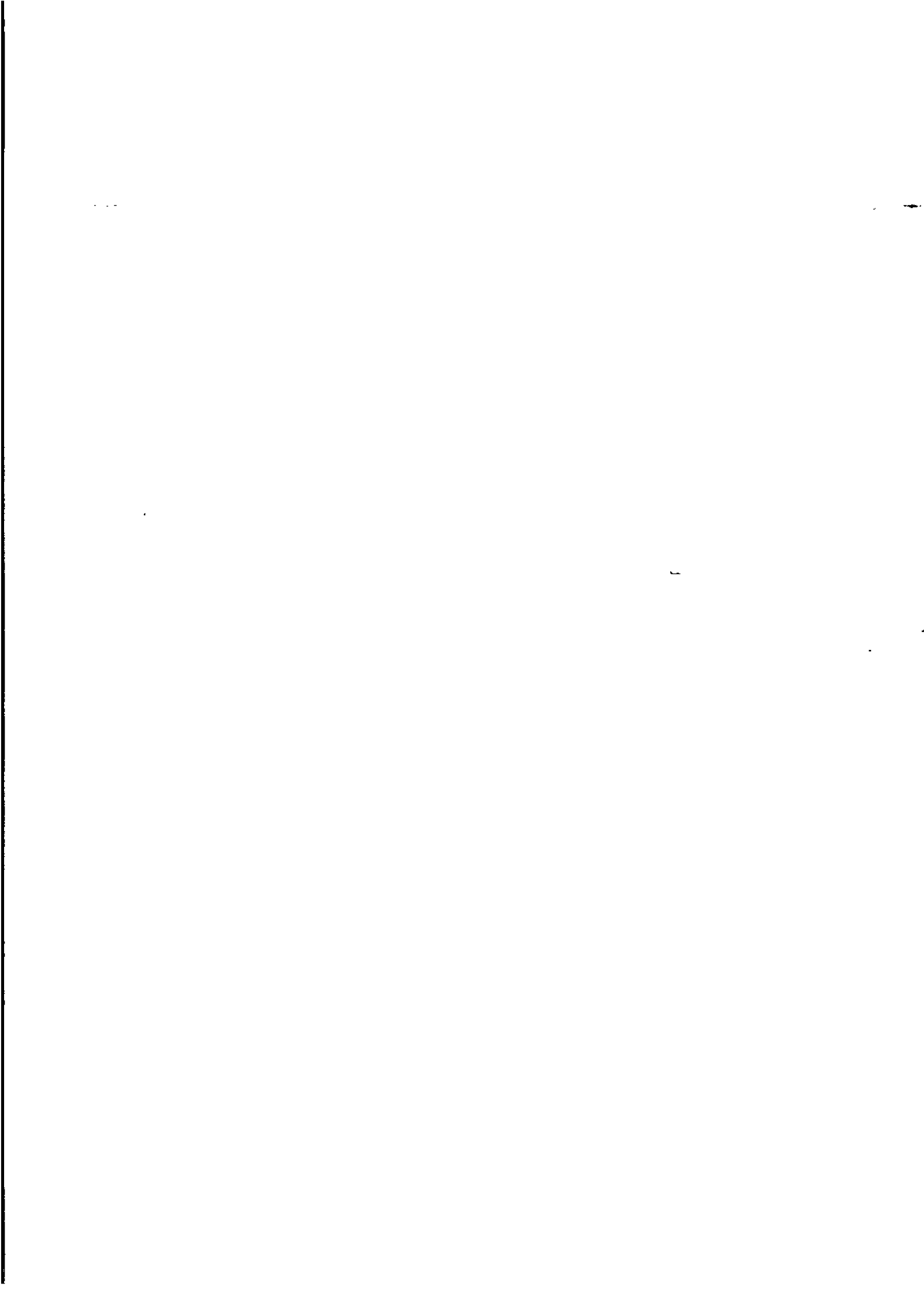
14 For a more detailed break-up of the monthly figures presented here, inquiries should be made to Clare O'Loughlin on 07 3222 6180 or to any ABS office. Data on total vehicle registrations, both new and re-registrations, is available in *Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 May 1995* (9309.0).

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 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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