

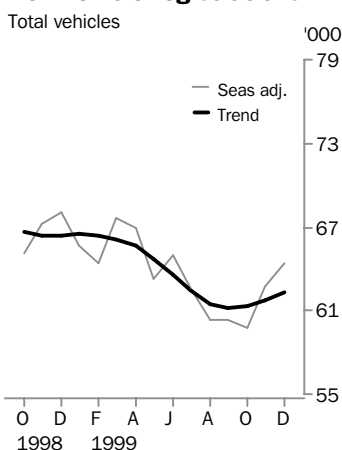


NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 1 FEB 2000

New vehicle registrations



DECEMBER KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

	Dec 1999	% change Nov 1999 to Dec 1999	% change Dec 1998 to Dec 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	62 230	0.8	-6.2
Passenger vehicles	50 567	0.5	-9.0
Other vehicles	11 663	1.9	8.2

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Dec 1999	% change Nov 1999 to Dec 1999	% change Dec 1998 to Dec 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	64 451	2.8	-5.2
Passenger vehicles	52 348	2.3	-8.5
Other vehicles	12 103	4.8	12.3

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Dec 1999	% change Nov 1999 to Dec 1999	% change Dec 1998 to Dec 1999
Total new motor vehicle registrations	66 631	1.2	-6.3
Passenger vehicles	54 944	1.7	-9.1
Other vehicles	11 687	-1.4	9.6

DECEMBER KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- After a sustained period of decline, the trend estimate of total new vehicle registrations has increased over the last three months. The trend estimate for December 1999 for total new vehicle registrations of 62 230 was 0.8% higher than the November 1999 estimate of 61 758. In December, passenger vehicles rose by 0.5% and other vehicles rose by 1.9%.

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

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- The seasonally adjusted estimate for December 1999 for total new vehicle registrations rose by 2.8% from the November 1999 estimate. In December, passenger vehicles rose by 2.3% and other vehicles rose by 4.8%

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- The original estimate for December 1999 for total new vehicle registrations rose by 1.2% from the November 1999 estimate. In December, passenger vehicles rose by 1.7% while other vehicles fell by 1.4%.

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Robin Walden on Brisbane 07 3222 6180, or Client Services in any ABS office as shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
January 2000	25 February 2000
February 2000	31 March 2000
March 2000	1 May 2000
April 2000	26 May 2000
May 2000	30 June 2000
June 2000	28 July 2000

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

TREND REVISIONS

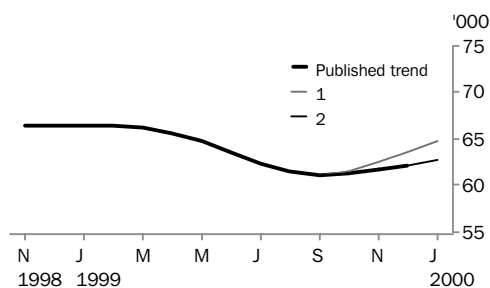
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

- 1 The January seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is higher than the December seasonally adjusted estimate by 3.8%.
- 2 The January seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the December seasonally adjusted estimate by -3.8%.

The percentage change of 3.8% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change, based on the last 11 years, has been 3.8%.

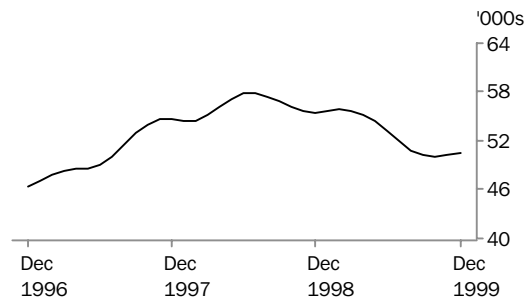
TAKE CARE!
Trend estimates are revised as new monthly data become available.



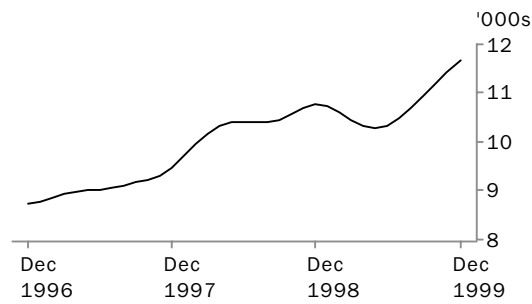
Dennis Trewin
Acting Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE: Trend series

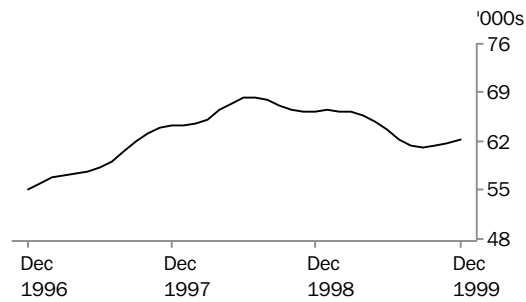
PASSENGER VEHICLES



OTHER VEHICLES



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)



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

Month	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ORIGINAL			
1998			
October	54 632	9 986	64 618
November	57 161	10 679	67 840
December	60 418	10 667	71 085
1999			
January	42 137	7 954	50 091
February	50 775	9 557	60 332
March	64 011	12 190	76 201
April	50 963	9 005	59 968
May	53 036	10 862	63 898
June	65 067	14 428	79 495
July	53 161	11 253	64 414
August	49 668	10 224	59 892
September	49 104	10 111	59 215
October	46 856	10 028	56 884
November	54 009	11 853	65 862
December	54 944	11 687	66 631
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1998			
October	54 733	10 430	65 163
November	56 367	10 838	67 205
December	57 228	10 779	68 007
1999			
January	54 587	11 097	65 684
February	53 931	10 419	64 350
March	56 902	10 758	67 660
April	56 949	10 004	66 953
May	53 319	9 950	63 269
June	54 554	10 422	64 976
July	51 788	10 825	62 613
August	49 604	10 745	60 349
September	49 685	10 697	60 382
October	48 924	10 915	59 839
November	51 150	11 552	62 702
December	52 348	12 103	64 451
TREND ESTIMATES			
1998			
October	56 055	10 578	66 633
November	55 630	10 711	66 341
December	55 548	10 779	66 327
1999			
January	55 702	10 742	66 444
February	55 803	10 611	66 414
March	55 696	10 450	66 146
April	55 289	10 333	65 622
May	54 458	10 295	64 753
June	53 241	10 344	63 585
July	51 893	10 486	62 379
August	50 804	10 696	61 500
September	50 262	10 936	61 198
October	50 147	11 186	61 333
November	50 316	11 442	61 758
December	50 567	11 663	62 230

(a) Trend estimates for June 1999 to November 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
1998								
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
1999								
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	50 963	7 434	976	265	79	251	59 968	2 195
May	53 036	8 988	1 200	342	80	252	63 898	2 437
June	65 067	12 053	1 476	436	108	355	79 495	2 498
July	53 161	9 364	1 047	363	137	342	64 414	2 656
August	49 668	8 456	1 099	302	139	228	59 892	2 578
September	49 104	8 203	1 227	321	80	280	59 215	2 898
October	46 856	8 215	1 119	345	83	266	56 884	2 897
November	54 009	9 793	1 245	358	128	329	65 862	3 179
December	54 944	9 708	1 249	268	85	377	66 631	2 881

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									
1998									
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
1999									
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	6 069	1 098	826	1 033	59 968
May	23 163	16 427	11 134	3 966	6 203	1 113	772	1 120	63 898
June	27 343	20 672	14 796	4 694	8 577	1 129	884	1 400	79 495
July	24 236	17 591	10 264	4 118	5 010	1 349	634	1 212	64 414
August	21 102	16 298	9 852	3 851	5 807	1 270	613	1 099	59 892
September	20 647	16 568	9 563	3 651	5 629	1 458	693	1 006	59 215
October	20 130	15 775	8 963	3 659	5 635	1 130	609	983	56 884
November	24 536	17 771	9 919	4 335	6 134	1 256	700	1 211	65 862
December	23 294	17 841	10 974	4 423	6 385	1 899	628	1 187	66 631
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1998									
October	22 439	16 544	12 296	4 192	6 526	1 211	735	1 220	65 163
November	22 815	17 015	13 319	4 289	6 547	1 326	651	1 243	67 205
December	23 191	17 671	13 277	4 177	6 519	1 161	766	1 245	68 007
1999									
January	22 636	17 447	11 924	4 065	6 411	1 346	624	1 231	65 684
February	21 752	16 692	12 289	4 114	6 396	1 172	747	1 188	64 350
March	22 865	17 247	13 033	4 489	6 810	1 287	747	1 182	67 660
April	22 876	18 929	11 119	4 089	6 594	1 422	775	1 149	66 953
May	22 029	16 843	10 939	4 078	6 338	1 179	691	1 172	63 269
June	22 805	17 135	11 107	4 007	6 989	1 156	642	1 135	64 976
July	23 381	17 038	10 047	3 992	5 079	1 252	657	1 167	62 613
August	21 162	16 328	10 170	3 788	5 988	1 192	668	1 053	60 349
September	21 574	16 437	10 000	3 598	5 842	1 255	710	966	60 382
October	21 621	16 384	9 267	3 824	5 862	1 142	657	1 082	59 839
November	22 368	17 192	10 020	4 107	5 848	1 222	740	1 205	62 702
December	24 066	16 397	10 827	4 180	5 976	1 247	687	1 071	64 451
TREND ESTIMATES									
1998									
October	22 894	16 930	12 741	4 282	6 572	1 260	685	1 269	66 633
November	22 752	16 996	12 751	4 197	6 481	1 240	687	1 237	66 341
December	22 655	17 142	12 739	4 169	6 459	1 245	700	1 218	66 327
1999									
January	22 586	17 322	12 659	4 180	6 510	1 262	717	1 208	66 444
February	22 557	17 471	12 419	4 197	6 573	1 272	725	1 200	66 414
March	22 568	17 546	12 050	4 198	6 596	1 273	726	1 189	66 146
April	22 604	17 525	11 627	4 167	6 541	1 266	718	1 174	65 622
May	22 582	17 376	11 182	4 096	6 411	1 251	703	1 152	64 753
June	22 439	17 152	10 732	3 993	6 224	1 233	685	1 127	63 585
July	22 226	16 902	10 335	3 894	6 032	1 214	673	1 103	62 379
August	22 046	16 687	10 072	3 840	5 892	1 204	672	1 087	61 500
September	22 021	16 578	9 965	3 844	5 828	1 203	680	1 079	61 198
October	22 157	16 558	9 940	3 884	5 817	1 208	689	1 080	61 333
November	22 417	16 582	9 981	3 946	5 831	1 216	699	1 086	61 758
December	22 692	16 574	10 075	4 020	5 846	1 221	706	1 096	62 230

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

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Top Make/models: **Original**—December 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>	Australia
Holden									
Commodore/Calais	2 449	2 613	876	774	628	163	44	181	7 728
Barina	283	330	87	79	85	13	2	8	887
Vectra	248	320	52	137	55	18	5	26	861
Other	731	620	389	156	214	33	9	36	2 188
Total	3 711	3 883	1 404	1 146	982	227	60	251	11 664
Toyota									
Camry/Vienta	1 322	805	544	204	360	81	53	59	3 428
Corolla	772	434	327	94	145	44	14	44	1 874
Echo	482	407	174	88	212	12	11	12	1 398
Other	1 136	643	717	186	372	55	56	31	3 196
Total	3 712	2 289	1 762	572	1 089	192	134	146	9 896
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 847	1 888	979	331	527	190	34	101	5 897
Festiva	317	129	170	91	79	15	3	20	824
Laser	232	170	115	61	46	20	4	10	658
Other	193	203	90	46	49	13	2	5	601
Total	2 589	2 390	1 354	529	701	238	43	136	7 980
Mitsubishi									
Magna	573	701	301	214	238	112	18	87	2 244
Lancer	436	507	133	82	147	81	13	40	1 439
Pajero	165	85	76	21	47	9	8	6	417
Other	360	234	134	36	87	14	2	24	891
Total	1 534	1 527	644	353	519	216	41	157	4 991
Hyundai									
Excel	692	476	324	119	435	140	34	31	2 251
Sonata	191	221	142	29	85	53	1	10	732
Lantra	214	108	87	25	101	27	4	12	578
Other	140	118	85	18	47	3		1	412
Total	1 237	923	638	191	668	223	39	54	3 973
Nissan									
Pulsar	528	422	375	47	122	56	13	54	1 617
Patrol	207	121	151	39	105	9	8	6	646
Pathfinder	125	76	48	13	31	1		5	299
Other	62	52	71	16	17	4	2	5	229
Total	922	671	645	115	275	70	23	70	2 791
Honda									
CRV	379	257	59	49	72	20	9	16	861
Civic	293	170	38	41	49	8	3	11	613
HR-V	104	65	20	10	26	1	4	3	233
Other	219	176	56	17	38	2	2	17	527
Total	995	668	173	117	185	31	18	47	2 234

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 Victoria in November and December in 1999 and all months for Queensland, the statistics do not depart significantly from actual registrations during the period. In the case of these two states, 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 6180 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 1998* (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

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

- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 75c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 75c per minute).
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	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 7400	08 8237 7566
	Hobart	03 6222 5800	03 6222 5995
	Darwin	08 8943 2111	08 8981 1218

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