

## Sales of New Motor Vehicles, August 2009

### Analysis

Western Australia's seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle sales were down 17.4% on the 9,673 vehicles sold in August last year. Nationally, new motor vehicle sales were also down 6.2% from the 91,014 vehicles sold in August 2008.

A fall in 'other vehicles' (which includes utilities, panel vans and cab chassis vehicles) was mainly behind the low total sales of new motor vehicles during August for the State. Nationally, a decrease in 'sports utility vehicles', contributed almost 2 percentage points to the low monthly growth (0.3%).

In the year to August however, lower 'passenger vehicle' sales (-9.9%) combined with lower 'other vehicle' sales (-9.6%) were responsible for the decline in total new motor vehicle sales for both the State and nationally (contributing -2.4 percentage points and -3.9 percentage points respectively).

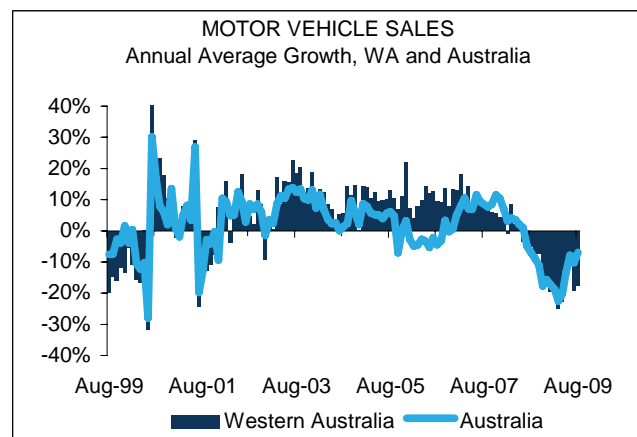
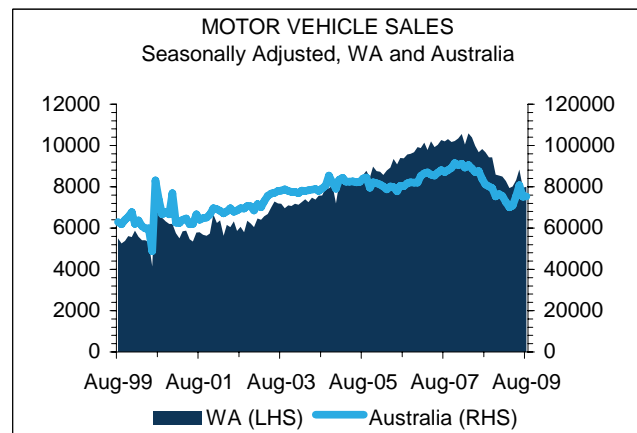
Data warning: Trend estimates of new motor vehicle sales were suspended in May 2009 by the Australian Bureau of Statistics due to the extension of the Federal Government's small and general business tax breaks on new motor vehicle sales. The trend series will be reintroduced when more certainty emerges in the underlying behaviour of new car sales.

### Key Facts

#### Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales in Western Australia increased by 0.6% to 7,995 between July and August. Motor vehicle sales fell by 17.4% over the year and dropped by 4.0% over the three months to August 2009.

Australia's seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales rose by 0.3% to 75,388 between July and August. Motor vehicle sales dropped by 6.2% over the past 12 months and decreased by 1.0% in the three months ending in August. Over the year to August, the smallest decrease in motor vehicle sales by jurisdiction was 0.3%, in the Australian Capital Territory. The largest decrease was 17.4%, in Western Australia.



#### MOTOR VEHICLE SALES BY STATE August 2009

	Seasonally Adjusted '000s	% Change Over:		
		1 Year	3 Months	1 Month
New South Wales	23,593	-2.2%	2.5%	1.5%
Victoria	19,496	-8.5%	-3.5%	-2.1%
Queensland	16,023	-4.2%	2.0%	0.5%
South Australia	4,835	-8.5%	-0.8%	0.4%
Western Australia	7,995	-17.4%	-4.0%	0.6%
Tasmania	1,454	-18.3%	-0.4%	12.5%
Northern Territory	777	-14.0%	3.5%	-1.8%
Australian Capital Territory	1,215	0.5%	0.5%	0.8%
Australia	75,388	-6.9%	-0.1%	0.3%