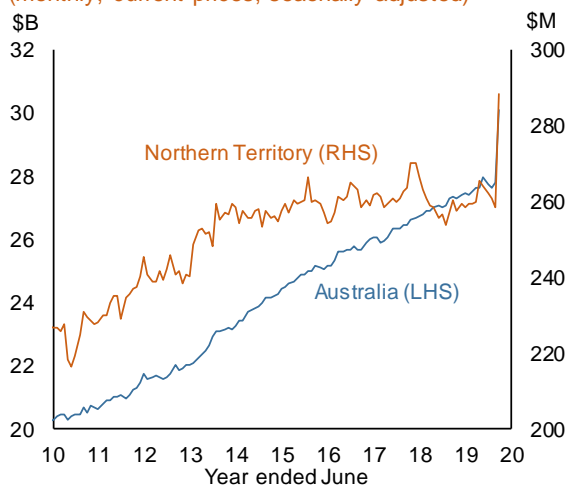


Retail trade

March quarter 2020

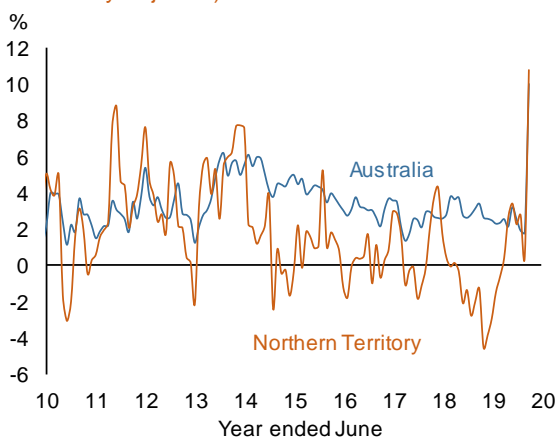
Released: 6 May 2020 | Next release: 4 June 2020

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



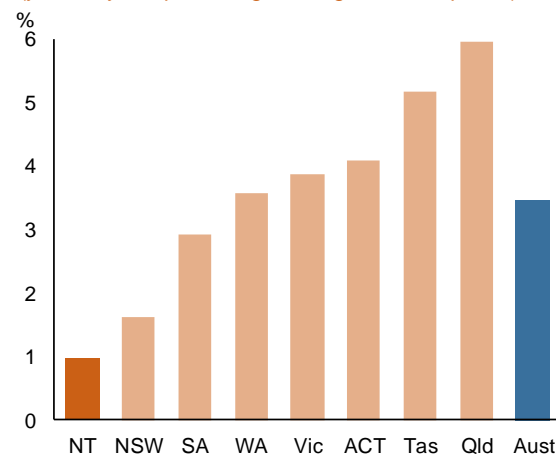
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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

Retail trade turnover (current prices)

	NT	Aust
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	▲11.6%	▲8.5%
Annual change (seasonally adjusted)	▲10.8%	▲10.1%
Year-on-year (original)	▲1.0%	▲3.5%

The following analysis uses current price data, which has not been adjusted for inflation effects. In light of the impacts from COVID-19, the Australian Bureau of Statistics has suspended reporting on trend series due to the uncertainty and changes of retail activity that makes the data unreliable.

Monthly results (seasonally adjusted data)

Retail trade in the Territory increased by 11.6 per cent to \$288 million in March 2020 compared to the previous month (Chart 1). The categories of ‘food retailing’, ‘pharmaceutical, cosmetic and toiletry’, ‘newspaper and book’ and ‘other recreational goods’ increased in the month, partially offset by declines in ‘clothing, footwear and personal accessory’ and ‘cafes, restaurants and takeaway food’.

In other jurisdictions, the monthly increase ranged from 7.7 per cent in Victoria to 9.9 per cent in Western Australia. Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 8.5 per cent to \$30.1 billion.

Annual results (seasonally adjusted data)

Retail trade in the Territory increased by 10.8 per cent in annual terms. Nationally, retail trade increased by 10.1 per cent (Chart 2). The increase in the Territory was driven by increases across most retail categories, with the exception of ‘cafes, restaurants and takeaway food’ and ‘clothing, footwear and personal accessory’. The largest contributors in annual terms were:

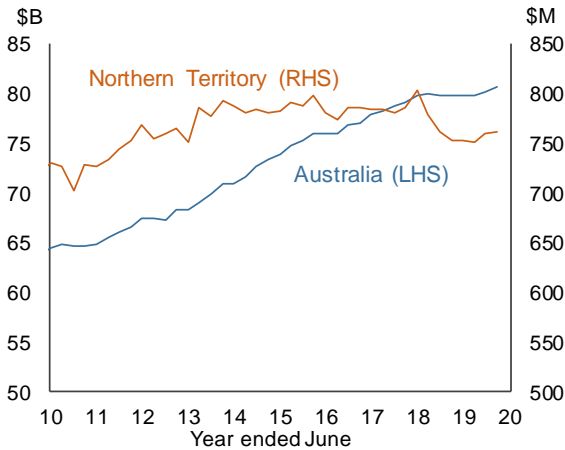
- Food retailing (contributing 8.07 percentage points)
- Other recreational goods (contributing 0.77 percentage points)
- Pharmaceutical, cosmetic and toiletry (contributing 0.38 percentage points).

Year-on-year change (original data)

In the year to March 2020, retail spending in the Territory increased by 1.0 per cent to \$3.2 billion, ranking the lowest of the jurisdictions. In other jurisdictions, growth ranged from 1.6 per cent in New South Wales to 6.0 per cent in Queensland (Chart 3). Nationally, retail spending increased by 3.5 per cent to \$334.0 billion over the same period.

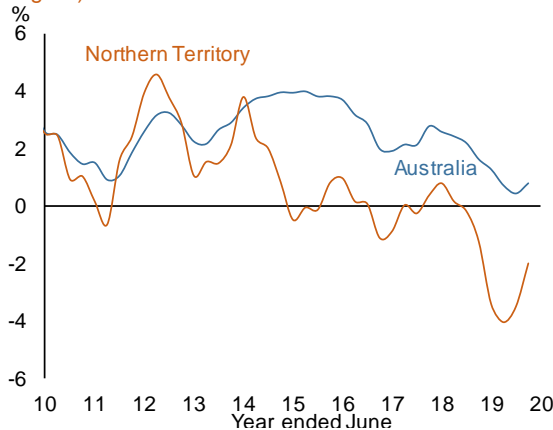
The Territory’s year-on-year result was influenced by increased spending in ‘food retailing’ and ‘other recreational goods’.

Chart 4: Retail turnover
(quarterly, inflation adjusted, seasonally adjusted)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0

Chart 5: Change in retail turnover
(year-on-year percentage change, inflation adjusted, original)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0

Retail trade turnover (inflation adjusted)

	NT	Aust
Quarterly change (seasonally adjusted)	↑0.2%	↑0.7%
Annual change (seasonally adjusted)	↑1.2%	↑1.1%
Year on year (original)	↓2.0%	↑0.7%

The following analysis uses chain volume data, which has been adjusted to remove inflationary effects. The Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) does not publish inflation adjusted data for the components of Territory retail trade.

Quarterly and annual results (seasonally adjusted)

In inflation adjusted terms, the Territory's seasonally adjusted retail trade turnover increased by 0.2 per cent to \$762 million in the March quarter 2020 (Chart 4). This was the fifth largest quarterly increase of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a 0.7 per cent decline in the Australian Capital Territory to a 1.9 per cent increase in Queensland.

Territory retail turnover increased by 1.2 per cent in annual terms and was the fifth highest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a 1.5 per cent decline in New South Wales to a 5.1 per cent increase in Tasmania.

Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 0.7 per cent in the quarter to \$80.7 billion, and increased by 1.1 per cent compared to March 2019.

Year-on-year results (original)

In the year to March 2020, retail trade turnover in the Territory decreased by 2.0 per cent to \$3.0 billion (Chart 5).

The Territory recorded the largest year-on-year decline of all jurisdictions. In other jurisdictions, the change ranged from a 0.9 per cent decline in New South Wales to a 3.1 per cent increase in Queensland. Nationally, retail trade increased by 0.7 per cent to \$321.5 billion over the same period.

Retail trade March quarter 2020

Table 1: Retail turnover (inflation adjusted, \$M)*

	March 2020		Change		
	Quarter	Year to date	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory					
Original	689	3 034	-12.7%	2.3%	-2.0%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	762	3 027	0.2%	1.2%	
Trend	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Australia					
Original	77 500	321 515	-13.2%	2.2%	0.7%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	80 721	320 544	0.7%	1.1%	
Trend	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	

Table 2: Retail turnover (current prices, \$M)

	March 2020		Change		
	Month	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory					
Original	271	3 158	18.8%	10.1%	1.0%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	288	3 152	11.6%	10.8%	
Trend	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Australia					
Original	29 159	334 016	14.7%	9.4%	3.5%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	30 111	333 353	8.5%	10.1%	
Trend	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	

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.

*Data only published quarterly.

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, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile.

Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

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