

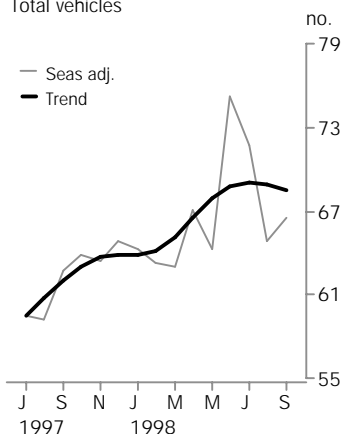
# NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

AUSTRALIA  
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 30 OCT 1998

## New vehicle registrations

Total vehicles



## SEPTEMBER KEY FIGURES

### TREND ESTIMATES

	Sep 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	68 491	-0.7	10.5
Passenger vehicles	58 050	-0.8	9.8
Other vehicles	10 441	0.1	14.2

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Sep 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	66 519	2.6	6.1
Passenger vehicles	56 106	2.8	4.9
Other vehicles	10 412	1.8	12.8

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

	Sep 98	monthly % change	annual % change
Total new motor vehicle registrations	65 238	1.4	4.4
Passenger vehicles	55 373	1.1	3.1
Other vehicles	9 865	3.3	12.2

## SEPTEMBER KEY POINTS

### TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend for total new motor vehicle registrations has fallen this month by 0.7%. This follows a slight drop of 0.2% in the previous month. Registrations of passenger vehicles in September 1998 fell by 0.8% while other vehicles rose by 0.1% compared with last month.

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

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- Seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle registrations for September 1998 increased by 2.6%. Passenger vehicles rose by 2.8% and other vehicles by 1.8%. This rise follows the previous two monthly falls in seasonally adjusted registrations since the record level in June 1998.

### ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- Total new motor vehicle registrations increased by 1.4% this month compared with August 1998 with passenger vehicles up by 1.1% and other vehicles increasing by 3.3%.

- 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
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
March 1999	30 April 1999

## CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

The title of table 4 has changed to Top Make/models. From this issue there will no longer be commentary text included with the graphs on page 3.

## TREND REVISIONS

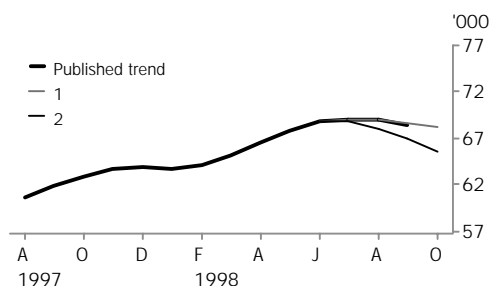
The most recent trend estimates are likely to be revised when new seasonally adjusted estimates become available.

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 4.5%.
- 2 The October seasonally adjusted estimate for total vehicle registrations is lower than the September 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.

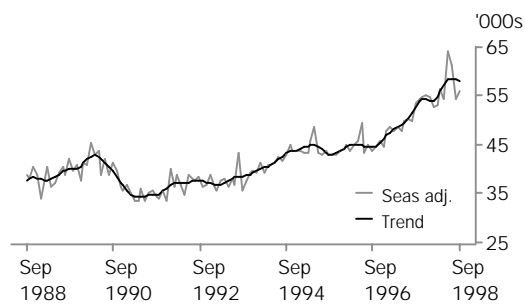


W. McLennan  
Australian Statistician

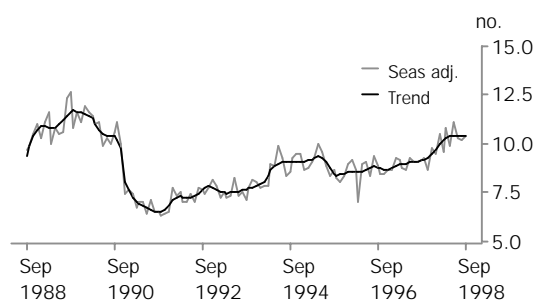
## VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS BY TYPE(a)

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND

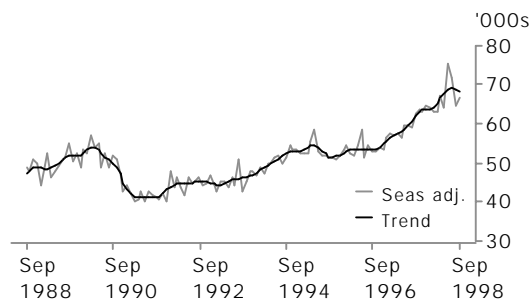
#### PASSENGER VEHICLES



#### OTHER VEHICLES



#### TOTAL VEHICLES (EXCLUDING MOTOR CYCLES)



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

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

<i>Month</i>	<i>Passenger vehicles</i>	<i>Other vehicles</i>	<i>Total</i>
ORIGINAL			
<b>1997</b>			
July	52 302	9 800	<b>62 102</b>
August	49 235	8 348	<b>57 583</b>
September	53 726	8 789	<b>62 515</b>
October	57 471	9 180	<b>66 651</b>
November	52 945	8 521	<b>61 466</b>
December	58 252	9 675	<b>67 927</b>
<b>1998</b>			
January	44 164	7 163	<b>51 327</b>
February	50 794	9 424	<b>60 218</b>
March	57 735	10 567	<b>68 302</b>
April	50 735	9 912	<b>60 647</b>
May	54 185	10 868	<b>65 053</b>
June	73 153	14 901	<b>88 054</b>
July	63 188	10 781	<b>73 969</b>
August	54 789	9 551	<b>64 340</b>
September	55 373	9 865	<b>65 238</b>
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
<b>1997</b>			
July	50 414	9 094	<b>59 508</b>
August	50 076	9 082	<b>59 158</b>
September	53 465	9 230	<b>62 695</b>
October	54 573	9 328	<b>63 901</b>
November	54 708	8 700	<b>63 408</b>
December	55 012	9 839	<b>64 852</b>
<b>1998</b>			
January	54 762	9 503	<b>64 265</b>
February	52 813	10 492	<b>63 305</b>
March	53 351	9 617	<b>62 968</b>
April	56 294	10 828	<b>67 123</b>
May	54 372	9 940	<b>64 312</b>
June	64 081	11 082	<b>75 163</b>
July	61 469	10 282	<b>71 752</b>
August	54 574	10 233	<b>64 807</b>
September	56 106	10 412	<b>66 519</b>
TREND ESTIMATES			
<b>1997</b>			
July	50 400	9 068	<b>59 468</b>
August	51 614	9 092	<b>60 706</b>
September	52 855	9 139	<b>61 994</b>
October	53 807	9 200	<b>63 007</b>
November	54 364	9 317	<b>63 681</b>
December	54 360	9 493	<b>63 853</b>
<b>1998</b>			
January	54 095	9 722	<b>63 817</b>
February	54 169	9 966	<b>64 134</b>
March	54 913	10 188	<b>65 101</b>
April	56 165	10 344	<b>66 509</b>
May	57 440	10 418	<b>67 858</b>
June	58 325	10 449	<b>68 774</b>
July	58 644	10 455	<b>69 099</b>
August	58 520	10 434	<b>68 954</b>
September	58 050	10 441	<b>68 491</b>

(a) Trend estimates for March 1998 to August 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
<b>1997</b>								
July	52 302	8 091	978	355	88	288	<b>62 102</b>	1 914
August	49 235	6 672	935	306	131	304	<b>57 583</b>	2 021
September	53 726	7 172	881	308	140	288	<b>62 515</b>	2 101
October	57 471	7 311	952	425	151	341	<b>66 651</b>	2 850
November	52 945	6 927	891	328	120	255	<b>61 466</b>	2 452
December	58 252	7 926	1 019	351	103	276	<b>67 927</b>	2 549
<b>1998</b>								
January	44 164	6 068	562	197	42	294	<b>51 327</b>	2 181
February	50 794	7 909	859	270	77	309	<b>60 218</b>	2 231
March	57 735	8 800	994	354	85	334	<b>68 302</b>	2 123
April	50 735	8 153	1 003	341	105	310	<b>60 647</b>	2 185
May	54 185	9 031	1 038	353	101	345	<b>65 053</b>	2 013
June	73 153	12 702	1 275	418	104	402	<b>88 054</b>	2 145
July	63 188	8 760	1 178	372	110	361	<b>73 969</b>	2 333
August	54 789	7 700	1 040	413	85	313	<b>64 340</b>	2 276
September	55 373	7 991	1 129	327	123	295	<b>65 238</b>	2 732

## 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									
<b>1997</b>									
July	20 470	15 483	12 345	3 896	6 489	1 476	664	1 279	<b>62 102</b>
August	18 647	15 249	10 749	3 876	5 937	1 314	589	1 222	<b>57 583</b>
September	21 330	15 552	11 712	4 174	6 297	1 503	632	1 315	<b>62 515</b>
October	21 813	17 462	11 998	4 335	7 489	1 387	712	1 455	<b>66 651</b>
November	21 056	15 252	11 265	4 199	6 533	1 108	619	1 434	<b>61 466</b>
December	21 879	17 038	13 152	4 483	6 977	2 153	644	1 601	<b>67 927</b>
<b>1998</b>									
January	17 342	12 273	9 884	3 366	5 862	925	574	1 101	<b>51 327</b>
February	20 840	14 996	11 176	3 980	6 290	1 007	641	1 288	<b>60 218</b>
March	23 659	17 029	12 646	4 348	6 959	1 224	873	1 564	<b>68 302</b>
April	20 571	14 962	11 760	4 063	6 190	1 033	750	1 318	<b>60 647</b>
May	22 357	16 074	11 489	4 379	7 456	1 242	784	1 272	<b>65 053</b>
June	29 143	21 013	18 552	5 761	8 977	1 600	1 212	1 796	<b>88 054</b>
July	25 440	18 620	13 800	5 092	7 239	1 497	648	1 633	<b>73 969</b>
August	21 692	16 286	12 018	4 540	6 386	1 351	638	1 429	<b>64 340</b>
September	22 310	16 599	12 434	4 166	6 378	1 507	606	1 238	<b>65 238</b>
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
<b>1997</b>									
July	20 141	14 622	11 372	3 766	6 379	1 381	635	1 211	<b>59 508</b>
August	19 709	15 390	11 039	3 848	6 128	1 237	619	1 187	<b>59 158</b>
September	21 165	15 757	11 991	4 064	6 500	1 265	677	1 276	<b>62 695</b>
October	21 650	16 108	11 775	4 110	6 935	1 268	668	1 387	<b>63 901</b>
November	21 507	15 996	11 873	4 167	6 563	1 144	650	1 507	<b>63 408</b>
December	21 335	16 179	12 332	4 537	6 726	1 400	762	1 581	<b>64 852</b>
<b>1998</b>									
January	22 083	15 915	12 002	4 300	6 569	1 268	787	1 342	<b>64 265</b>
February	21 760	15 503	12 190	4 033	6 464	1 206	758	1 390	<b>63 305</b>
March	20 725	15 604	12 342	3 961	6 667	1 338	788	1 542	<b>62 968</b>
April	22 791	16 465	12 740	4 597	6 895	1 448	762	1 425	<b>67 123</b>
May	21 923	16 210	11 064	4 472	7 355	1 276	669	1 343	<b>64 312</b>
June	24 020	18 624	15 413	5 018	8 054	1 590	911	1 532	<b>75 163</b>
July	25 391	17 595	13 096	4 990	7 137	1 419	591	1 534	<b>71 752</b>
August	21 528	16 216	12 139	4 658	6 914	1 307	699	1 346	<b>64 807</b>
September	23 597	16 856	12 496	4 044	6 416	1 295	636	1 180	<b>66 519</b>
TREND ESTIMATES									
<b>1997</b>									
July	20 276	14 637	11 310	3 848	6 271	1 274	657	1 194	<b>59 468</b>
August	20 558	15 108	11 532	3 925	6 406	1 273	646	1 258	<b>60 706</b>
September	20 897	15 586	11 711	4 036	6 526	1 265	649	1 324	<b>61 994</b>
October	21 206	15 912	11 837	4 138	6 602	1 258	670	1 384	<b>63 007</b>
November	21 448	16 030	11 973	4 207	6 632	1 257	702	1 433	<b>63 681</b>
December	21 567	15 954	12 049	4 226	6 608	1 260	730	1 460	<b>63 853</b>
<b>1998</b>									
January	21 572	15 830	12 101	4 220	6 603	1 273	754	1 464	<b>63 817</b>
February	21 651	15 856	12 193	4 234	6 675	1 302	770	1 454	<b>64 134</b>
March	21 910	16 079	12 382	4 318	6 848	1 339	776	1 449	<b>65 101</b>
April	22 334	16 435	12 626	4 454	7 064	1 376	769	1 451	<b>66 509</b>
May	22 790	16 802	12 841	4 595	7 226	1 400	752	1 453	<b>67 858</b>
June	23 172	17 073	12 978	4 692	7 278	1 410	730	1 441	<b>68 774</b>
July	23 433	17 201	13 012	4 712	7 221	1 402	707	1 411	<b>69 099</b>
August	23 576	17 219	12 958	4 672	7 094	1 382	683	1 370	<b>68 954</b>
September	23 645	17 152	12 848	4 589	6 924	1 352	659	1 322	<b>68 491</b>

(a) Trend estimates for March 1998 to August 1998 have been revised.

NEW PASSENGER VEHICLES, Top Make/models: **Original**—September 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>	<b><i>Australia</i></b>
<b>Holden</b>									
Commodore/Calais	2 606	2 323	1 275	593	753	223	37	187	<b>7 997</b>
Barina	254	160	120	50	57	15	3	12	<b>671</b>
Vectra	188	199	71	48	41	12	1	13	<b>573</b>
Other	223	343	143	48	118	15	2	18	<b>910</b>
Total	3 271	3 025	1 609	739	969	265	43	230	<b>10 151</b>
<b>Toyota</b>									
Camry/Vienta	1 364	1 076	598	191	351	78	38	60	<b>3 756</b>
Corolla	815	399	266	98	257	62	26	37	<b>1 960</b>
Starlet	459	301	226	74	92	18	8	36	<b>1 214</b>
Other	1 111	541	646	172	311	60	55	44	<b>2 940</b>
Total	3 749	2 317	1 736	535	1 011	218	127	177	<b>9 870</b>
<b>Ford</b>									
Falcon/Fairmont	1 914	1 986	1 172	382	607	86	22	137	<b>6 306</b>
Festiva	371	283	267	75	65	11	10	14	<b>1 096</b>
Laser	201	205	147	32	34	9	6	11	<b>645</b>
Other	220	241	102	43	78	9	4	9	<b>706</b>
Total	2 706	2 715	1 688	532	784	115	42	171	<b>8 753</b>
<b>Mitsubishi</b>									
Magna	706	588	497	526	237	56	18	76	<b>2 704</b>
Lancer	426	487	237	107	114	79	12	32	<b>1 494</b>
Mirage	364	117	131	28	48	8		24	<b>720</b>
Other	337	213	207	61	88	18	3	19	<b>946</b>
Total	1 833	1 405	1 072	722	487	161	33	151	<b>5 864</b>
<b>Hyundai</b>									
Excel	952	485	513	167	459	28	18	59	<b>2 681</b>
Lantra	205	106	108	23	106	14		9	<b>571</b>
Sonata	209	136	103	21	80	6	3	5	<b>563</b>
Other	19	17	6	3	6			2	<b>53</b>
Total	1 385	744	730	214	651	48	21	75	<b>3 868</b>
<b>Nissan</b>									
Pulsar	639	485	672	117	184	105	6	58	<b>2 266</b>
Patrol	306	201	311	57	165	12	37	13	<b>1 102</b>
Maxima	25	35	36	4	21		1	2	<b>124</b>
Other	75	56	42	3	14	2		5	<b>197</b>
Total	1 045	777	1 061	181	384	119	44	78	<b>3 689</b>
<b>Honda</b>									
CRV	291	160	106	29	67	13	13	10	<b>689</b>
Civic	245	175	91	22	48	10	6	6	<b>603</b>
Accord	196	142	86	22	57	12	4	2	<b>521</b>
Other	152	86	38	14	16	2	1	4	<b>313</b>
Total	884	563	321	87	188	37	24	22	<b>2 126</b>

## 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

<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 seats or more, 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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