

Retail trade

August 2024 | Economic brief

Retail trade turnover (current prices)	NT	Aust
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.5%	↑0.3%
Year-ended change (trend)	↑4.9%	↑2.6%
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	↑0.9%	↑0.7%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	↑5.9%	↑3.1%

The Australian Bureau of Statistics reintroduced reporting trend estimates after they were suspended during COVID-19 pandemic. However, due to irregular spending patterns over this period, trend estimates are not available from March 2020 to June 2022.

Monthly results

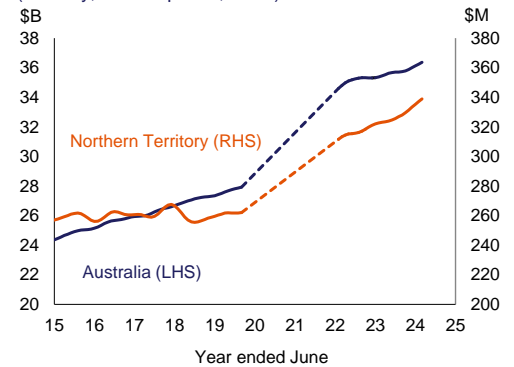
In trend terms, retail trade in the Territory increased by 0.5% to \$339 million in August 2024 compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The increase was driven by the categories of 'food retailing' and 'cafes, restaurants and takeaway food'.

The Territory reported the second strongest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from an increase of 0.1% in South Australia and Tasmania to an increase of 0.6% in Western Australia. Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 0.3% to \$36.4 billion.

Year-ended results

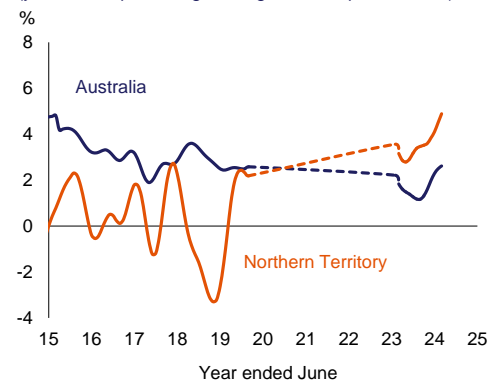
Retail trade in the Territory increased by 4.9% over the year (Chart 2), the strongest result of the jurisdictions (Chart 3). The largest contributor to year-ended growth was 'food retailing' (contributing 3.3 ppt). Nationally, retail spending increased by 2.6% to \$36.4 billion.

Chart 1: Retail turnover (monthly, current prices, trend)



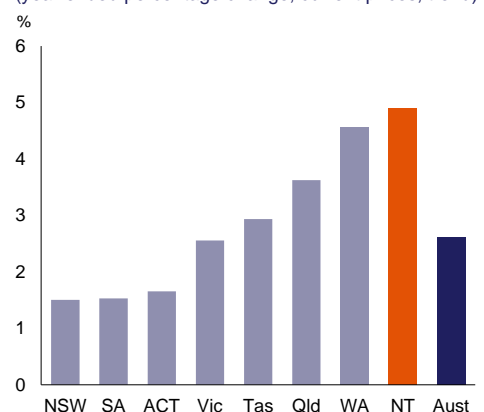
Note: Break in the time series from March 2020 to June 2022
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

Chart 2: Retail turnover (year-ended percentage change, current prices, trend)



Note: Break in the time series from March 2020 to June 2022
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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

	Period				Change		
	Aug 23	Jul 24	Aug 24	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²	Year-average ³
Northern Territory							
Original	346	373	369	3 975	n.p	6.5%	4.0%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	322	337	340	3 960	0.9%	5.9%	
Trend	323	337	339	3 959	0.5%	4.9%	
Australia							
Original	34 540	35 169	35 930	431 696	n.p	4.0%	2.1%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	35 374	36 207	36 475	430 585	0.7%	3.1%	
Trend	35 449	36 251	36 376	430 428	0.3%	2.6%	
Other jurisdictions (trend)							
New South Wales	11 099	11 240	11 266	134 063	0.2%	1.5%	
Victoria	9 142	9 338	9 376	110 805	0.4%	2.6%	
Queensland	7 241	7 469	7 503	88 504	0.4%	3.6%	
South Australia	2 292	2 325	2 327	27 786	0.1%	1.5%	
Western Australia	3 980	4 139	4 162	48 600	0.6%	4.6%	
Tasmania	702	722	722	8 613	0.1%	2.9%	
Australian Capital Territory	671	681	682	8 098	0.2%	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.

n.p: not published

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

Term	Definition
Retail trade	Retail trade is the business activity of the sale of goods in the state that it is purchased (or after minor transformation) to the final consumer which is predominantly households and it includes both store and online sales.

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.

[Retail Trade, Australia | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au)

More information

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