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HIGHEST MOTOR VEHICLE SALES GROWTH

Territory new motor vehicle sales in the year to August were the highest on record, Treasurer Syd Stirling said today.

Mr Stirling said over the 12 months, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) also recorded the Territory as having the highest growth in motor vehicle sales of any jurisdiction at 11.1%. Nationally, there was a 5.1% increase.

Over that period, a total of 9481 new motor vehicles were sold in the Territory, compared to 8530 in the year to August 2004.

“In the year to August, the sale of utes, other light commercial vehicles, trucks and buses continued to be the primary reason for the growth, increasing by a record 18.6% to 2822 vehicles.

“Over the same period, the sale of sports utility vehicles recorded 12.2% growth, while the rate of growth in the sale of new passenger vehicles strengthened significantly, increasing by 6.7%.

“The majority of new vehicle sales were to the private sector.

“The record rates of motor vehicle sales are in line with strong retail trade figures, highlighting strengthening consumer confidence and jobs growth.

“This growth has been sustained over a period of time and looks set to go on for some time as the Territory continues to move ahead.”

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