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New passenger car registrations in Austria rose by 12% up to August 2026

Two-thirds of new cars were equipped with alternative powertrains

Vienna, 2026-09-09 – According to Statistics Austria, 212 140 passenger cars were newly registered from January to August 2026. Compared to the same period last year, this represents an increase of 12.0% or 22 770 cars. A total of 291 599 motor vehicles were newly registered, an increase of 12.1% or 31 366 compared to the first 8 months of 2025.

“New car registrations continued to rise in August 2026, although at a significantly slower rate than recently. In June, new passenger car registrations were still up by 22.9% year-on-year; in July, the increase was 3.8%; and in August, the rise stood at 1.6%. In total, 212 140 new passenger cars have been registered in Austria since the start of the year, 12.0% more than in the first 8 months of the previous year. Two-thirds of these are fitted with alternative powertrains, while the proportion of conventionally powered passenger cars among first registrations has fallen to 33.6%,” says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

Between January and August 2026, 66.4% of all newly registered passenger cars were equipped with an alternative powertrain (140 793; +27 598; +24.4%). During this period, one-third more all-electric cars (53 449; +12 681; +31.1%) and a quarter more petrol-hybrid cars (78 648; +16 592; +26.7%) were newly registered than in the same period of the previous year. New registrations of diesel-hybrid cars (8 694; −1 675) declined by 16.2%.

Conventionally powered passenger cars accounted for 33.6% of the total from January to August 2026 (71 347; −4 828; −6.3%). Compared to January to August 2025, new registrations of diesel-powered cars fell by 12.3% (20 340; −2 852), likewise those of petrol-powered cars (51 007; −1 976; −3.7%).

The most commonly registered car makes from January to August 2026 were VW (share: 13.6%), Skoda (10.8%), BMW (6.5%) and Audi (6.3%). The Chinese manufacturer BYD recorded the most dynamic growth – starting from a low base – with a 68.4% rise in new registrations. Seat (+15.1%), Mercedes (+13.7%), Audi (+12.4%), Skoda (+12.2%) and VW (+8.2%) also saw an increase in new passenger car registrations compared with the previous year. In contrast, new registrations for Dacia (−15.3%), Cupra (−4.6%), Toyota (−1.3%) and BMW (−0.2%) declined compared to the previous year. Among all-electric cars, the most popular makes were BMW (share: 10.7%), Skoda (9.9%), BYD (9.5%), VW (8.4%) and Tesla (8.2%).

In the commercial vehicle market, new registrations of lorries category N1 (24 270; +3 761) increased by 18.3% compared to January to August 2025. An increase in new registrations was also observed for tractors used for agriculture and forestry (5 534; +668; +13.7%) and articulated lorries (2 507; +260; +11.6%). In contrast, fewer new lorries category N2 (292; −100; −25.5%) and lorries category N3 (1 989; −32; −1.6%) were registered compared to the previous year.

In the two-wheeler market, from January to August 2026, more mopeds (8 220; +1 065; 14.9%) and motorcycles (30 336; +2 719; +9.8%) were newly registered.

Electric cars grow by nearly half in August 2026

In August 2026, 21 788 new cars were registered, an increase of 1.6% or 336 cars compared to August 2025. Among alternatively powered cars, 8 081 petrol-hybrids (+374; +4.9%), 6 316 all-electric cars (+2 002; +46.4%) and 765 diesel-hybrids (−501; −39.6%) were newly registered. Among conventionally powered cars, petrol-powered vehicles totaled 4 873 new registrations (−833; −14.6%) and diesel cars at 1 753 (−706; −28.7%). In total, 30 987 new motor vehicles (+1 112; +3.7%) were registered in August 2026.

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

Fuel type or power source	August 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025	January to August 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025
Petrol	4 873	22.4	−14.6	51 007	24.0	−3.7
Diesel	1 753	8.0	−28.7	20 340	9.6	−12.3
Electric	6 316	29.0	46.4	53 449	25.2	31.1
Petrol/electric (hybrid)	8 081	37.1	4.9	78 648	37.1	26.7
Diesel/electric (hybrid)	765	3.5	−39.6	8 694	4.1	−16.2
Other alternative drives	-	-	-	2	0.0	0.0
Total passenger cars	**21 788**	**100.0**	**1.6**	**212 140**	**100.0**	**12.0**
Petrol and diesel cars	6 626	30.4	−18.8	71 347	33.6	−6.3
Cars with alternative drives	15 162	69.6	14.1	140 793	66.4	24.4

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	August 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025	January to August 2026	% share	% change[1] vs. 2025
Passenger cars category M1	21 788	70.3	1.6	212 140	72.8	12.0
Motorcycles category L3e	3 461	11.2	16.8	30 336	10.4	9.8
Mopeds category L1e	1 098	3.5	14.5	8 220	2.8	14.9
Lorries category N1	2 965	9.6	2.6	24 270	8.3	18.3
Lorries category N2	24	0.1	−45.5	292	0.1	−25.5
Lorries category N3	205	0.7	−3.8	1 989	0.7	−1.6
Tractors (agricul., forestry)	574	1.9	6.3	5 534	1.9	13.7
Articulated lorries	261	0.8	44.2	2 507	0.9	11.6
Motor caravans	96	0.3	−33.8	1 211	0.4	−24.8
Other motor vehicles	515	1.7	5.3	5 100	1.7	14.7
Total motor vehicles	**30 987**	**100.0**	**3.7**	**291 599**	**100.0**	**12.1**

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).

What are motor vehicles with alternative drive systems?

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).

Who is Statistics Austria?

Statistics Austria is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment in Austria. 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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