

# Retail trade

January 2022 | Economic brief

Retail trade turnover (current prices)	NT	Aust
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	↑1.3%	↑1.8%
Annual change (seasonally adjusted)	↑0.2%	↑6.4%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑3.6%	↑5.0%

Since the onset of COVID-19 the Australian Bureau of Statistics has suspended reporting trend estimates due to the sudden and extreme changes in retail expenditure (e.g. changes to regular and seasonal patterns) which significantly impacts the trend estimation process.

## Monthly results

Retail trade in the Territory increased by 1.3% to \$311 million in January 2022 compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The increase was driven by the categories of 'cafes, restaurants and takeaway food' and 'pharmaceutical, cosmetic and toiletry'.

The Territory reported the fourth highest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a 0.4% increase in both Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory to a 4.7% increase in Western Australia. Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 1.8% to \$32.5 billion.

## Annual results

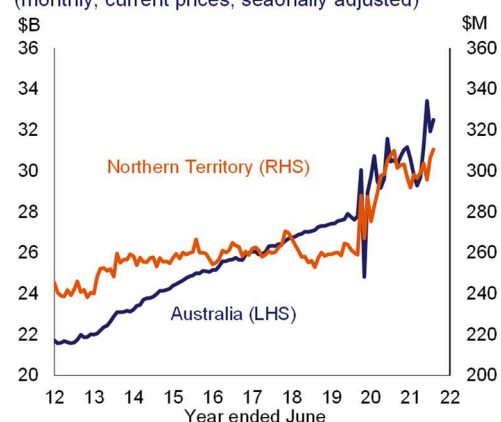
Retail trade in the Territory increased by 0.2% in annual terms, the weakest result of the jurisdictions (Chart 2). The largest contributors to annual growth were 'pharmaceutical, cosmetic and toiletry' and 'other recreational goods' (both contributing 0.4 ppt). 'Food retailing' was the main detractor from retail trade growth in annual terms (detracting 0.4 ppt).

## Year-on-year results

In the year to January 2022, retail spending in the Territory increased by 3.6% to \$3.6 billion, ranking the fourth lowest of the jurisdictions. In other jurisdictions, growth ranged from 0.3% in the Australian Capital Territory to 8.0% in Victoria (Chart 3). Nationally, retail spending increased by 5.0% to \$371.9 billion over the same period.

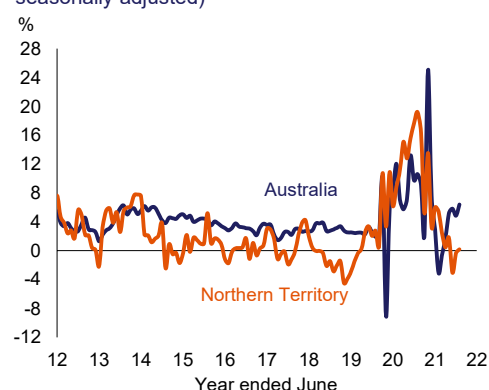
The Territory's year-on-year result was influenced by increased spending across most categories, with 'household goods' and 'cafes, restaurants and takeaway food' being the largest contributors to growth.

Chart 1: Retail turnover (monthly, current prices, seasonally adjusted)



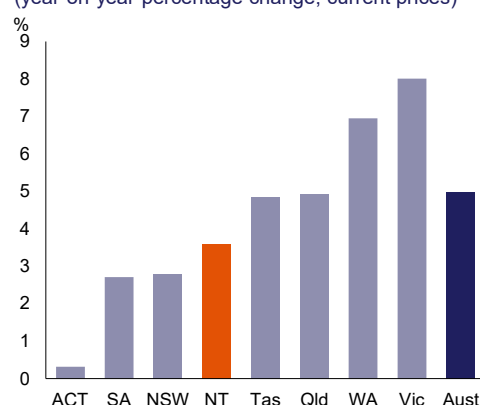
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

Chart 2: Retail turnover (annual percentage change, current prices, seasonally adjusted)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

Chart 3: Retail turnover (year-on-year percentage change, current prices)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

Table 1: Retail turnover (current prices, \$M)

	Period				Change		
	Jan 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Year to date	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Annual <sup>2</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>							
Original	276	339	275	3 603	-19.0%	-0.4%	3.6%
Seasonally adjusted <sup>4</sup>	310	306	311	3 606	1.3%	0.2%	
Trend							
– retail trade trend series was suspended from the February 2020 release							
<b>Australia</b>							
Original	30 129	40 842	31 889	371 892	-21.9%	5.8%	5.0%
Seasonally adjusted <sup>4</sup>	30 539	31 926	32 492	371 461	1.8%	6.4%	
Trend							
– retail trade trend series was suspended from the February 2020 release							
<b>Other jurisdictions (seasonally adjusted)</b>							
New South Wales	9 516	9 957	10 052	115 135	1.0%	5.6%	
Victoria	7 792	8 228	8 432	94 231	2.5%	8.2%	
Queensland	6 317	6 656	6 684	77 935	0.4%	5.8%	
South Australia	1 955	1 985	2 047	23 868	3.1%	4.7%	
Western Australia	3 429	3 548	3 714	42 062	4.7%	8.3%	
Tasmania	631	649	653	7 831	0.7%	3.6%	
ACT	589	597	599	6 793	0.4%	1.7%	

1 Compares the latest month/quarter with the previous month/quarter.

2 Compares the latest month/quarter with the same month/quarter last year.

3 Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest month with the previous 12 month period.

4 Seasonal adjustment removes from a series influences that are systematic and calendar related.

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 8501.0

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, as it is often derived from small samples and can be highly volatile. Although due care has been exercised in preparing this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

## More information

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