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12.1% increase in new car registrations at the beginning of 2026

Petrol-hybrid and electric cars on the rise; diesel cars down by a quarter

Vienna, 2026-02-10 – According to Statistics Austria, 22 929 new passenger cars were registered in January 2026, representing an increase of 12.1% compared to January 2025. A total of 27 236 new motor vehicles were registered.

“The domestic car market started the new year with a significant increase in registrations. In January 2026, 12.1% more new cars were registered than in January of the previous year. Petrol-hybrids were once again the most popular. In January alone, 8 275 new passenger cars with petrol-hybrid drives were registered, 46.1% more than a year earlier,” says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics of Statistics Austria.

At the beginning of 2026, 60.8% of all new passenger car registrations (13 936) had an alternative drive system. Of these, 8 275 were petrol-hybrid cars (+46.1% compared to January 2025) and 4 702 were purely electric (+23.0%). New registrations of diesel hybrid passenger cars (959; −30.8%) fell by around a third compared to January 2025.

New registrations of conventionally powered passenger cars accounted for 39.2% of the total. Slightly more petrol-powered passenger cars (6 718; +3.3%) were newly registered than in January 2025. In contrast, new registrations of diesel-powered passenger cars (2 275; −26.0%) fell by a quarter.

At the beginning of 2026, new registrations of VW passenger cars (share: 19.3%) accounted for one-fifth of all new passenger car registrations, followed by Skoda (11.6%), Audi (7.4%), BMW and Seat (both 5.9%). More new passenger car registrations were observed for Peugeot (+65.3%), VW (+49.7%), Seat (+10.0%), and Skoda (+6.5%). New registrations declined for Cupra (−12.3%), BMW (−11.8%), Dacia (−9.6%), Toyota (−7.3%), Mercedes (−5.8%) and Audi (−3.4%).

The top five makes for purely electric passenger cars in January 2026 were Skoda (share: 13.0%), Tesla (11.9%), BYD (9.7%), VW (9.5%), and BMW (7.3%).

In the commercial vehicle market, there were more new registrations of lorries category N1 (2 462; +6.8%) and tractors used for agriculture and forestry (475; +13.6%). In contrast, there were fewer new registrations compared to the previous year for lorries category N2 (13; −67.5%), articulated lorries (198; −41.1%) and lorries category N3 (209; −10.3%).

In the two-wheeler segment, new registrations of motorcycles (323; +24.2%) were up by a quarter compared to January 2025. In contrast, new registrations of mopeds (160) fell by 10.1%.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our website.

Table 1: Registrations of new passenger cars by fuel type or power source

Fuel type or power source	January 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025
Petrol	6 718	29.3	3.3
Diesel	2 275	9.9	−26.0
Electric	4 702	20.5	23.0
Petrol/electric (hybrid)	8 275	36.1	46.1
Diesel/electric (hybrid)	959	4.2	−30.8
Other alternative drives	-	-	-
Total passenger cars	**22 929**	**100.0**	**12.1**
Petrol and diesel cars	8 993	39.2	−6.1
Cars with alternative drives	13 936	60.8	28.2

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Motor vehicle statistics. – Rounding differences not balanced. – 1) Change compared to the same period of the previous year.

Table 2: Registrations of new motor vehicles

Vehicle type	January 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025
Passenger cars category M1	22 929	84.2	12.1
Motorcycles category L3e	323	1.2	24.2
Mopeds category L1e	160	0.6	−10.1
Lorries category N1	2 462	9.0	6.8
Lorries category N2	13	0.0	−67.5
Lorries category N3	209	0.8	−10.3
Tractors (agricul., forestry)	475	1.7	13.6
Articulated lorries	198	0.7	−41.1
Motor caravans	54	0.2	−61.4
Other motor vehicles	413	1.5	−10.0
Total motor vehicles	**27 236**	**100.0**	**9.7**

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Motor vehicle statistics. – Rounding differences not balanced. – 1) Change compared to the same period of the previous year.

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 data files sent to Statistics Austria by Austria's association of insurance companies (VVO). VVO, in turn, receives data by the insurances' 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).

Statistics Austria is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment. As a national statistical institute, it is committed to the statutory principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is headed by Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

Further enquiries:
For information on results and methodology, please contact:
Gerda Fischer, phone: +43 1 711 28-7566, e-mail: gerda.fischer@statistik.gv.at

Stefan Premm, phone: +43 1 711 28-7598, e-mail: stefan.premm@statistik.gv.at
For interview requests, please contact the press office: presse@statistik.gv.at

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STATISTICS AUSTRIA | Federal Institution under Public Law | Guglgasse 13 | 1110 Vienna | www.statistik.at
Press: phone: +43 1 711 28-7777 | e-mail: presse@statistik.gv.at
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