



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Canberra



CATALOGUE NO. 9301.0

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 30 AUGUST 1988

REGISTRATIONS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, AUSTRALIA JULY 1988, PRELIMINARY

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NOTE: Previous issues have carried a cautionary note about an unusually large carryover of registrations in Victoria from November to December 1987. This abnormal carryover makes it difficult to correctly interpret the month to month movements in the original and seasonally adjusted figures. To assist users, an amended set of figures has been produced for total vehicles, and is shown on page 2 together with the unamended totals. However, it is not possible, for various reasons, to amend all the figures in Tables 1, 2 and 3, and the statistics in those tables have NOT been amended.

The amended and unamended trend series will contain identical data from July 1988 onward. Accordingly, this is the last issue in which the special table will be provided.

The chart below is based on the **UNAMENDED** figures.

MAIN FEATURES REGISTRATIONS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES



The trend figure for July 1988 shows a continuation in the overall upward trend in the number of motor vehicle registrations which has been evident since May 1987, following the significant decline which occurred between September 1985 and May 1987.

The original and seasonally adjusted estimates of total motor vehicle registrations in July 1987, June 1988 and July 1988 are:

	July 1987	June 1988	July 1988	July '87-July '88 % change	June '88-July '88 % change
Original	40,335	46,448	40,889	1.4	-12.0
Seasonally adjusted	36,455	41,851	40,021	9.8	-4.4

**NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, MONTHLY TOTALS, AUSTRALIA
AMENDED FOR UNUSUALLY LARGE CARRYOVERS (a)**

	<i>Unamended</i>			<i>Amended</i>		
	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Trend estimate</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Trend estimate</i>
<i>1986-87 —</i>						
May	35,773	34,838	35,553	35,773	34,838	35,432
June	r40,673	37,483	35,706	r40,673	37,483	35,713
<i>1987-88 —</i>			<i>r</i>			<i>r</i>
July	40,335	36,455	36,319	40,335	36,455	36,444
August	35,308	35,339	37,269	35,308	35,339	37,443
September r	40,672	39,079	38,244	40,672	39,079	38,475
October	38,947	39,282	38,906	38,947	39,282	39,114
November	35,417	37,769	39,114	37,917	40,435	39,225
December	44,551	44,015	38,995	42,051	41,545	38,974
January	29,686	36,319	38,800	29,686	36,319	38,664
February	35,473	37,313	38,750	35,473	37,313	38,563
March	42,903	37,050	39,071	42,903	37,050	38,916
April	36,745	40,969	39,706	36,745	40,969	39,642
May	44,335	42,080	40,417	44,335	42,080	40,435
June r	46,448	41,851	40,974	46,448	41,851	41,080
<i>1988-89 —</i>						
July(b)p	40,889	40,021	41,745	40,889	40,021	41,745

(a) Further investigation has revealed that the estimated excess carryovers from November to December 1987 was 2,500, not 3,000 as reported in the November and December 1987 issues. (b) Processing difficulties associated with the introduction of a new computer system in the Victorian motor registry disrupted the availability of information on vehicle registrations processed towards the end of July. As a result it has been necessary to include an estimate of this component of the July figure for Victoria.

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

	Motor cars and station wagons			Other vehicle(a)			Total(a)		
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend estimate
1986-87 —									
May	29,273	28,639	29,219	6,500	6,199	6,334	35,773	34,838	35,553
June	32,583	30,288	29,328	8,091	7,195	6,378	40,674	37,483	35,706
1987-88 —									
July	32,608	29,968	29,800	7,727	6,487	6,519	40,335	36,455	36,319
August	29,076	29,126	30,538	6,232	6,213	6,731	35,308	35,339	37,269
September	33,979	32,321	31,290	6,693	6,758	6,955	40,672	39,079	38,244
October	31,847	31,905	31,790	7,100	7,377	7,117	38,947	39,282	38,906
November(b)	28,975	30,648	31,944	6,442	7,121	7,170	35,417	37,769	39,114
December(b)	36,986	35,589	31,860	7,565	8,426	7,136	44,551	44,015	38,995
January	24,886	30,238	31,722	4,800	6,081	7,079	29,686	36,319	38,800
February	28,764	30,321	31,690	6,709	6,992	7,060	35,473	37,313	38,750
March	35,060	30,431	31,915	7,843	6,619	7,156	42,903	37,050	39,071
April	29,708	33,667	32,344	7,037	7,302	7,362	36,745	40,969	39,706
May	35,518	33,843	32,822	8,417	8,237	7,594	44,335	42,080	40,416
June	36,796	33,540	33,195	9,652	8,311	7,779	46,448	41,851	40,974
1988-89 —									
July(c)p	32,924	32,715	33,735	7,965	7,306	8,010	40,889	40,021	41,745

(a) Excludes motor cycles, tractors, plant and equipment, caravans and trailers. (b) See Note on page 1. (c) See footnote (b) on page 2.

TABLE 2. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, BY TYPE: AUSTRALIA

	Motor cars and station wagons		Panel vans	Trucks		Other truck type vehicle(a)	Buses	Total (excludes motor cycles)	Motor cycles
	Utilities			Rigid	Articulated				
1986-87 —									
May	29,273	2,325	1,314	2,011	282	101	467	35,773	1,400
June	32,583	2,618	1,655	2,696	419	120	583	40,674	1,689
1987-88 —									
July	32,608	2,366	1,615	2,814	289	138	505	40,335	1,499
August	29,076	2,093	1,322	2,128	185	149	355	35,308	1,225
September	33,979	2,347	1,475	2,067	207	99	498	40,672	1,413
October	31,847	2,489	1,552	2,285	239	150	385	38,947	1,633
November(b)	28,975	2,339	1,311	2,045	245	115	387	35,417	1,533
December(b)	36,986	2,393	1,436	2,782	303	158	493	44,551	1,894
January	24,886	1,589	932	1,654	162	117	346	29,686	1,345
February	28,764	2,382	1,441	2,148	188	142	408	35,473	1,727
March	35,060	2,782	1,802	2,404	186	154	515	42,903	1,834
April	29,708	2,558	1,445	2,117	194	121	402	36,745	1,453
May	35,518	3,214	1,782	2,846	281	140	554	44,335	1,562
June	36,796	3,269	2,182	3,102	333	119	647	46,448	1,414
1988-89 —									
July(c)p	32,924	2,768	1,904	2,448	227	138	480	40,889	1,091

(a) Non-freight carrying vehicles. (b) See Note on page 1. (c) See footnote (b) on page 2.

TABLE 3. NEW MOTOR VEHICLES(a)

	N. S. W.	Vic.	Qld	S. A.	W. A.	Tas.	N. T.	A. C. T.	Australia
1986-87 —									
May	12,800	10,235	5,108	2,726	3,232	675	333	664	35,773
June	14,107	10,713	6,929	2,948	3,920	892	391	774	40,674
1987-88 —									
July	14,035	11,078	6,107	3,032	3,843	940	405	895	40,335
August	12,964	8,640	5,615	2,753	3,628	820	324	564	35,308
September	14,257	11,247	6,429	2,886	3,792	1,060	348	653	40,672
October	13,293	11,151	5,529	3,010	3,978	933	392	661	38,947
November(b)	13,400	7,343	5,814	3,210	3,808	882	306	654	35,417
December(b)	15,076	12,872	6,788	3,138	4,164	1,503	368	642	44,551
January	10,395	8,456	4,428	2,156	2,974	617	205	455	29,686
February	13,420	9,123	5,183	2,773	3,332	719	282	641	35,473
March	16,028	9,615	7,396	3,546	4,263	862	383	810	42,903
April	13,447	10,007	5,677	2,657	3,470	660	308	519	35,745
May	15,923	11,739	7,091	3,220	4,487	887	329	659	44,335
June	17,455	10,890	7,807	3,309	4,918	820	366	883	46,448
1988-89 —									
July p	15,495	(c)9,896	6,735	2,705	4,182	831	420	625	(c)40,889

(a) Excludes motor cycles, tractors, plant and equipment, caravans and trailers. (b) See Note on page 1. (c) See footnote (b) on page 2.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

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 3 below.

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 Queensland, 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 and Victoria, 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.

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 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 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 series. Commencing with the November 1985 issue of this publication, the trend estimate of motor vehicle registration statistics are shown in Table 1 and in the special table on page 2. The trend estimates have been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to the 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 (\$5.00).

Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia, 1986-87 (9304.0).

12. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, 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.

Symbols and other usages

- p preliminary figure or series subject to revision
- r figures or series revised since previous issue.

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ISSN 0819-9795