

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics —

- ring Mr Valdis Juskevics, Canberra 526068 or our State office, or
- write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

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CENSUS OF MOTOR VEHICLES, 30 SEPTEMBER 1976 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

MAIN FEATURES

- At 30 September 1976 the registered vehicle population was 6,635,600, an increase of 29.9% since the motor vehicle census held five years earlier. This represents an annual average rate of growth of 5.4%.
- The number of registered motor cars and station wagons (5,119,900) rose by 28.3%, and motor cycles (292,300) rose by 91.5% since 30 September 1971.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statement presents preliminary results of a census of motor vehicles on register in each State and Territory at 30 September 1976. The statistics are derived from information made available by the motor vehicle registration authorities in each State and Territory and include diplomatic and consular vehicles and all Government-owned vehicles other than those belonging to the defence services.

2. For census purposes, motor vehicles on register at 30 September 1976 are defined as those motor vehicles for which registration fees were paid for a period including 30 September 1976, either in advance, or on that date, or retrospectively. Since most registration authorities accept renewals of registrations a considerable time after the due date, registration transactions occurring over a lengthy period after 30 September 1976 have had to be analysed to ensure that all relevant retrospective transactions are taken into account. Vehicles are excluded from the census count if their fees have not been paid in respect of 30 September 1976 at the end of the period allowed by the relevant registration authority, even though at that date their registrations may not have been formally terminated.
3. The statistics contained in this statement are subject to revision when details of all appropriate transactions become available.
4. The vehicle groupings in this statement conform

to the revised motor vehicle classification already adopted in publications showing new motor vehicle registrations from 1 July 1976. This classification has as its main features:

- (a) adoption of the principle of accepting vehicle-type data as recorded by the registration authority;
 - (b) allocation of commercial vehicles to the categories 'utilities', 'panel vans', or 'rigid trucks' solely on the basis of recorded body-type; under the previous classification system, these commercial vehicles were classified as 'light commercial type' (if having less than 1 tonne carrying capacity) or as 'rigid' (if having a carrying capacity of 1 tonne or more), the light commercial type being then further sub-divided into 'open' or 'closed';
 - (c) the inclusion in 'other truck types' of ambulances and hearses (previously classified as 'light commercial, closed') and motorised caravans.
5. The previous census of motor vehicles was taken at 30 September 1971. Statistics of motor vehicles on register by vehicle type have been continuously up-dated in the intervening period to provide the "on register" series which appears in various official publications, including the bulletin *Motor Vehicle Registrations* (Reference No. 14.2). When the final results of the census are available, intercensal estimates of motor vehicles on register will be revised.
 6. More detailed tabulations will be published in separate census bulletins to be issued for each State and Territory and for Australia. These bulletins will be published sequentially as the final census information for each State and Territory becomes available.
 7. All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Publications of the Australian Bureau of Statistics* (Reference No. 1.8) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

MOTOR VEHICLE CENSUS : 30 SEPTEMBER 1976
(^{'000})

<i>Type of vehicle</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>N.T.</i>	<i>A.C.T.</i>	<i>Australia</i>
Motor cars and station wagons	1,712.6	1,476.7	722.9	509.2	441.8	158.7	18.1	79.9	5,119.9
Utilities	131.8	105.2	87.8	41.4	54.4	17.0	7.4	4.6	449.6
Panel vans	108.2	47.1	34.7	19.6	34.1	8.3	1.9	4.7	258.4
Rigid trucks	115.4	119.1	92.7	36.3	42.9	10.3	1.9	2.5	421.1
Articulated trucks	13.1	9.8	5.9	5.2	3.4	1.2	0.3	0.1	38.9
Other truck types	7.9	4.7	2.6	4.1	3.8	1.1	0.2	0.1	24.3
Buses	11.1	6.8	3.7	3.2	3.3	1.7	0.2	0.9	31.0
Motor cycles	94.4	52.5	72.8	31.8	28.0	6.5	2.6	3.7	292.3
Total motor vehicles (a)	2,194.6	1,821.9	1,023.0	650.7	611.5	204.8	32.7	96.4	6,635.6

MOTOR VEHICLE CENSUS : 30 SEPTEMBER 1971

Motor cars and station wagons	1,393.4	1,131.4	540.6	396.7	331.2	126.4	17.6	53.6	3,990.9
Other vehicles (a)	313.3	233.7	172.5	90.0	102.5	33.0	10.9	7.3	963.3
Motor cycles	60.6	28.2	26.8	16.9	12.4	3.5	1.9	2.4	152.6
Total motor vehicles (a)	1,767.4	1,393.3	739.8	503.5	446.1	163.0	30.3	63.3	5,106.8

(a) Excludes tractors, plant and equipment, caravans and trailers.