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New car registrations 2026: up by 13.1% until May

25% increase in alternative fuel passenger cars compared to last year

Vienna, 2026-06-10 – According to Statistics Austria, 130 273 passenger cars were registered for the first time between January and May 2026. Compared to the previous year, this represents an increase of 13.1% or 15 090 passenger cars. A total of 177 157 motor vehicles (+14.2%; +21 989) were newly registered.

"The growth momentum in passenger car registrations continues: for 11 months now, new registrations were well above the level of the previous year. In the first five months of the current year, a total of 15 090 more new passenger cars were registered in Austria than from January to May 2025 – an increase of 13.1%. Overall, 130 273 new passenger cars have been put into traffic so far this year. One in four additional registrations was attributable to vehicles with alternative powertrains," says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

January to May 2026: 30.8% more petrol-hybrid cars than in the same period 2025

Of the 130 273 new passenger cars registered between January and May 2026, 84 331 or 64.7% had an alternative powertrain, representing an overall increase of 24.0% or 16 326 vehicles. Purely electric passenger cars (BEV; 31 067; +5 772) recorded a 22.8% increase. New registrations of petrol-hybrid cars (47 639; +11 208) rose by 30.8% while new registrations of diesel-hybrid cars (5 623; −654) fell by 10.4%.

About one third (35.3%) of all new passenger car registrations were conventionally powered vehicles (45 942), a decline of 2.6%. Compared to the previous year, 7.7% fewer diesel passenger cars (13 010; −1 092) and 0.4% fewer petrol passenger cars (32 932; −144) were newly registered.

From January to May 2026, VW (market share: 14.7%), Skoda (10.8%), Audi (7.0%) and BMW (6.3%) were the most popular passenger car makes. Among the top 10 passenger car makes, BYD (+71.5%), Seat (+20.3%), Skoda (+16.8%), VW (+15.5%), Mercedes (+15.4%) and Audi (+14.3%) saw growth compared to January to May 2025. New registrations declined for BMW (−7.9%), Toyota (−6.3%), Dacia (−5.1%) and Cupra (−4.0%). Among BEV passenger cars, the most popular makes were Skoda (share: 11.3%), BYD (10.4%), VW (10.1%) and BMW (9.9%).

Among commercial vehicles, there were more than a third more new registrations of lorries category N1 (14 750; +37.5%; +4 022) and an eighth more new registrations of tractors used for agriculture and forestry (3 388; +12.7%; +382) compared to the previous year. In addition, there were 10.4% more new registrations of articulated lorries (1 610; +152). In contrast, new registrations of lorries category N2 (164; −24.1%; −52) and lorries category N3 (1 214; −3.1%; −39) declined.

In the two-wheeler segment, 17 382 motorcycles were newly registered, an increase of 9.2% or 1 470 motorcycles compared to January to May 2025. New registrations of mopeds (4 546; +23.7%; +872) also rose substantially through May 2026.

May 2026: more cars and more N1-lorries; a fifth more electric cars

In May 2026, there were 25 529 new passenger car registrations (+5.0%; +1 218). Registrations of electric passenger cars (6 598; +21.6%; +1 170) and petrol-hybrid cars (9 063; +12.5%; +1 008) saw substantial

growth. In contrast, there were fewer new registrations of petrol-powered passenger cars (6 135; −9.9%; −673) and diesel-powered cars (2 624; −3.9%; −107), as well as diesel-hybrids (1 108; −14.0%; −181). Among commercial vehicles, lorries category N1 recorded an increase of 59.1% or 1 038 lorries, with 2 795 new registrations. In total, 36 113 vehicles (+6.8%; +2 311) were newly registered in May 2026.

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

Fuel type or power source	May 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025	January to May 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025
Petrol	6 135	24.0	−9.9	32 932	25.3	−0.4
Diesel	2 624	10.3	−3.9	13 010	10.0	−7.7
Electric	6 598	25.8	21.6	31 067	23.8	22.8
Petrol/electric (hybrid)	9 063	35.5	12.5	47 639	36.6	30.8
Diesel/electric (hybrid)	1 108	4.3	−14.0	5 623	4.3	−10.4
Other alternative drives	1	0.0	-	2	0.0	0.0
Total passenger cars	**25 529**	**100.0**	**5.0**	**130 273**	**100.0**	**13.1**
Petrol and diesel cars	8 759	34.3	−8.2	45 942	35.3	−2.6
Cars with alternative drives	16 770	65.7	13.5	84 331	64.7	24.0

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	May 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025	January to May 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025
Passenger cars category M1	25 529	70.7	5.0	130 273	73.5	13.1
Motorcycles category L3e	4 597	12.7	−0.1	17 382	9.8	9.2
Mopeds category L1e	1 053	2.9	−0.1	4 546	2.6	23.7
Lorries category N1	2 795	7.7	59.1	14 750	8.3	37.5
Lorries category N2	27	0.1	−38.6	164	0.1	−24.1
Lorries category N3	229	0.6	2.7	1 214	0.7	−3.1
Tractors (agricul., forestry)	720	2.0	14.5	3 388	1.9	12.7
Articulated lorries	285	0.8	−8.1	1 610	0.9	10.4
Motor caravans	187	0.5	−31.8	795	0.4	−23.6
Other motor vehicles	691	1.9	15.4	3 035	1.7	12.5
Total motor vehicles	**36 113**	**100.0**	**6.8**	**177 157**	**100.0**	**14.2**

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

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

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 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).

Motor vehicles with alternative drive systems replace crude oil as an energy source with their respective drive system, either entirely or in part (Kraftfahrgesetz (KFG) as amended, §2 section 47). This includes the following drive systems: electric (BEV), petrol/electric and diesel/electric (hybrid, including plug-in), natural and liquid gas (mono- and bivalent operation) and hydrogen (fuel cell).

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.

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