

REGISTRATIONS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, AUSTRALIA  
OCTOBER 1990, PRELIMINARY

PHONE INQUIRIES

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NOTE: Caution needs to be exercised when interpreting month to month movements in the original and seasonally adjusted statistics of new motor vehicle registrations. The series are affected by variations in the rate of processing of records particularly in the Victorian State registrations system, although the situation in that State has improved considerably in recent months.

MAIN FEATURES

The original, seasonally adjusted and trend estimates of total motor vehicle registrations for October 1989, September 1990 and October 1990 (See Note above) are:

	October 1989	September 1990	October 1990	Oct. 89–Oct. 90 % change	Sep. 90–Oct. 90 % change
Original	51,183	50,018	52,627	2.8	5.2
Seasonally adjusted	51,781	50,872	50,283	-2.9	-1.2
Trend	51,815	49,834	49,608	-4.3	-0.5

REGISTRATIONS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES

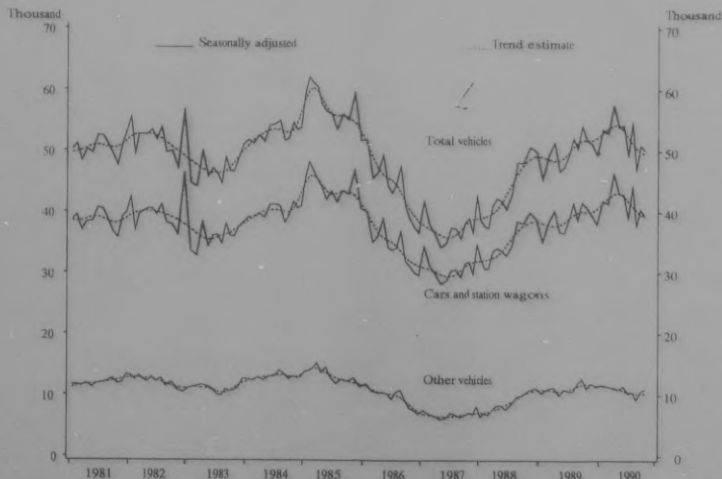


TABLE 1. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES BY TYPE OF VEHICLE,  
ORIGINAL, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATE: AUSTRALIA

	Motor cars and station wagons			Other vehicles(a)			Total(a)		
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate
1989-90—									
August	42,169	38,649	39,961	12,621	11,816	11,462	54,790	50,466	51,423
September	42,996	41,577	40,098	12,236	12,715	11,684	55,232	54,290	53,782
October	40,314	40,727	40,033	10,869	11,054	11,782	51,183	51,781	51,815
November	41,346	39,415	40,053	11,919	11,847	11,743	53,265	51,262	51,796
December	37,271	37,970	40,553	9,897	11,381	11,643	47,168	49,351	52,196
January	34,718	41,881	41,384	9,494	11,711	11,513	44,212	53,591	52,897
February	37,665	41,427	42,530	10,548	11,474	11,408	48,213	52,901	53,738
March	49,754	46,424	43,004	12,418	11,142	11,286	62,172	57,566	54,290
April	37,385	43,046	43,180	9,899	10,930	11,067	47,284	53,976	54,247
May	47,477	42,853	42,693	12,876	11,402	10,783	60,353	54,255	53,477
June	40,858	38,915	41,787	11,605	10,274	10,533	52,463	49,189	52,320
1990-91—									
July	44,603	44,315	40,896	11,158	10,499	10,354	55,761	54,814	51,249
August	40,550	37,567	40,189	9,954	9,263	10,259	50,504	46,830	50,448
September	40,277	40,390	39,592	9,741	10,482	10,243	50,018	50,872	49,834
October p	41,167	39,343	39,326	11,460	10,940	10,282	52,627	50,283	49,608

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

TABLE 2. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES BY TYPE OF VEHICLE: AUSTRALIA

	Motor cars and station wagons	Truck					Total (excludes motor cycles)	Motor cycles
		Utilities	Panel vans	Rigid	Articulated	Non-freight carrying(a)		
1989-90—								
August	42,169	4,517	2,972	3,997	363	168	604	54,790
September	42,996	4,472	2,587	4,052	401	174	550	55,232
October	40,314	4,132	2,551	3,092	344	146	604	51,183
November	41,346	4,292	3,019	3,459	425	204	520	53,265
December	37,271	3,553	2,448	3,098	244	128	426	47,168
January	34,718	3,612	3,351	2,601	248	123	559	44,212
February	37,665	3,982	2,554	3,155	250	97	510	48,213
March	49,754	4,313	3,164	3,795	367	161	618	62,172
April	37,385	3,616	2,307	3,012	368	114	482	47,284
May	47,477	4,767	3,165	3,803	361	170	610	60,353
June	40,858	4,225	2,935	3,380	353	187	525	52,463
1990-91—								
July	44,603	3,906	2,909	3,307	298	182	556	55,761
August	40,550	3,529	2,654	2,830	236	148	537	50,504
September	40,277	3,738	2,569	2,603	228	129	474	50,018
October p	41,167	4,483	2,752	3,202	241	178	604	52,627

(a) Formerly other truck type vehicles.

TABLE 3. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES(a), ORIGINAL, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATE: STATE / TERRITORY

	NSW			Vic.			Qld		
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate
1989-90—									
August	19,978	18,096	17,849	13,875	12,686	14,217	8,990	8,344	8,454
September	18,407	18,012	18,284	17,522	16,996	14,151	7,841	7,963	8,497
October	18,964	19,820	18,783	12,090	11,797	13,665	9,254	9,443	8,565
November	19,907	19,617	19,159	13,306	12,593	13,158	8,542	8,339	8,649
December	15,340	16,552	19,337	13,818	14,897	13,145	7,691	7,762	8,748
January	18,218	22,211	19,314	8,440	10,161	13,624	8,003	9,838	8,795
February	17,288	18,816	19,238	12,051	13,276	14,362	8,257	9,075	8,822
March	21,025	19,155	19,123	19,521	18,608	14,951	9,401	8,518	8,839
April	14,715	16,707	18,909	14,863	16,418	15,156	7,433	8,569	8,880
May	23,404	20,629	18,637	15,066	14,112	14,780	10,455	9,113	8,942
June	20,071	18,583	18,360	12,378	11,868	14,056	8,919	8,222	9,022
1990-91—									
July	19,266	18,612	18,221	15,627	15,128	13,191	10,613	10,673	9,089
August	17,614	16,077	18,146	12,055	11,056	12,507	8,987	8,264	9,144
September	18,093	18,294	18,124	12,701	12,643	11,577	8,747	9,277	9,161
October p	19,580	19,318	18,236	12,627	11,796	11,756	9,614	8,998	9,142

TABLE 3. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES (a), ORIGINAL, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATE: STATE / TERRITORY — continued

	SA			WA			Tas (b)		
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate
1989-90—									
August	3,767	3,624	3,465	5,310	4,990	4,768	1,099		1,130
September	4,027	3,897	3,441	4,554	4,673	4,715	1,113		1,091
October	3,292	3,218	3,434	4,808	4,652	4,693	1,088		1,076
November	3,750	3,287	3,473	4,843	4,701	4,715	1,253		1,098
December	3,336	3,436	3,564	4,281	4,366	4,784	1,461		1,154
January	2,924	3,661	3,685	4,609	5,238	4,866	961		1,220
February	3,769	4,115	3,791	4,536	4,966	4,897	1,105		1,272
March	4,025	3,621	3,866	5,291	4,807	4,848	1,317		1,300
April	3,720	4,424	3,883	4,262	5,019	4,726	1,022		1,303
May	3,793	3,477	3,847	4,888	4,462	4,569	1,271		1,284
June	3,845	3,711	3,806	4,524	4,133	4,423	1,166		1,249
1990-91—									
July	3,604	3,633	3,783	4,037	4,119	4,327	1,126		1,218
August	4,147	4,051	3,778	4,877	4,612	4,266	1,245		1,194
September	3,867	3,878	3,777	4,035	4,295	4,219	1,270		(c)
October p	3,833	3,600	3,745	4,385	4,069	4,178	1,135		(c)
		NT(b)		ACT(b)		Australia			
	Original	Trend estimate	Original	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate		
1989-90—									
August	544	463	1,227	1,079	54,790	50,466	51,423		
September	471	468	1,297	1,134	55,232	54,290	51,782		
October	486	469	1,203	1,131	51,183	51,781	51,815		
November	462	466	1,202	1,079	53,265	51,262	51,796		
December	360	461	8681	1,004	47,168	49,351	52,196		
January	367	455	690	937	44,212	53,591	52,897		
February	434	451	773	904	48,213	52,901	53,738		
March	518	455	1,074	907	62,172	57,566	54,290		
April	408	463	861	929	47,284	53,976	54,247		
May	508	472	968	945	80,353	54,255	53,477		
June	538	479	1,022	947	52,463	49,189	52,320		
1990-91—									
July	529	482	959	938	55,761	54,814	51,249		
August	559	(c)	1,021	(c)	50,504	46,830	50,448		
September	445	(c)	860	(c)	50,018	50,872	49,834		
October p	485	(c)	968	(c)	52,627	50,283	49,608		

(a) Excludes motor cycles, tractor, plant and equipment, caravans and trailers. (b) See paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) Trend estimates for this series for the most recent months are subject to significant revision and are not considered sufficiently reliable to release separately.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### Introduction

This publication contains preliminary information regarding registrations of new motor vehicles and includes particulars of motor cars and station wagons, utilities, panel vans, buses, rigid and articulated trucks, other truck type vehicles and motor cycles.

##### Scope and coverage

2. Motor vehicle registration statistics are obtained from data made available by the various State and Territory motor vehicle registration authorities and reflect the information as recorded in registration documents.

3. In these statistics registrations mean registrations processed by the motor vehicle registration authorities in the States and Territories during the period. In Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory the figures shown depart little from actual registrations during the period. In New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland advice of some registrations is often not received by the central motor vehicle registration authority until some time after the actual date of registration. For this reason a considerable number of registrations processed in a month actually relate to vehicles registered prior to that month. Because of these lags in registry processing, statistics of new motor vehicle registrations for periods as short as one month can

vary significantly from actual sales of new motor vehicles for the same period.

4. The statistics include vehicles with diplomatic and consular plates and State and Commonwealth Government owned vehicles other than those belonging to the defence services.

5. Recreation vehicles such as trail bikes and sand dune buggies intended for use in public places are required to be registered in Victoria and Queensland. Particulars of these registrations are regarded as outside the scope of new motor vehicle registration statistics.

##### Seasonal adjustment

6. Original and seasonally adjusted registrations of new motor vehicles are shown in Tables 1 and 3. Seasonally adjusted series are calculated for each State and Territory for the series "Motor cars and station wagons", "Other vehicles" and "Total vehicles", but those series for Tasmania, Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory are not sufficiently reliable to be released in their own right, though they are included in the Australian aggregate. The component State/Territory "Motor cars and station wagons" and "Other vehicles" seasonally adjusted figures are summed to derive the Australian figures and the two resultant figures are summed to obtain Australian

seasonally adjusted "Total vehicles". Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these statistics are available on request.

7. Seasonal adjustment may be carried out by various methods and the results may vary slightly according to the procedure adopted. Accordingly, seasonally adjusted statistics should not be regarded as in any way definitive. In interpreting particular seasonally adjusted statistics it is important to bear in mind the methods by which they have been derived and the limitations to which the methods used are subject.

8. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series may be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment procedures do not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month, such as the effect of introducing new models, processing delays, or industrial disputes. Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variation.

9. The seasonally adjusted series can, however, be smoothed to reduce the impact of the irregular component in the adjusted series. This smoothed seasonally adjusted series is called a trend estimate. The trend estimates of motor vehicle registration statistics for Australia are shown in Tables 1 and 3 and have been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to the seasonally adjusted series.

10. While this technique enables trend estimates for the latest period to be produced, it does result in revisions to the trend estimate for the most recent months as additional observations become available. There may also be revisions as a result of changes in the original data, and as a result of the re-estimation of the seasonal factors. Users may wish to refer to the ABS Information Papers, *A Guide to Smoothing Time Series — Estimates of "Trend"* (1316.0) and *Time Series Decomposition — An Overview* (1317.0) for more detailed information on smoothing of seasonally adjusted time series data.

#### Related publications

11. Users may also wish to refer to the following motor vehicle registration publications which are available on request:

*Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia* (9303.0)—issued monthly

*Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia, 1988-89* (9304.0)

12. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

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