



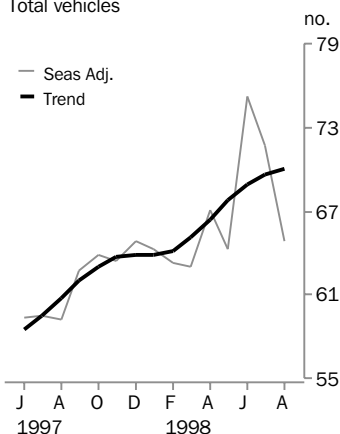
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 25 SEP 1998

New vehicle registrations

Total vehicles



AUGUST KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

	Aug 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	69 997	0.5	15.3
Passenger vehicles	59 565	0.7	15.4
Other vehicles	10 432	-0.4	14.7

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Aug 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	64 802	-9.7	9.5
Passenger vehicles	54 592	-11.2	9.0
Other vehicles	10 210	-0.7	12.4

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Aug 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	64 337	-13.0	11.7
Passenger vehicles	54 807	-13.3	11.3
Other vehicles	9 530	-11.6	14.2

AUGUST KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations has risen this month by 0.5%. Registrations of passenger vehicles in August 1998 rose by 0.7% while other vehicles fell by 0.4% compared with last month.

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

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Seasonally adjusted total new motor vehicle registrations for August 1998 decreased by 9.7%. Passenger vehicles fell by 11.2% and other vehicles by 0.7%. This is the second successive monthly fall in seasonally adjusted registrations since the record level in June 1998.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations decreased by 13.0% this month. All states and territories recorded falls in August 1998. All body types fell except articulated trucks.

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Clare O'Loughlin on Brisbane 07 3222 6180, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
September 1998	30 October 1998
October 1998	27 November 1998
November 1998	24 December 1998
December 1998	29 January 1999
January 1999	26 February 1999
February 1999	26 March 1999

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

TREND REVISIONS

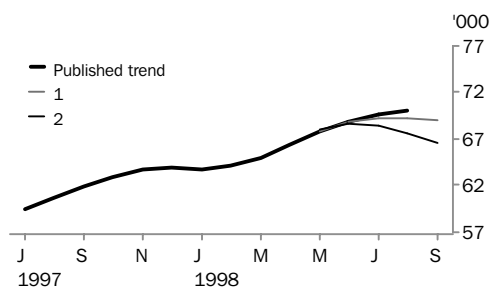
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

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

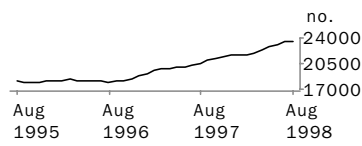
TAKE CARE!
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available.



W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

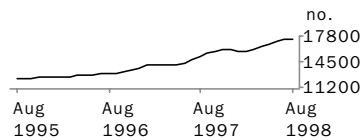
VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY STATE: Trend series

NEW SOUTH WALES



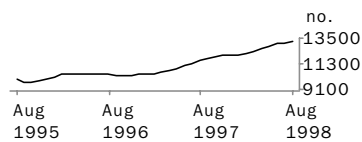
The trend has continued to rise steadily to be 30.7% above the August 1996 low.

VICTORIA



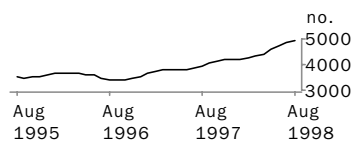
The trend has risen slightly over the previous 7 months and is now 40.5% above the August 1995 level.

QUEENSLAND



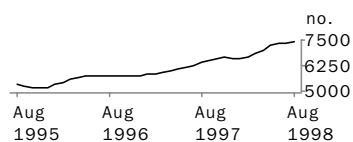
The trend has generally risen over the last 22 months and is now 27.6% above the October 1996 low.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



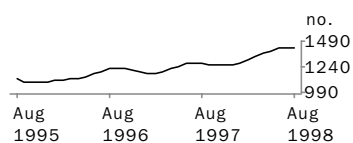
The trend has gradually risen over the last 7 months to be 17.0% above the recent low in January 1998.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



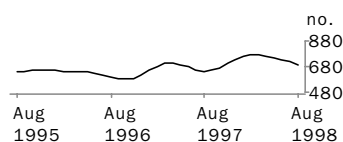
The trend has generally risen since the peak in November 1997. The trend this month is 38.6% higher than the August 1995 level.

TASMANIA



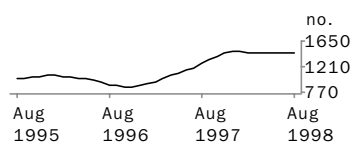
The trend has generally risen over the last 9 months, levelling off this month to be 31.1% above the low in October 1995.

NORTHERN TERRITORY



The trend has continued to fall and is now 9.7% below the high in March 1998.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



The trend has flattened over the last 9 months and is now 67.4% above the October 1996 low.

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

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
1997			
June	55 551	12 126	67 677
July	52 302	9 800	62 102
August	49 235	8 348	57 583
September	53 726	8 789	62 515
October	57 471	9 180	66 651
November	52 945	8 521	61 466
December	58 252	9 675	67 927
1998			
January	44 164	7 163	51 327
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	54 807	9 530	64 337
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1997			
June	50 096	9 319	59 415
July	50 414	9 094	59 508
August	50 076	9 082	59 158
September	53 465	9 230	62 695
October	54 573	9 328	63 901
November	54 708	8 700	63 408
December	55 012	9 839	64 852
1998			
January	54 762	9 503	64 265
February	52 813	10 492	63 305
March	53 351	9 617	62 968
April	56 294	10 828	67 123
May	54 372	9 940	64 312
June	64 081	11 082	75 163
July	61 469	10 282	71 752
August	54 592	10 210	64 802
TREND ESTIMATES			
1997			
June	49 486	9 038	58 525
July	50 400	9 068	59 468
August	51 614	9 092	60 706
September	52 855	9 139	61 994
October	53 807	9 200	63 007
November	54 364	9 317	63 681
December	54 360	9 493	63 853
1998			
January	54 095	9 722	63 817
February	54 168	9 966	64 135
March	54 860	10 182	65 042
April	56 071	10 332	66 403
May	57 391	10 411	67 801
June	58 471	10 454	68 926
July	59 168	10 473	69 641
August	59 565	10 432	69 997

(a) Trend estimates for February 1998 to July 1998 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
1997								
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	53 726	7 172	881	308	140	288	62 515	2 101
October	57 471	7 311	952	425	151	341	66 651	2 850
November	52 945	6 927	891	328	120	255	61 466	2 452
December	58 252	7 926	1 019	351	103	276	67 927	2 549
1998								
January	44 164	6 068	562	197	42	294	51 327	2 181
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	54 807	7 685	1 037	413	81	314	64 337	2 314

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									
1997									
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	15 552	11 712	4 174	6 297	1 503	632	1 315	62 515
October	21 813	17 462	11 998	4 335	7 489	1 387	712	1 455	66 651
November	21 056	15 252	11 265	4 199	6 533	1 108	619	1 434	61 466
December	21 879	17 038	13 152	4 483	6 977	2 153	644	1 601	67 927
1998									
January	17 342	12 273	9 884	3 366	5 862	925	574	1 101	51 327
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	21 688	16 289	12 018	4 539	6 385	1 351	638	1 429	64 337
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1997									
June	20 706	13 556	11 910	3 951	6 203	1 200	674	1 216	59 415
July	20 141	14 622	11 372	3 766	6 379	1 381	635	1 211	59 508
August	19 709	15 390	11 039	3 848	6 128	1 237	619	1 187	59 158
September	21 165	15 757	11 991	4 064	6 500	1 265	677	1 276	62 695
October	21 650	16 108	11 775	4 110	6 935	1 268	668	1 387	63 901
November	21 507	15 996	11 873	4 167	6 563	1 144	650	1 507	63 408
December	21 335	16 179	12 332	4 537	6 726	1 400	762	1 581	64 852
1998									
January	22 083	15 915	12 002	4 300	6 569	1 268	787	1 342	64 265
February	21 760	15 503	12 190	4 033	6 464	1 206	758	1 390	63 305
March	20 725	15 604	12 342	3 961	6 667	1 338	788	1 542	62 968
April	22 791	16 465	12 740	4 597	6 895	1 448	762	1 425	67 123
May	21 923	16 210	11 064	4 472	7 355	1 276	669	1 343	64 312
June	24 020	18 624	15 413	5 018	8 054	1 590	911	1 532	75 163
July	25 391	17 595	13 096	4 990	7 137	1 419	591	1 534	71 752
August	21 523	16 219	12 138	4 656	6 913	1 307	699	1 346	64 802
TREND ESTIMATES									
1997									
June	20 094	14 297	11 082	3 815	6 149	1 267	677	1 143	58 525
July	20 276	14 637	11 310	3 848	6 271	1 274	657	1 194	59 468
August	20 558	15 108	11 532	3 925	6 406	1 273	646	1 258	60 706
September	20 897	15 586	11 711	4 036	6 526	1 265	649	1 324	61 994
October	21 206	15 912	11 837	4 138	6 602	1 258	670	1 384	63 007
November	21 448	16 030	11 973	4 207	6 632	1 257	702	1 433	63 681
December	21 567	15 954	12 049	4 226	6 608	1 260	730	1 460	63 853
1998									
January	21 572	15 830	12 101	4 220	6 603	1 273	754	1 464	63 817
February	21 651	15 856	12 193	4 234	6 675	1 302	770	1 454	64 135
March	21 914	16 073	12 370	4 302	6 830	1 337	774	1 444	65 042
April	22 339	16 423	12 603	4 427	7 032	1 371	766	1 443	66 403
May	22 791	16 795	12 829	4 581	7 209	1 398	750	1 449	67 801
June	23 171	17 095	13 007	4 729	7 323	1 415	733	1 452	68 926
July	23 424	17 289	13 115	4 847	7 375	1 423	716	1 453	69 641
August	23 586	17 395	13 137	4 937	7 378	1 421	699	1 443	69 997

(a) Trend estimates for February 1998 to July 1998 have been revised.

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Selected Make/models: **Original**—August 1998

<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	2 516	2 153	1 357	704	759	186	44	237	7 956
Barina	217	157	127	73	61	11	2	21	669
Vectra	191	270	81	23	45	12	7	12	641
Other	254	301	132	69	103	16	5	10	890
Total	3 178	2 881	1 697	869	968	225	58	280	10 156
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 699	1 760	1 175	393	637	96	25	149	5 934
Festiva	772	600	623	270	219	32	13	38	2 567
Laser	252	188	141	46	70	21	1	18	737
Other	258	224	124	56	72	16	4	9	763
Total	2 981	2 772	2 063	765	998	165	43	214	10 001
Toyota									
Camry/Vienta	1 312	863	629	166	391	122	64	76	3 623
Corolla	630	300	222	104	224	40	27	60	1 607
Starlet	494	246	200	58	85	9	13	29	1 134
Other	930	592	552	163	312	48	48	46	2 691
Total	3 366	2 001	1 603	491	1 012	219	152	211	9 055
Hyundai									
Excel	1 474	1 208	758	167	336	98	34	102	4 177
Lantra	169	102	91	32	111	17	6	3	531
Sonata	173	118	89	27	76	8	4	12	507
Other	28	14	14	1	9	1	1		68
Total	1 844	1 442	952	227	532	124	45	117	5 283
Mitsubishi									
Magna	623	637	516	484	251	53	32	114	2 710
Lancer	311	296	244	80	113	8	13	36	1 101
Mirage	364	102	73	18	43	10		17	627
Other	278	192	182	76	78	12	3	12	833
Total	1 576	1 227	1 015	658	485	83	48	179	5 271
Nissan									
Pulsar	643	377	316	70	192	46	4	66	1 714
Patrol	338	236	280	89	157	9	20	10	1 139
Maxima	28	104	27	2	10	2		3	176
Other	75	39	27	6	17	1	1		166
Total	1 084	756	650	167	376	58	25	79	3 195
Honda									
CRV	247	141	71	18	54	11	6	4	552
Civic	204	170	71	36	47	7	4		539
Accord	144	146	67	31	45	13	2	1	449
Other	106	74	32	15	25	1		1	254
Total	701	531	241	100	171	32	12	6	1 794

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* (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 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 October 1996* (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.

SELF-HELP ACCESS TO STATISTICS

PHONE Call 1900 986 400 for the latest statistics on CPI, Labour Force, Earnings, National Accounts, Balance of Payments and other topics (call cost is 75c per minute).

INTERNET <http://www.abs.gov.au>

LIBRARY A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require.

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

PHONE +61 1300 366 323

FAX +61 03 9615 7848

CONTACTING THE ABS

ABS provides a range of services, including: a telephone inquiry service; information consultancy tailored to your needs; survey, sample and questionnaire design; survey evaluation and methodological reviews; and statistical training.

<i>INQUIRIES</i>	<i>By phone</i>	<i>By fax</i>
Canberra	02 6252 6627	02 6253 1404
Sydney	02 9268 4611	02 9268 4668
Melbourne	03 9615 7755	03 9615 7798
Brisbane	07 3222 6351	07 3222 6283
Perth	08 9360 5140	08 9360 5955
Adelaide	08 8237 7100	08 8237 7566
Hobart	03 6222 5800	03 6222 5995
Darwin	08 8943 2111	08 8981 1218

POST Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au



2930100008980

ISSN 1323-4528

RRP \$15.00

© Commonwealth of Australia 1998

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics