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New passenger car registrations decreased by more than one third in the first half-year 2020

Vienna, 2020-07-09 – In the first half-year of 2020, the number of new passenger car registrations decreased by 35.9% compared to the same period of the previous year (first half-year 2019: -8.8%), as Statistics Austria reports. Thus, the current half-year-results showed 63 122 fewer registrations than in 2019 (175 909). From January to June 2020, fewer cars were registered in all months: January -9.1%, February -10.9%, March -66.7%, April -64.9%, May -33.9% and June -18.0%.

Increases in alternative fuel types; reductions for petrol and diesel cars

Compared with the first half-year 2019, new registrations of petrol-driven passenger cars fell by 45.1% (share: 46.8%) and those with diesel drive sunk by 36.7% (share: 38.0%). However, alternative drives – electric drive, natural gas, bivalent engine, hybrid drive and fuel cell (hydrogen) – grew by 42.2% to 17 135 (2019: 12 053), while their share of total new car registrations amounted to 15.2% (2019: 6.9%). Among the new registrations of passenger cars with alternative drives, increases were recorded for petrol hybrid cars (+81.9%) and diesel hybrid cars (+54.2%). 216 passenger cars were registered with a natural gas drive, representing an increase of 23.4%. Decreases were observed for electric cars (-2.0%).

CO₂-emissions higher for diesel than for petrol cars

CO₂-emissions from all newly registered cars (including those driven by electric and hydrogen) were 141.2 g/km on average in the first half year, according to preliminary data based on measurements in the framework of the new WLTP test (Worldwide Harmonized Light Vehicles Test Procedure, see information on methods). An average value of 143.8 g/km was obtained for newly registered petrol-driven passenger cars; 158.5 g/km for diesel-driven vehicles.

Top 10 passenger car brands represent more than two thirds of new car registrations

Among the ten most important car brands – representing more than two third of the new registrations in the first half of the year – VW remained the market leader with a share of 15.4%, despite a decrease of 40.5%. All top 10 car brands recorded double digit decreases compared to the first half-year 2019: Opel (-52.8%), Ford (-43.5%), Seat (-36.3%), Hyundai (-32.4%), Audi (-30.7%), Renault (-30.4%), Skoda (-25.6%), BMW (-21.9%) and Mercedes (-21.6%).

New motor vehicle registrations recorded a decline of 31.4% in the first half-year 2020

Between January and June 2020, 162 854 new motor vehicles were registered, a 31.4% reduction compared to the same period in 2019. The share of passenger cars in total new motor vehicle registrations was 69.3%.

There were fewer new registrations on the commercial vehicle market for articulated lorries (-53.3%), lorries in the categories N2 (-45.4%), N3 (-43.3%) and N1 (-27.4%). Agricultural and forestry tractors showed a positive development compared to the first half-year 2019 (+1.7%).

Among two-wheelers, fewer registrations were recorded for both new motorcycles (-8.0%) and scooters (-8.2%).

For more detailed results and further information concerning statistics of motor vehicles please refer to our [website](#).

Information on methods, 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 insurances' registrations offices, responsible for registrations, de-registrations and rectifications of motor vehicles and trailers.

Within motor vehicle statistics, all motor vehicles, once nationally or internationally registered, are levied, irrespective of the registration's duration.

The determination of CO₂-emissions is based on globally harmonized measurements as part of the WLTP test procedure ("Worldwide Harmonized Light Vehicles Test Procedure"); this measurement procedure replaces the "New European Driving Cycle" (NEDC) valid until the end of August 2017.

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