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Around one fifth fewer new passenger car registrations in first half 2022

More than one third alternative drive systems, only one fourth of electric vehicles registered by private individuals; ongoing trend toward motor caravans

Vienna, 2022-07-11 – According to Statistics Austria, 108 606 new passenger cars were registered in the first half of 2022, a decrease of 19.2 % compared to the first half of 2021. There were also 23.4% fewer new registrations of total motor vehicles (159 937).

"New passenger car registrations reached their lowest level in 44 years in the first half of 2022. At 108 606, new registrations were about one-fifth lower than in the first half of 2021, 3.7 % lower than in the first half of 2020, which was marked by COVID-19, and 38.3 % lower than in 2019," said Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

For new motor vehicle registrations in total, the trend is similar: -1.8 % compared to 162 854 new vehicles registered in the first half of 2020; -32.6 % compared to 2019; -36.3 % compared to 2018.

Diesel-powered new car registrations down by almost a third

Compared with the first half of 2021, new registrations of passenger cars with diesel engines (24 088; -29.4 %), with petrol engines (42 774; -21.3 %) and with hybrid drive (petrol-hybrid: 20 517; -11.1 %; diesel-hybrid: 6 679; -10.1 %) decreased. New registrations of passenger cars with electric drive (BEV) decreased by 5.6 % to 14 493 passenger cars, with gains observed in Burgenland (+6.7 %), Lower Austria (+4.4 %) and Vienna (+0.3 %). Overall, 38.4 % of newly registered passenger cars were equipped with an alternative drive system (41 744; -9.1 %). This contrasted with 61.6 % passenger cars with conventional drive systems (petrol: 39.4 %; diesel: 22.2 %).

Of the 14 493 BEV passenger cars newly registered from January to June 2022, 11 202 or 77.3 % were owned by legal entities, companies and local authorities. 3 291 or 22.7 % of new BEV passenger cars were registered by private vehicle owners (2021: 16.0 %; 2020: 22.4 %). For diesel and petrol passenger cars, the share of private vehicle owners was 21.7 % and 46.3 %, respectively.

Among the ten most important passenger car makes, VW remained the market leader with a share of 14.0 %. This was followed by Skoda (share: 8.7 %), BMW (share: 7.1 %) and Audi (share: 6.5 %). Increases compared to the first half of 2021 were observed among the top 10 passenger car makes for Toyota (+41.9 %), Kia (+12.3 %) and Hyundai (+1.4 %). In contrast, new passenger car registrations declined for Seat (-42.1 %), VW (-30.2 %), Skoda (-24.5 %), Ford (-19.2 %), Mercedes (-16.7 %), BMW (-6.6 %) and Audi (-3.7 %).

Average CO₂ emissions of newly registered passenger cars still above the EU target of 95 g/km

According to provisional data (based on the WLTP test procedure), CO₂ emissions from all newly registered passenger cars (incl. electric and hydrogen drive) amounted to 116.8 g/km in the 1st half of the year (2021: 120,5 g/km). An average value of 138.6 g/km was observed for newly registered petrol-powered passenger cars (2021: 138,9 g/km), and 150.8 g/km for those with diesel engines (2021: 150,0 g/km).

Motor caravans increased by almost one fifth

In the commercial vehicle market, about two-thirds fewer new registrations of lorries class N1 (11 252; -63.4 %) were observed in the first half of 2022 - due to early registrations on the occasion of the amendment of the Normverbrauchsabgabegesetz (NoVAG 1991) in 2021. There were also fewer registrations of lorries class N3 (1 458; -25.7 %), tractors used for agriculture and forestry (4 033; -9.6 %), articulated lorries (1 627; -2.8 %) and lorries class N2 (168; -1.2 %). Registrations of new motor caravans reached an increase of 18.6 % between January and June 2022.

Among two-wheelers, new registrations of motorcycles achieved a slight increase (20 705; +0.4 %), whereas the number of newly registered mopeds fell by 17.9 % to 5 978.

For detailed results and further information, please refer to our [website](#) ("Further data").

Information on methodology, definitions: Motor vehicle statistics (registrations of new and used vehicles as well as the stock of vehicles) are secondary statistics, compiled on the basis of daily data files sent to Statistics Austria by Austria's association of insurance companies (VVO). VVO, in turn, receives data by the insurers' registrations offices, responsible for registrations, de-registrations and rectifications of motor vehicles and trailers.

All new registrations, i.e. all brand-new registrations, are collected as part of the new vehicle registration statistics, regardless of the duration of the registration (including so-called "short term registrations", e.g. one day registrations).

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