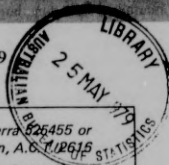


AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 9301.0

NOON 24 MAY 1979

REGISTRATIONS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES : APRIL 1979 (PRELIMINARY)



INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr R. Martyn on Canberra 526455 or our State office or, write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2615.
For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

On an original basis, registrations of new motor vehicles (excluding motor cycles, tractors, plant and equipment etc.) during April 1979 (44,909) fell 7.3% when compared with March 1979 (48,460) and fell 7.1% when compared with April 1978 (48,331).

Seasonally adjusted, the April 1979 figure (46,828) is 0.8% higher than March 1979 (46,446) and 2.1% lower than April 1978 (47,840).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Because of 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. See also paragraph 1 below.

Introduction

In these statistics, 'registrations' mean registrations processed by the motor vehicle registration authorities in the States and Territories during the period. In Victoria, Queensland and the Northern Territory, 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. In other States and the Australian Capital Territory, the figures depart little from actual registrations during the period. A table showing a monthly series of actual and processed registrations has been included in the quarterly bulletin *Motor Vehicle Registrations* (9303.0).

2. The quarterly bulletin *Motor Vehicle Registrations* (9303.0) shows quarterly statistics of new motor vehicle registrations by make for cars and station wagons, by make and tare for utilities and panel vans, and by make and gross vehicle mass/gross combination mass for rigid and articulated trucks.

Seasonal adjustment

3. Original and seasonally adjusted registrations of new motor vehicles are shown in Table 1. The two component series 'Motor cars and station wagons' and 'Other vehicles' are each adjusted separately, and the adjusted figures for total registrations are obtained by adding together the two component series. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting the component series are shown in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* (1308.0).

Classification of vehicles

4. From July 1976, a revised motor vehicle classification has been used for new motor vehicle registration statistics. This was also used in the 30 September 1976 Motor Vehicle Census. This classification, which replaced that introduced from 1 January 1972, has as its main features:

- adoption of the principle of accepting vehicle-type data as recorded by the registration authority;
- 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';
- the inclusion in 'other truck types' of ambulances and hearses (previously classified as 'light commercial, closed') and motorised caravans (but see paragraph 5 below).

5. A change in the registration system in Queensland has meant that, from October 1976, all commercial vehicles and motorised caravans registered with a gross vehicle mass of 4 tonnes or less are recorded as either utilities or panel vans. Thus from October, figures for utilities, panel vans, trucks and other truck types are not comparable with those for earlier periods.

6. Legislation to provide for the compulsory registration of recreation vehicles (e.g. trailbikes, minibikes, sand dune buggies) intended for use in public places came into force in Victoria on 17 September 1973 and in Queensland on 1 January 1977. Particulars of these registrations are regarded as outside the scope of new motor vehicle registration statistics and are accordingly excluded from statistics contained in this statement.

7. Particulars of registrations of new tractors, plant and equipment, and caravans and trailers are shown in Table 5. Many tractors (particularly the agricultural types) and items of plant and equipment are not registered, and therefore are not included in this table. The extent to which they are included varies from State to State.

8. The figures in this statement include vehicles with diplomatic and consular plates and Government-owned new vehicles other than those belonging to the defence services.

Classification by area

9. In all States, 'capital city' registrations refer to vehicles for which the address of the registered owner is located within the capital city statistical division. These statistical divisions are re-defined from time to time, usually as the result of information available from periodic censuses of population and housing.

Related publications

(a) Users may also wish to refer to the following motor vehicle registration publications which are available on request:

Motor Vehicle Registrations (9303.0)

Motor Vehicle Registrations (9304.0)

(b) Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

Production Bulletin No. 7: Motor Vehicles, Parts and Accessories (8363.0)

Imports of Assembled New Passenger Motor Cars, Australia (Preliminary) (5416.0)

All publications produced by the ABS are used in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

p preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
r figure or series revised since previous issue
— break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)
— nil

A.R. BAGNALL Acting Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, MONTHLY TOTALS, ORIGINAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: AUSTRALIA

	Motor cars and station wagons		Other vehicles (a)		Total (a)	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
1977-78 -						
February	33,615	36,948	9,767	11,206	43,382	48,154
March	34,880	34,144	10,251	10,749	45,131	44,893
April	37,108	36,705	11,223	11,135	48,331	47,840
May	40,279	36,094	12,808	11,231	53,087	47,325
June	38,133	36,941	13,364	11,783	51,497	48,724
1978-79 -						
July	38,175	37,698	12,195	11,411	50,370	49,109
August	44,459	40,379	10,947	10,297	55,406	50,676
September	41,587	43,024	9,830	10,327	51,417	53,351
October	38,780	38,990	9,908	9,859	48,688	48,849
November	39,129	37,444	9,864	9,534	48,993	46,978
December	35,199	38,646	8,568	9,369	43,767	48,015
January r	30,986	35,131	7,694	8,938	38,680	44,069
February	35,404	38,848	9,368	10,724	44,772	49,572
March r	38,935	37,100	9,525	9,346	48,460	46,446
April p	36,053	36,986	8,856	9,842	44,909	46,828

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

TABLE 2. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, BY TYPE: AUSTRALIA

Year -	Motor cars	Station wagons	Utilities	Panel vans	Trucks		Other truck type vehicles	Buses	Total (excludes motor cycles)	Motor cycles
					Rigid	Articulated				
1974-75	433,244	69,476	45,151	36,647	32,675	3,545	409	3,040	624,187	67,563
1975-76	380,713	73,924	43,500	38,296	39,374	4,139	474	3,743	584,363	60,017
1976-77	365,624	81,478	48,420	39,532	36,051	4,752	2,749	3,205	581,811	50,321
1977-78	359,472	72,967	45,946	40,312	35,034	4,000	2,474	3,712	563,917	38,049
1977-78 -										
February	28,143	5,472	3,575	2,899	2,471	294	165	363	43,382	3,028
March	29,365	5,515	3,655	3,102	2,681	318	171	324	45,131	2,970
April	31,000	6,108	3,839	3,500	3,061	318	198	307	48,331	3,135
May	33,568	6,711	4,287	4,042	3,554	361	230	334	53,087	3,242
June	31,570	6,563	4,288	3,866	4,239	425	200	346	51,497	2,601
1978-79 -										
July	31,590	6,585	4,388	3,460	3,695	508	201	343	50,370	2,776
August	36,969	7,490	4,622	3,199	3,179	443	229	275	55,406	3,153
September	34,507	7,080	3,198	3,031	2,847	348	151	255	51,417	2,937
October	31,242	7,538	3,367	2,844	2,822	376	185	314	48,688	3,083
November	31,617	7,512	3,463	2,781	2,799	417	166	238	48,993	3,025
December	28,740	6,459	3,049	2,399	2,340	323	245	212	43,767	3,306
January r	25,389	5,597	2,809	2,053	2,231	304	112	185	38,680	3,047
February	29,562	5,842	3,594	2,408	2,619	319	119	309	44,772	3,492
March r	32,453	6,482	3,533	2,581	2,689	376	106	240	48,460	3,375
April p	29,930	6,123	3,398	2,259	2,501	317	124	257	44,909	2,945

TABLE 3. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES (a)

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Year -									
1974-75	228,668	159,236	82,616	62,424	55,167	20,077	4,628	11,371	624,187
1975-76	198,015	147,159	89,740	58,406	56,201	18,381	5,832	10,629	584,363
1976-77	195,417	146,345	88,656	56,168	61,725	18,781	4,705	10,014	581,811
1977-78	197,527	143,616	83,949	49,164	57,528	18,054	4,918	9,161	563,917
1977-78 -									
February	15,183	10,969	6,603	3,846	4,587	1,268	214	712	43,382
March	16,216	10,783	6,665	4,326	4,441	1,454	419	827	45,131
April	17,697	11,663	7,765	4,114	4,478	1,454	490	670	48,331
May	19,700	13,798	7,240	3,903	5,458	1,601	543	844	53,087
June	18,220	12,932	8,034	4,128	5,231	1,381	688	883	51,497
1978-79 -									
July	18,726	12,731	7,907	4,392	4,518	1,336	363	897	50,370
August	19,864	13,434	8,953	4,731	5,411	1,727	307	979	55,406
September	18,364	13,283	7,853	4,558	4,623	1,377	473	886	51,417
October	16,885	13,530	7,241	4,103	4,429	1,359	314	827	48,688
November	17,598	11,836	7,848	4,175	4,911	1,468	388	769	48,993
December	15,215	10,430	7,597	3,482	4,033	2,093	254	663	43,767
January r	13,245	10,264	6,160	3,035	3,955	1,050	(b)365	606	38,680
February	16,005	12,493	6,351	3,455	3,980	1,159	(b)526	803	44,772
March r	18,479	10,612	7,766	4,211	4,793	1,476	(b)165	958	48,460
April p	15,765	11,255	7,708	3,531	4,434	1,278	(b)235	703	44,909

(a) Excludes motor cycles, tractors, plant and equipment, caravans and trailers. (b) Changes in the N.T. Motor Vehicle Registry processing system have resulted in substantial problems in separately identifying 'factory new' vehicles registered in the N.T.

TABLE 4. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, BY TYPE : STATES, APRIL 1979p

Type of vehicle	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.(b)	A.C.T.	Australia	
									Capital cities (a)	Total
Motor cars	10,775	7,875	4,745	2,478	2,634	862	83	478	19,350	29,930
Station wagons	2,231	1,499	1,020	460	613	157	36	107	4,002	6,123
Utilities	837	606	1,204	196	351	100	74	30	1,421	3,398
Panel vans	813	366	401	148	393	66	22	50	1,490	2,259
Trucks -										
rigid	900	741	217	164	374	76	7	22	1,349	2,501
articulated	114	61	65	32	21	7	10	7	123	317
Other truck type vehicles	39	42	14	9	15	5	-	-	82	124
Buses	56	65	42	44	33	5	3	9	175	257
Capital cities (a)	9,876	7,943	3,399	2,482	3,052	537	-	703	27,992	27,992
Other areas	3,312	3,312	4,309	1,049	1,382	741	235	-	-	16,917
Total (excl. motor cycles)	15,765	11,255	7,708	3,531	4,434	1,278	235	703	27,992	44,909
Motor cycles	1,031	589	654	319	229	77	7	39	1,322	2,945

(a) All registrations in the A.C.T. are included in 'capital cities'; all registrations in the Northern Territory are included in 'other areas'. (b) See footnote (b), Table 3.

TABLE 5. NEW TRACTORS, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, CARAVANS AND TRAILERS : STATES, APRIL 1979p

Type of vehicle	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.(b)	A.C.T.	Australia	
									Capital cities (a)	Total
Tractor:	21	192	105	4	92	18	3	2	62	437
Plant and equipment	89	68	37	27	40	7	1	4	139	273
Caravans	397	528	150	223	170	45	-	7	907	1,520
Trailers	2,133	1,088	1,539	759	902	251	12	77	3,834	6,761
Capital cities (a)	1,543	955	792	658	802	102	-	90	4,942	4,942
Other areas	1,097	921	1,039	355	402	219	16	-	-	4,049
Total	2,640	1,876	1,831	1,013	1,204	321	16	90	4,942	8,991

(a) All registrations in the A.C.T. are included in 'capital cities'; all registrations in the Northern Territory are included in 'other areas'. (b) See footnote (b), Table 3.

TABLE 6. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, BY TYPE : STATES, TEN MONTHS ENDED APRIL 1978-79p AND 1977-78

Type of vehicle	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.(b)	A.C.T.	Australia	
									Capital cities (a)	Total
Motor cars	112,354	83,026	46,309	27,001	26,578	9,686	1,348	5,697	208,302	311,999
Station wagons	24,300	16,518	10,347	5,134	6,832	1,857	537	1,183	44,589	66,708
Utilities	9,711	5,754	10,922	2,111	3,214	965	941	403	15,043	34,021
Panel vans	10,951	4,259	4,453	1,854	4,055	743	291	409	17,112	27,015
Trucks -										
rigid	10,085	8,390	2,283	2,173	3,663	715	190	223	15,328	27,722
articulated	1,353	887	558	381	288	129	49	86	1,638	3,731
Other truck type vehicles	563	427	150	187	146	145	3	17	1,051	1,638
Buses	829	607	362	332	311	83	31	73	1,690	2,628
Capital cities (a)	105,980	87,038	38,007	28,183	31,639	5,815	-	8,091	304,753	304,753
Other areas	64,166	32,830	37,377	10,990	13,448	8,508	3,390	-	-	170,709
Total (excl. motor cycles) -										
1978-1979p July-April	170,146	119,868	75,384	39,173	45,087	14,323	3,390	8,091	304,753	475,462
1977-1978 July-April	159,607	116,886	68,675	41,133	46,839	15,072	3,687	7,434	294,440	459,333
Motor cycles -										
1978-1979p July-April	11,440	5,900	6,754	3,167	2,294	703	393	488	14,384	31,139
1977-1978 July-April	10,971	5,389	7,281	3,782	2,887	847	531	518	14,444	32,206

(a) All registrations in the A.C.T. are included in 'capital cities'; all registrations in the Northern Territory are included in 'other areas'. (b) See footnote (b), Table 3.