

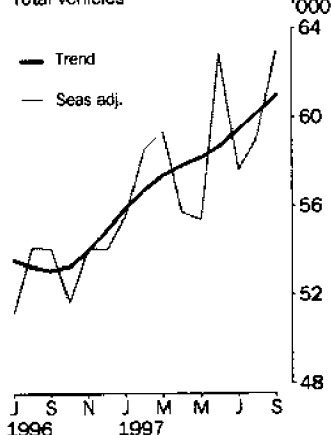
# NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA  
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 31 OCT 1997

## New vehicle registrations

Total vehicles



## SEPTEMBER KEY FIGURES

### TREND ESTIMATES

	Sep 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	60 960	1.3	14.8
Passenger vehicles	51 748	1.4	16.7
Other vehicles	9 213	0.6	5.4

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Sep 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	62 983	6.6	16.5
Passenger vehicles	53 706	7.5	19.2
Other vehicles	9 277	1.2	3.1

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Sep 97	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	62 511	8.6	22.3
Passenger vehicles	53 748	9.2	25.3
Other vehicles	8 763	5.0	6.7

## SEPTEMBER KEY POINTS

### TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations has increased in each of the last twelve months. September 1997 is 14.8% above the September 1996 level. Passenger vehicles in September 1997 rose by 1.4% and other vehicles by 0.6% compared with August 1997. The trend rose in all States and Territories except for the Northern Territory.

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

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- In September 1997 total vehicle registrations rose by 6.6% with passenger vehicles up by 7.5% and other vehicles up by 1.2%. All States and Territories recorded rises.

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total motor vehicle registrations for September 1997 rose by 8.6% compared with the previous month. Registrations increased for all vehicle types except for buses and rigid trucks. All States and Territories recorded rises.

## INQUIRIES

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

# NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

### ISSUE

### RELEASE DATE

October 1997

28 November 1997

November 1997

24 December 1997

December 1997

30 January 1998

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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.

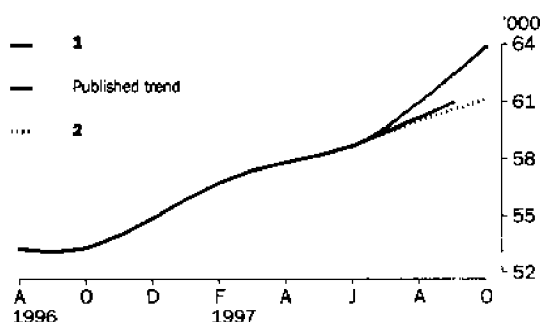
The graph below presents the effect of two possible scenarios on the previous trend estimates:

**1** The October seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the September seasonally adjusted estimate by 5.1%.

**2** The October seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the September 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.

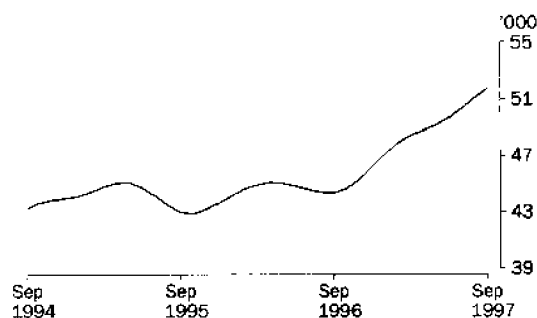


Dennis Trewin  
Acting Australian Statistician

# VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE: Trend series

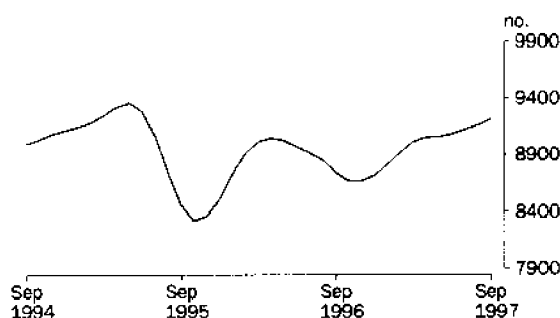
## PASSENGER VEHICLES

The trend for new passenger vehicle registrations has risen in each of the last twelve months. The trend level is now 16.7% above the most recent low of September 1996 and 20.8% above the October 1995 low.



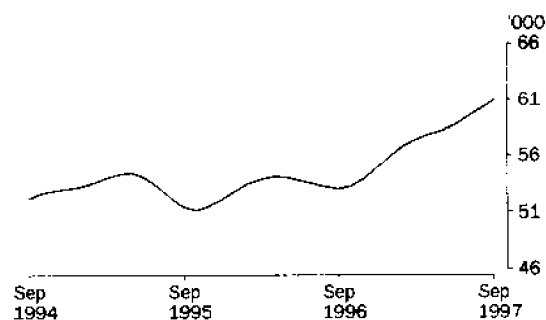
## OTHER VEHICLES

The trend has risen steadily in the last ten months to be now 6.3% above the November 1996 low and 10.8% above the low in October 1995.



## TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)

Since September 1994 the trend for total new motor vehicle registrations increased steadily to peak in May 1995 and then fell to lows in October 1995 and September 1996. The trend has risen in each of the last twelve months and is now 14.8% above the September 1996 low.





# NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations by Type: All series

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
<b>1996</b>			
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
<b>1997</b>			
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	52 302	9 800	62 102
August	49 235	8 348	57 583
September	53 748	8 763	62 511
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
<b>1996</b>			
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
<b>1997</b>			
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	48 621	9 007	57 627
August	49 938	9 167	59 104
September	53 706	9 277	62 983
TREND ESTIMATES(a)			
<b>1996</b>			
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
<b>1997</b>			
January	47 059	8 812	55 871
February	47 823	8 917	56 740
March	48 392	9 012	57 404
April	48 769	9 051	57 820
May	49 131	9 058	58 189
June	49 635	9 080	58 714
July	50 303	9 120	59 423
August	51 021	9 159	60 180
September	51 748	9 213	60 960

(a) Trend estimates for March 1997 to August 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
<b>1996</b>								
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
<b>1997</b>								
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	52 302	8 091	978	355	88	288	62 102	1 914
August	49 235	6 672	935	306	131	304	57 583	2 021
September	53 748	7 153	879	308	138	285	62 511	2 148



## 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>1996</b>									
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
<b>1997</b>									
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	20 470	15 483	12 345	3 896	6 489	1 476	664	1 279	62 102
August	18 647	15 249	10 749	3 876	5 937	1 314	589	1 222	57 583
September	21 330	15 550	11 711	4 173	6 297	1 502	633	1 315	62 511
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
<b>1996</b>									
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	3 563	5 739	1 169	573	790	54 043
<b>1997</b>									
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	19 113	14 631	10 616	3 729	6 359	1 386	589	1 204	57 627
August	19 272	15 232	11 456	3 930	6 179	1 270	629	1 138	59 104
September	21 890	15 702	11 735	3 945	6 478	1 304	652	1 277	62 983
TREND ESTIMATES(a)									
<b>1996</b>									
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
<b>1997</b>									
January	19 223	14 105	10 292	3 679	5 812	1 183	659	917	55 871
February	19 587	14 220	10 455	3 779	5 865	1 179	693	963	56 740
March	19 843	14 188	10 691	3 837	5 929	1 187	713	1 016	57 404
April	19 955	14 107	10 915	3 851	6 001	1 210	713	1 067	57 820
May	19 981	14 091	11 141	3 846	6 076	1 242	698	1 114	58 189
June	20 049	14 209	11 343	3 850	6 161	1 271	676	1 155	58 714
July	20 199	14 468	11 500	3 866	6 251	1 293	654	1 193	59 423
August	20 388	14 797	11 611	3 884	6 330	1 310	637	1 225	60 180
September	20 606	15 133	11 696	3 916	6 423	1 316	622	1 249	60 960

(a) Trend estimates for March 1997 to August 1997 have been revised.



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

Make/Model	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
<b>Ford</b>									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 906	1 765	1 254	421	636	76	43	253	6 354
Festiva	346	284	217	90	98	15	9	17	1 076
Laser	218	199	130	44	34	4	4	23	656
Other	357	353	204	66	140	11	8	22	1 161
Total	2 827	2 601	1 805	621	908	106	64	315	9 247
<b>Holden</b>									
Commodore/Calais	2 186	1 777	1 100	579	666	99	36	82	6 525
Barina	142	118	71	31	54	9	4	9	438
Statesman/Caprice	43	42	25	7	14	..	..	3	134
Other	349	318	218	69	112	23	1	21	1 111
Total	2 720	2 255	1 414	686	846	131	41	115	8 208
<b>Hyundai</b>									
Excel	714	463	348	122	312	48	19	37	2 063
Lantra	420	220	194	50	163	23	17	21	1 108
Sonata	182	91	87	31	78	11	6	6	492
Other	55	45	21	10	16	1	1	3	152
Total	1 371	819	650	213	569	83	43	67	3 815
<b>Mazda</b>									
323	337	219	104	45	67	7	2	15	796
121	167	156	107	43	55	36	5	9	578
626	213	157	81	29	41	6	2	9	538
Other	23	29	12	4	8	..	..	1	77
Total	740	561	304	121	171	49	9	34	1 989
<b>Mitsubishi</b>									
Magna	885	800	468	452	226	53	31	173	3 088
Lancer	285	322	202	82	108	18	12	29	1 058
Mirage	428	166	114	45	57	9	5	26	850
Other	356	235	202	77	106	22	8	17	1 023
Total	1 954	1 523	986	656	497	102	56	245	6 019
<b>Nissan</b>									
Pulsar	370	432	387	83	135	29	15	27	1 478
Patrol	144	71	82	20	61	3	16	6	403
Maxima	77	102	86	17	36	1	1	6	326
Other	93	80	62	12	26	2	6	8	289
Total	684	685	617	132	258	35	38	47	2 496
<b>Toyota</b>									
Camry	768	658	405	119	198	64	22	44	2 278
Corolla	637	410	208	94	136	61	25	64	1 635
Vienta	529	301	170	65	88	23	11	21	1 208
Other	1 952	1 121	1 062	342	595	59	67	69	5 267
Total	3 886	2 490	1 845	620	1 017	207	125	198	10 388

## 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 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

### 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 Robin Walden 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 October 1996* (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>	Vehicles constructed for the carriage of passengers. Included are all passenger vehicles with 10 or more seats, 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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