

ECONOMIC NOTE

SALES OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES, May 2009

Analysis

Western Australia's seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle sales grew 3.1% over May, but were down 17.3% on the level recorded at the same time last year. Similarly, national new motor vehicle sales were up 5.4% over the month, but down 12.6% over the year.

Less volatile trend data show sales in the State were down 0.2% over May – the fifteenth consecutive month sales have fallen in trend terms.

Key Facts

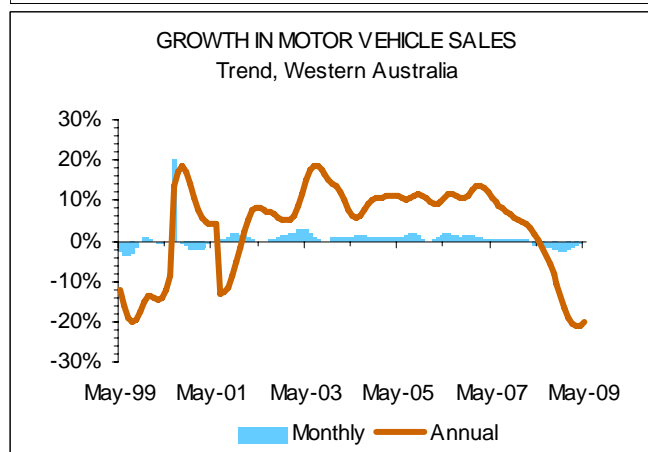
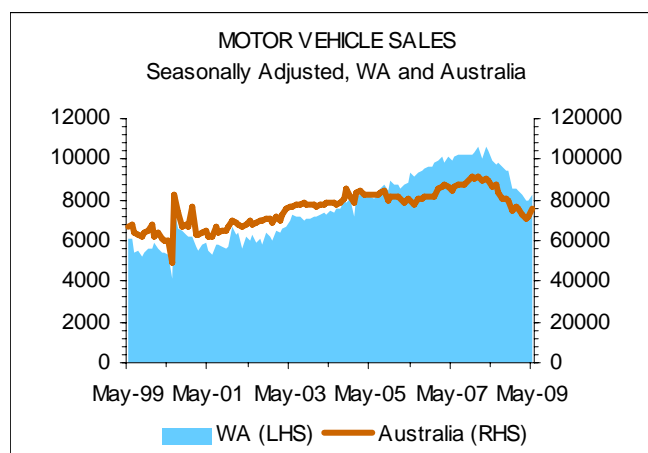
Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales in Western Australia increased by 3.1% to 8,244 between April and May. Motor vehicle sales fell by 17.3% over the year and dropped by 0.6% over the three months to May 2009.

Australia's seasonally adjusted motor vehicle sales rose by 5.4% to 75,472 between April and May. Motor vehicle sales dropped by 12.6% over the past 12 months and increased by 3.7% in the three months ending in May. Over the year to May, the smallest decrease in motor vehicle sales by jurisdiction was 5.8%, in Tasmania. The largest decrease was 17.3%, in Western Australia.

Trend

Trend motor vehicle sales in Western Australia decreased by 0.2% between April and May. Motor vehicle sales fell by 20.2% over the year and dropped by 2.4% over the three months to May 2009. Australia's trend motor vehicle sales rose by 0.1% between April and May. Motor vehicle sales dropped by 17.1% over the past 12 months and decreased by 1.2% in the three months ending in May. Over the year to May, the smallest decrease in trend motor vehicle sales by jurisdiction was 8.7%, in the Australian Capital Territory. The largest decrease was 24.5%, in the Northern Territory.



MOTOR VEHICLE SALES BY STATE
May 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	23,015	-11.6%	2.9%	4.0%	22,249	-14.9%	-0.7%	0.2%
Victoria	20,206	-13.2%	7.3%	9.6%	19,085	-18.1%	-0.8%	0.3%
Queensland	15,713	-12.3%	1.7%	3.5%	15,186	-18.5%	-1.5%	0.0%
South Australia	4,873	-10.1%	10.2%	7.5%	4,621	-15.4%	-1.4%	0.2%
Western Australia	8,244	-17.3%	-0.6%	3.1%	8,055	-20.2%	-2.4%	-0.2%
Tasmania	1,460	-5.8%	5.3%	5.5%	1,429	-12.9%	1.0%	0.3%
Northern Territory	751	-15.0%	-0.1%	4.5%	699	-24.5%	-5.0%	-1.0%
Australian Capital Territory	1,209	-7.3%	-3.4%	-2.3%	1,208	-8.7%	-1.5%	-0.5%
Australia	75,472	-12.6%	3.7%	5.4%	72,532	-17.1%	-1.2%	0.1%