

ECONOMIC NOTE

SALES OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, June 2009

Analysis

New motor vehicle sales grew strongly over June in seasonally adjusted terms for both Western Australia (up 7.6%) and nationally (up 5.7%).

A key factor in such growth is likely to have been the Federal Government's extension to December 2009 of the small and general business tax breaks that raised the tax deduction on cars (an initiative originally announced in the Federal Government's 2009 Budget).

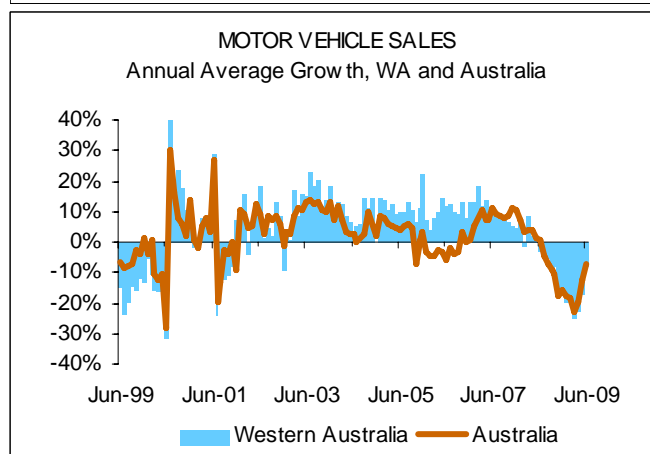
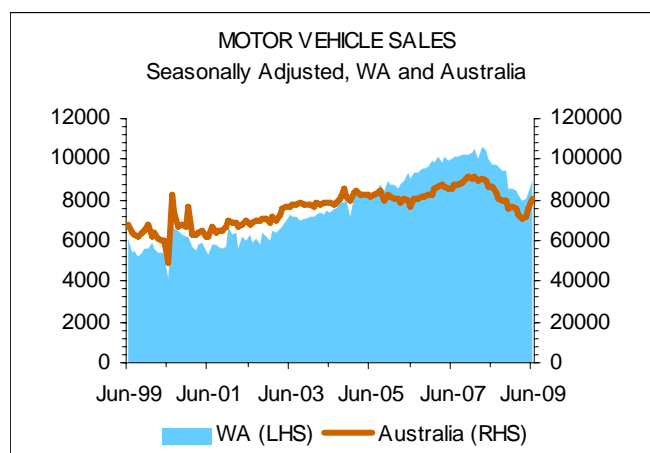
With this initiative causing "...unusual influences on original and seasonally adjusted data" for the last two months, the Australian Bureau of Statistics has announced that it is suspending production of trend estimates (from the month of May) as of today's release, until "more certainty emerges in the underlying behaviour of new car sales".

Key Facts

Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales in Western Australia increased by 7.6% to 8,947 between May and June. Motor vehicle sales fell by 7.9% over the year and grew by 12.2% over the three months to June 2009.

Australia's seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales rose by 5.7% to 80,330 between May and June. Motor vehicle sales dropped by 7.2% over the past 12 months and increased by 14.2% in the three months ending in June. Over the year to June, the largest increase in motor vehicle sales by jurisdiction was 6.3%, in the Australian Capital Territory. The largest decrease was 14.7%, in the Northern Territory.



MOTOR VEHICLE SALES BY STATE June 2009

| | '000s | Seasonally Adjusted | | |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------------|----------|---------|
| | | % Change Over: | | |
| | | 1 Year | 3 Months | 1 Month |
| New South Wales | 24,277 | -6.6% | 12.7% | 4.0% |
| Victoria | 21,212 | -8.9% | 14.5% | 5.3% |
| Queensland | 17,131 | -6.5% | 18.4% | 7.7% |
| South Australia | 5,101 | -7.8% | 10.4% | 4.3% |
| Western Australia | 8,947 | -7.9% | 12.2% | 7.6% |
| Tasmania | 1,542 | 0.6% | 5.6% | 5.6% |
| Northern Territory | 739 | -14.7% | 19.2% | -2.1% |
| Australian Capital Territory | 1,380 | 6.3% | 19.1% | 12.7% |
| Australia | 80,330 | -7.2% | 14.2% | 5.7% |