

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 24 DEC 1996

NOVEMBER KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

	Nov 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	53 356	-0.2	3.6
Passenger vehicles	44 758	0.0	3.7
Other vehicles	8 598	-1.0	2.8

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Nov 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	54 946	6.3	9.9
Passenger vehicles	46 514	7.4	10.4
Other vehicles	8 432	0.4	7.2

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Nov 96	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	54 425	-2.4	4.8
Passenger vehicles	45 968	-2.5	5.2
Other vehicles	8 457	-1.8	2.3

NOVEMBER KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations decreased in November 1996 for the sixth consecutive month, although the rate of decrease has slowed over recent months. Compared with October 1996, the level for total registrations dropped by 0.2%, other vehicles by 1.0% while passenger vehicles were unchanged.

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

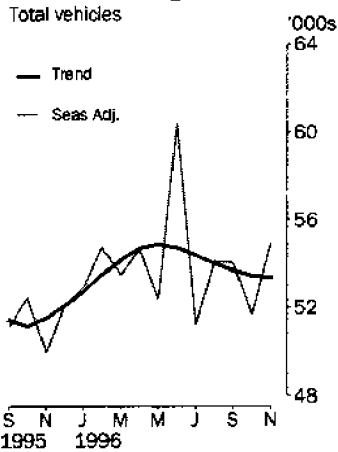
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- In November 1996, total vehicle registrations rose by 6.3%, with passenger vehicles up by 7.4% and other vehicles by 0.4%, compared with October 1996. All States and Territories recorded rises with the exceptions of New South Wales, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations for November 1996 showed a decrease of 2.4% from October 1996. Registrations for all vehicle types decreased except for rigid trucks and buses.

New vehicle registrations



INQUIRIES

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

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
December 1996	30 January 1997
January 1997	28 February 1997
February 1997	28 March 1997

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This edition includes changes to the seasonally adjusted series and the trend estimate series as a result of the annual re-estimation of seasonal factors.

Because of the earlier than usual release of this edition the last week of Victoria has been estimated for November 1996. The actual data will be included when final data is released in mid January 1997. Estimated data has not been included in table 4.

TREND REVISIONS

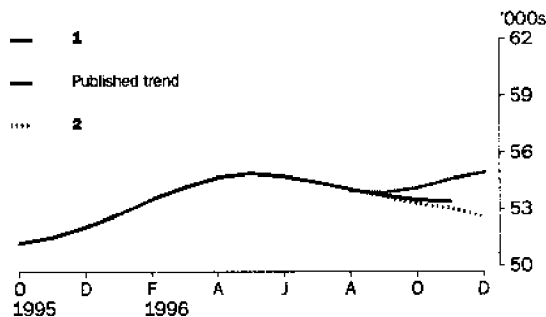
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

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



An increase of 5.1% in total seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle registrations in December 1996 would result in the revised trend showing an increase from August 1996.

A 5.1% fall in the December 1996 seasonally adjusted figure would cause a further decrease in the revised trend since August 1996.

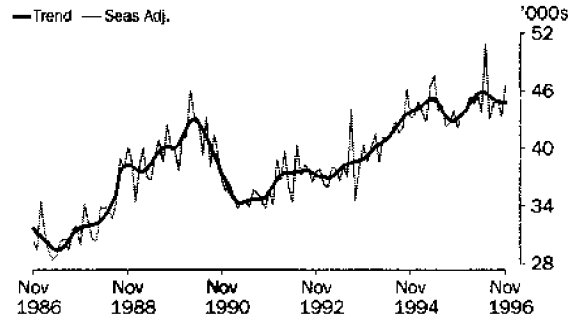
W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND

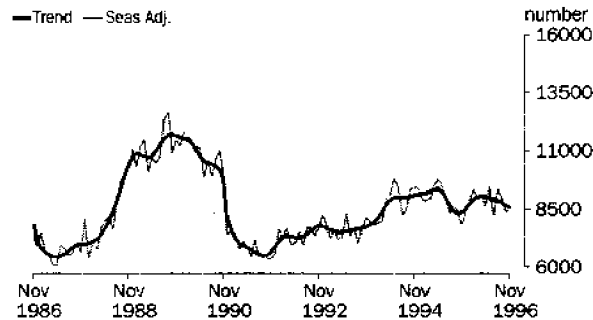
PASSENGER VEHICLES

The trend for passenger vehicle registrations in November 1996 is 52.3% above the low in May 1987. The level in May 1996 was the highest recorded over the 10 years since November 1986. Despite falls in each of the last 6 months the level is still higher than for the previous peak in June 1995.



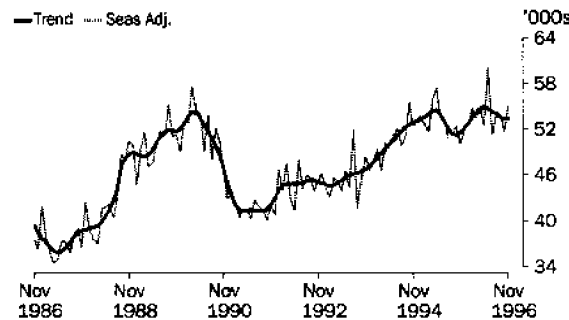
OTHER VEHICLES

The trend level for other vehicle registrations peaked in October 1989 then fell sharply to a low in September 1991. The level for November 1996 is now 32.5% above the September 1991 low and 26.6% lower than the peak in October 1989.



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)

While the trend for total motor vehicle registrations has shown consecutive decreases over the last 6 months, the level is still 29.5% above the low in September 1991 and only slightly lower than the peaks recorded in May 1995 and April 1990.



A break in series occurred in December 1990 — see paragraph 2 of Explanatory Notes.



NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By Type: All Series

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
..... ORIGINAL			
1995			
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

1996			
January	37 422	7 037	44 459
February	44 642	8 590	53 232
March	45 564	9 239	54 803
April	41 606	8 461	50 067
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	45 968	8 457	54 425

..... SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1995			
September	42 596	8 591	51 187
October	44 016	8 458	52 475
November	42 116	7 864	49 980
December	43 683	8 393	52 076

1996			
January	44 033	8 899	52 931
February	45 427	9 342	54 769
March	44 584	8 990	53 514
April	45 573	9 107	54 680
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	46 514	8 432	54 946

..... TREND ESTIMATES ¹			
1995			
September	42 968	8 456	51 423
October	42 850	8 316	51 166
November	43 165	8 360	51 525
December	43 548	8 519	52 067

1996			
January	44 022	8 734	52 756
February	44 606	8 911	53 517
March	45 174	9 011	54 184
April	45 660	9 043	54 703
May	45 867	9 019	54 886
June	45 756	8 966	54 722
July	45 480	8 920	54 400
August	45 163	8 867	54 030
September	44 904	8 786	53 690
October	44 763	8 686	53 449
November	44 758	8 598	53 356

¹ Trend estimates for May 1996 to October 1996 have been revised.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, Registrations By Type: Original

<i>Month</i>	<i>Passenger vehicles</i>	<i>Light commercial vehicles</i>	<i>Rigid trucks</i>	<i>Articulated trucks</i>	<i>Non-freight carrying trucks</i>	<i>Buses</i>	<i>Total (excludes motor cycles)</i>	<i>Motor cycles</i>
1995								
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
1996								
January	37 422	5 867	599	159	83	329	44 459	2 002
February	44 642	7 257	692	202	109	330	53 232	1 851
March	45 564	7 804	743	234	103	355	54 803	2 025
April	41 606	7 082	725	247	74	333	50 067	1 810
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	45 968	6 918	837	280	79	343	54 425	2 398



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									
1995									
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
1996									
January	15 632	10 164	9 558	2 829	4 019	873	506	878	44 459
February	18 144	13 257	9 690	3 832	5 780	989	550	990	53 232
March	18 318	13 142	10 992	3 867	5 909	961	666	948	54 803
April	18 348	11 519	9 471	3 286	5 072	818	616	937	50 067
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	18 438	14 235	9 823	3 512	5 677	1 267	611	862	54 425
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1995									
September	17 452	12 569	9 668	3 415	5 253	1 112	654	1 064	51 187
October	18 888	11 874	10 289	3 514	5 111	1 198	647	953	52 475
November	16 917	12 847	8 772	3 479	5 346	870	658	1 091	49 980
December	18 325	12 305	9 450	3 700	5 390	1 177	652	1 075	52 076
1996									
January	18 448	12 726	10 846	3 541	4 502	1 136	672	1 060	52 931
February	18 667	13 344	10 381	3 799	5 727	1 140	651	1 060	54 769
March	17 647	12 851	10 947	3 741	5 684	1 073	632	938	53 514
April	19 594	12 774	10 018	3 738	5 749	1 090	637	1 080	54 680
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	17 859	14 617	10 749	3 453	5 447	1 344	627	850	54 946
TREND ESTIMATES ¹									
1995									
September	17 976	12 258	9 741	3 469	5 220	1 107	636	1 017	51 423
October	17 888	12 298	9 610	3 488	5 142	1 089	644	1 027	51 166
November	17 939	12 442	9 693	3 540	5 134	1 085	652	1 040	51 525
December	18 013	12 622	9 829	3 608	5 193	1 093	657	1 052	52 067
1996									
January	18 149	12 769	10 071	3 666	5 289	1 098	658	1 055	52 756
February	18 370	12 892	10 329	3 708	5 414	1 103	656	1 045	53 517
March	18 607	13 010	10 491	3 725	5 555	1 113	654	1 030	54 184
April	18 832	13 060	10 635	3 709	5 675	1 129	650	1 012	54 703
May	18 980	13 022	10 687	3 659	5 758	1 149	641	990	54 886
June	18 977	12 966	10 642	3 581	5 789	1 172	626	969	54 722
July	18 857	12 952	10 571	3 496	5 771	1 200	609	944	54 400
August	18 629	13 031	10 463	3 420	5 751	1 224	593	918	54 030
September	18 364	13 185	10 330	3 360	5 734	1 242	582	893	53 690
October	18 109	13 397	10 220	3 314	5 707	1 257	574	870	53 449
November	17 971	13 617	10 113	3 286	5 673	1 267	570	857	53 356

¹ Trend estimates for May 1996 to October 1996 have been revised.



NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Selected Make/Models: **Original**— November 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>
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	2 257	2 137	1 216	406	740	148	32	119	7 055
Festiva	359	249	211	110	106	21	5	12	1 073
Laser	239	180	153	69	82	8	2	15	748
Other	344	346	181	72	116	20	6	16	1 101
Total	3 199	2 912	1 761	657	1 044	197	45	162	9 977
Holden									
Commodore/Calais	2 181	1 701	1 186	532	565	131	53	110	6 459
Barina	211	179	110	58	53	13	2	14	640
Statesman/Caprice	155	158	66	30	50	5	1	8	473
Other	228	205	97	54	93	14	1	11	703
Total	2 775	2 243	1 459	674	761	163	57	143	8 275
Hyundai									
Excel	891	534	372	146	359	35	13	59	2 409
Lantra	227	105	108	20	42	7	14	10	533
Sonata	145	91	57	19	36	9	5	5	367
Other	88	53	37	14	20	3	2	2	219
Total	1 351	783	574	199	457	54	34	76	3 528
Mazda									
121	240	156	157	36	113	17	8	15	742
323	177	116	85	37	45	8	2	9	459
626	86	42	29	7	11	1	..	3	179
Other	36	35	10	5	13	1	2	3	105
Total	539	349	261	85	182	27	12	30	1 485
Mitsubishi									
Magna	784	631	416	286	289	56	24	67	2 553
Lancer	199	164	103	57	46	6	7	10	592
Mirage	290	91	78	24	45	8	8	24	568
Other	291	125	173	79	101	14	13	9	805
Total	1 564	1 011	770	446	481	84	52	110	4 518
Nissan									
Pulsar	183	250	184	49	54	44	4	10	778
Patrol	119	58	104	21	55	2	14	1	374
Maxima	40	43	26	6	10	2	127
Other	122	90	88	31	26	3	3	5	368
Total	464	441	402	107	145	49	21	18	1 647
Toyota									
Corolla	808	465	301	117	190	39	32	57	2 009
Camry	618	528	323	93	198	40	27	20	1 847
Vienta	494	303	187	45	87	7	5	15	1 143
Other	956	583	566	165	352	30	66	43	2 761
Total	2 876	1 879	1 377	420	827	116	130	135	7 760

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).



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.



GLOSSARY

- 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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