

# ECONOMIC NOTE

## SALES OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, March 2009

### Analysis

March data on Western Australia's New Motor Vehicle Sales showed a strong yearly decrease in seasonally adjusted terms, down 24.5% on the level recorded at the same time last year. Similarly, national new motor vehicle sales recorded a sizable fall, down 22.6% over the year.

Seasonally adjusted sales in Western Australia fell by 3.8% over March, while in trend terms sales were down 1.8% over the month.

### Key Facts

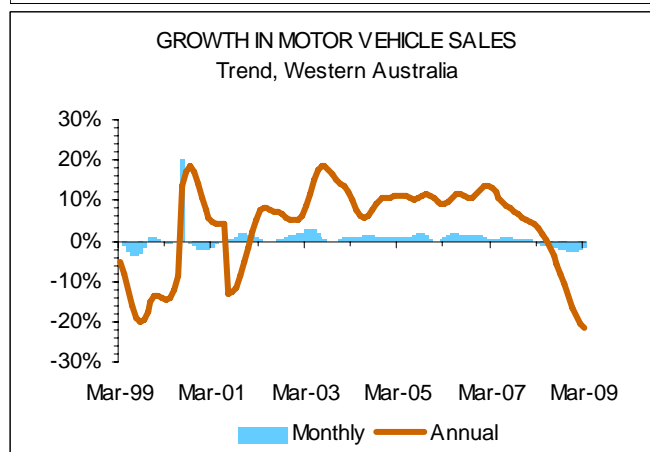
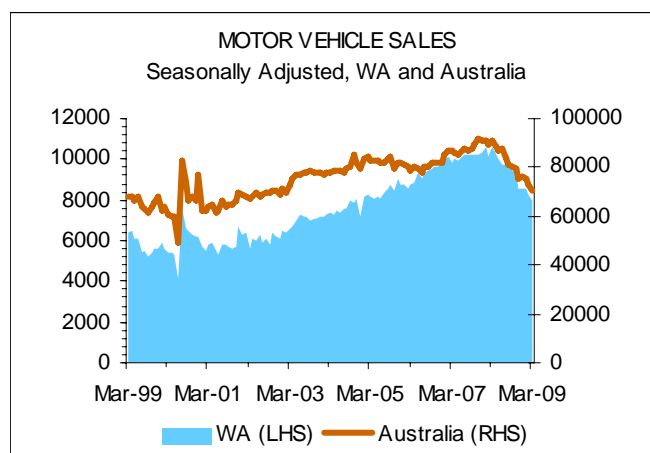
#### Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales in Western Australia decreased by 3.8% to 7,986 between February and March. Motor vehicle sales fell by 24.5% over the year and dropped by 7.1% over the three months to March 2009.

Australia's seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales fell by 3.2% to 70,279 between February and March. Motor vehicle sales dropped by 22.6% over the past 12 months and decreased by 8.0% in the three months ending in March. Over the year to March, the smallest decrease in motor vehicle sales by jurisdiction was 12.0%, in Tasmania. The largest decrease was 40.2%, in the Northern Territory.

#### Trend

Trend motor vehicle sales in Western Australia decreased by 1.8% between February and March. Motor vehicle sales fell by 21.5% over the year and dropped by 6.5% over the three months to March 2009. Australia's trend motor vehicle sales fell by 1.7% between February and March. Motor vehicle sales dropped by 20.2% over the past 12 months and decreased by 5.3% in the three months ending in March. Over the year to March, the smallest decrease in trend motor vehicle sales by jurisdiction was 11.6%, in the Australian Capital Territory. The largest decrease was 24.7%, in the Northern Territory.



### MOTOR VEHICLE SALES BY STATE March 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	21,415	-21.7%	-7.2%	-3.7%	21,848	-19.1%	-4.8%	-1.6%
Victoria	18,543	-21.8%	-8.2%	-1.6%	18,877	-20.1%	-5.0%	-1.6%
Queensland	14,498	-25.4%	-10.1%	-5.9%	15,015	-22.7%	-5.6%	-1.9%
South Australia	4,597	-16.6%	-7.4%	4.6%	4,548	-17.7%	-7.1%	-2.2%
Western Australia	7,986	-24.5%	-7.1%	-3.8%	8,093	-21.5%	-6.5%	-1.8%
Tasmania	1,468	-12.0%	5.8%	5.6%	1,429	-14.4%	0.6%	1.3%
Northern Territory	629	-40.2%	-24.4%	-16.7%	703	-24.7%	-11.1%	-3.7%
Australian Capital Territory	1,144	-20.4%	-8.9%	-8.3%	1,213	-11.6%	-0.9%	-0.7%
Australia	70,279	-22.6%	-8.0%	-3.2%	71,725	-20.2%	-5.3%	-1.7%