

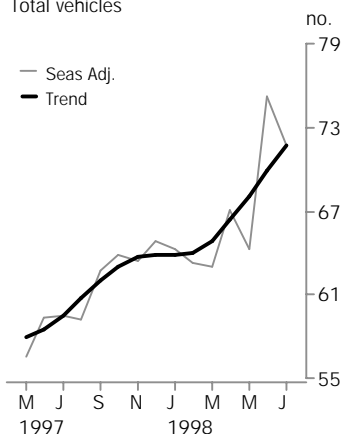
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 28 AUG 1998

New vehicle registrations

Total vehicles



JULY KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

	Jul 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	71 657	2.5	20.5
Passenger vehicles	61 080	2.8	21.2
Other vehicles	10 577	0.7	16.6

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Jul 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	71 743	-4.6	20.6
Passenger vehicles	61 511	-4.0	22.0
Other vehicles	10 232	-7.7	12.5

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Jul 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	73 959	-16.0	19.1
Passenger vehicles	63 231	-13.6	20.9
Other vehicles	10 728	-28.0	9.5

JULY KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations has risen this month by 2.5%. This follows a similar rise of 2.7% in the previous month. Registrations of passenger vehicles in July 1998 rose by 2.8% while other vehicles rose by 0.7% 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 July 1998 decreased by 4.6% following record levels last month.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total registrations of new motor vehicles for July 1998 decreased by 16.0% compared with June 1998, with passenger vehicles decreasing by 13.6% and other vehicles decreasing by 28.0%. All states and territories recorded falls from last month's record level.

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE

August 1998
September 1998
October 1998

RELEASE DATE

25 September 1998
30 October 1998
27 November 1998

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

TREND REVISIONS

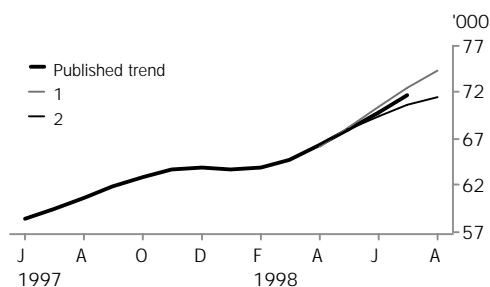
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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

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

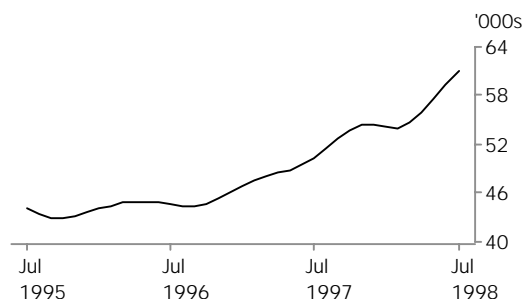


T. J. Skinner
Acting Australian Statistician

VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE: Trend series

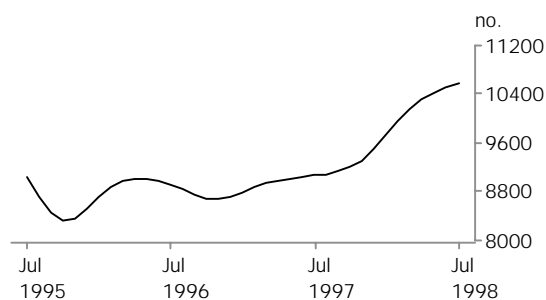
PASSENGER VEHICLES

The trend for passenger vehicles has risen steeply in each of the last 5 months and is now 13.0% above the low in February 1998 and 42.0% above the October 1995 low.



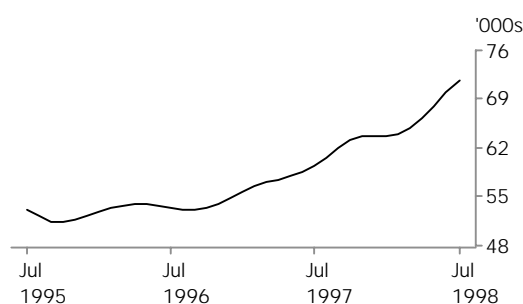
OTHER VEHICLES

The trend for other vehicles has increased over the last 20 months but the rate of increase has slowed in recent months. The level in July was 26.9% above the low in October 1995.



TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)

The trend for total vehicles has risen generally since September 1996 and is now 34.7% above the low of that month.



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

<i>Month</i>	<i>Passenger vehicles</i>	<i>Other vehicles</i>	<i>Total</i>
ORIGINAL			
1997			
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	53 726	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	63 231	10 728	73 959
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
1997			
May	47 915	8 685	56 600
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	61 511	10 232	71 743
TREND ESTIMATES			
1997			
May	48 879	9 013	57 892
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	54 094	9 722	63 817
February	54 060	9 957	64 017
March	54 681	10 163	64 844
April	55 981	10 319	66 301
May	57 657	10 431	68 089
June	59 410	10 506	69 917
July	61 080	10 577	71 657

(a) Trend estimates for January 1998 to June 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								
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	53 726	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	63 231	8 733	1 172	372	93	358	73 959	2 377

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									
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	15 552	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	25 429	18 622	13 804	5 087	7 239	1 497	648	1 633	73 959
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1997									
May	19 694	13 977	10 362	3 637	5 961	1 260	660	1 049	56 600
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	25 381	17 597	13 100	4 984	7 136	1 419	591	1 534	71 743
TREND ESTIMATES									
1997									
May	19 992	14 118	10 870	3 810	6 058	1 247	696	1 100	57 892
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	21 573	15 830	12 100	4 221	6 603	1 273	754	1 464	63 817
February	21 603	15 834	12 168	4 230	6 664	1 299	768	1 451	64 017
March	21 833	16 034	12 327	4 296	6 812	1 331	771	1 438	64 844
April	22 297	16 403	12 581	4 423	7 023	1 368	765	1 440	66 301
May	22 906	16 855	12 890	4 589	7 237	1 405	752	1 454	68 089
June	23 575	17 310	13 209	4 759	7 418	1 438	736	1 471	69 917
July	24 204	17 738	13 522	4 931	7 570	1 473	718	1 499	71 657

(a) Trend estimates for January 1998 to June 1998 have been revised.

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Selected Make/models: **Original**—July 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>	<i>Australia</i>
Holden									
Commodore/Calais	2 815	2 198	1 433	694	827	158	39	264	8 428
Vectra	335	302	95	58	69	21	3	19	902
Barina	325	146	109	65	46	17	6	14	728
Other	312	304	200	107	149	15	5	15	1 107
Total	3 787	2 950	1 837	924	1 091	211	53	312	11 165
Ford									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 790	1 816	1 118	349	548	81	50	191	5 943
Festiva	787	602	603	311	191	37	18	32	2 581
Laser	281	250	134	51	63	20	3	22	824
Other	278	274	118	55	104	11	5	16	861
Total	3 136	2 942	1 973	766	906	149	76	261	10 209
Toyota									
Camry/Vienta	1 341	815	596	151	323	84	42	79	3 431
Corolla	578	275	247	101	228	42	21	31	1 523
Starlet	483	308	187	77	98	10	5	21	1 189
Other	884	554	578	163	293	56	37	46	2 611
Total	3 286	1 952	1 608	492	942	192	105	177	8 754
Hyundai									
Excel	2 420	1 596	1 033	455	747	190	44	148	6 633
Lantra	207	131	91	33	115	33	6	3	619
Sonata	192	97	65	21	61	5	7	7	455
Other	41	17	22	4	9	3	2	2	100
Total	2 860	1 841	1 211	513	932	231	59	160	7 807
Mitsubishi									
Magna	684	870	727	488	296	77	33	138	3 313
Lancer	410	447	306	125	111	19	21	38	1 477
Mirage	425	132	90	26	28	3	4	13	721
Other	317	296	244	67	99	21	6	23	1 073
Total	1 836	1 745	1 367	706	534	120	64	212	6 584
Nissan									
Pulsar	568	526	420	62	120	16	9	46	1 767
Patrol	264	209	273	63	195	14	16	15	1 049
Maxima	48	138	111	10	25	3		2	337
Other	71	59	43	12	23				208
Total	951	932	847	147	363	33	25	63	3 361
Honda									
Civic	294	172	110	25	48	14	4	8	675
CRV	268	154	121	16	70	11	6	6	652
Accord	213	203	109	36	60	8	3	8	640
Other	201	97	44	10	27	2	2	2	385
Total	976	626	384	87	205	35	15	24	2 352

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.

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