

ECONOMIC NOTE

SALES OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, January 2009

Analysis

January data on Western Australia's New Motor Vehicle Sales showed a strong yearly decrease in seasonally adjusted terms, down 19.5% on the level recorded at the same time last year. Similarly, national new motor vehicle sales recorded a sizable fall, down 16.9% over the year.

For the twelfth consecutive month, trend sales fell in Western Australia (down 2.1% over January). Seasonally adjusted sales fell by 1.5% over the month.

Key Facts

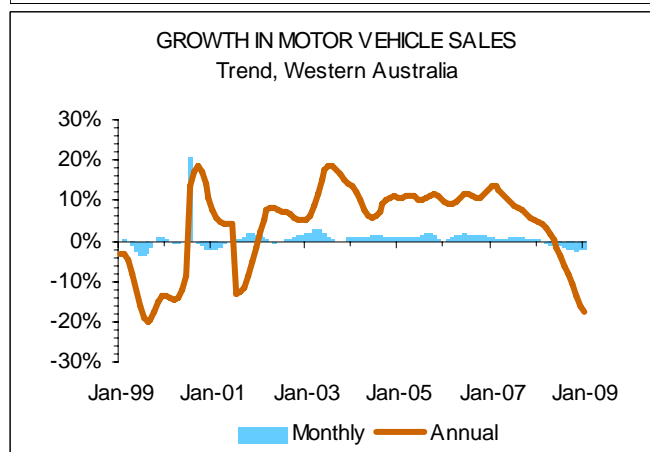
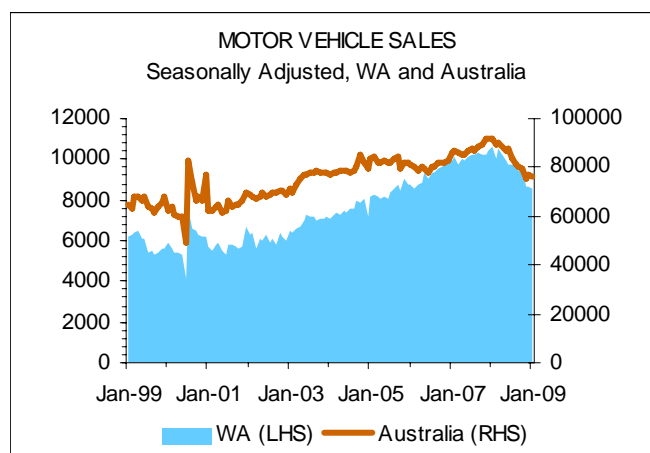
Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales in Western Australia decreased by 1.5% to 8,538 between December and January. Motor vehicle sales fell by 19.5% over the year and dropped by 9.4% over the three months to January 2009.

Australia's seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales fell by 1.1% to 76,224 between December and January. Motor vehicle sales dropped by 16.9% over the past 12 months and decreased by 4.4% in the three months ending in January. Over the year to January, the smallest decrease in motor vehicle sales by jurisdiction was 11.4%, in the Australian Capital Territory. The largest decrease was 19.5%, in Western Australia.

Trend

Trend motor vehicle sales in Western Australia decreased by 2.1% between December and January. Motor vehicle sales fell by 17.8% over the year and dropped by 6.9% over the three months to January 2009. Australia's trend motor vehicle sales fell by 0.8% between December and January. Motor vehicle sales dropped by 16.5% over the past 12 months and decreased by 3.6% in the three months ending in January. Over the year to January, the smallest decrease in trend motor vehicle sales by jurisdiction was 10.0%, in South Australia. The largest decrease was 20.3%, in Queensland.



MOTOR VEHICLE SALES BY STATE
January 2009

	Seasonally Adjusted				Trend			
	'000s	% Change Over:			'000s	% Change Over:		
		1 Year	3 Months	1 Month		1 Year	3 Months	1 Month
New South Wales	22,995	-17.5%	-3.8%	-1.0%	22,999	-16.4%	-3.2%	-0.6%
Victoria	20,134	-15.0%	-4.1%	-1.2%	19,978	-14.6%	-3.4%	-0.6%
Queensland	16,141	-18.0%	-4.3%	-0.9%	16,022	-20.3%	-2.7%	-0.4%
South Australia	4,941	-15.6%	-4.6%	-1.6%	4,973	-10.0%	-3.4%	-0.9%
Western Australia	8,538	-19.5%	-9.4%	-1.5%	8,546	-17.8%	-6.9%	-2.1%
Tasmania	1,438	-16.2%	2.2%	4.0%	1,384	-19.3%	-6.9%	-2.0%
Northern Territory	782	-14.9%	-3.0%	-7.1%	798	-12.0%	-5.0%	-1.6%
Australian Capital Territory	1,255	-11.4%	4.6%	-0.4%	1,238	-11.9%	2.1%	1.0%
Australia	76,224	-16.9%	-4.4%	-1.1%	75,937	-16.5%	-3.6%	-0.8%