

# Retail trade

November 2024 | Economic brief

Retail trade turnover (current prices)	NT	Aust
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.1%	↑0.4%
Year-ended change (trend)	↑4.4%	↑3.5%
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	↑1.6%	↑0.8%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	↑3.0%	↑3.0%

The Australian Bureau of Statistics reintroduced reporting of trend estimates after they were suspended during the 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 0.1% to \$339 million compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The increase was largely driven by 'pharmaceutical, cosmetic and toiletry' (contributing 0.1 ppt).

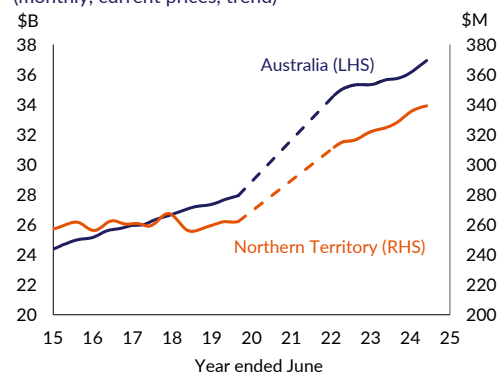
The Territory reported the equal weakest result of the jurisdictions with the Australian Capital Territory, which otherwise ranged from an increase of 0.2% in Western Australia to an increase of 0.6% in South Australia. Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 0.4% to \$36.9 billion.

## Year-ended results

In trend terms, retail trade in the Territory increased by 4.4% over the year (Chart 2). The largest contributor was 'food retailing' (contributing 3.0 ppt).

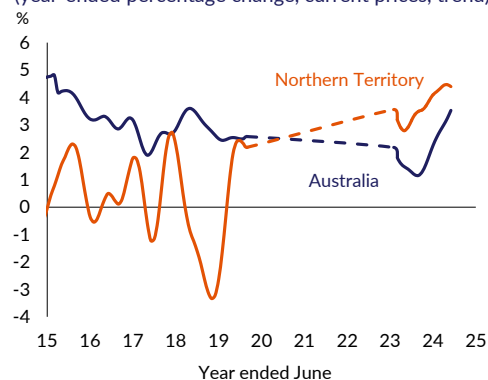
The Territory reported the second strongest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from an increase of 1.7% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 4.7% in Western Australia (Chart 3). Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 3.5%.

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



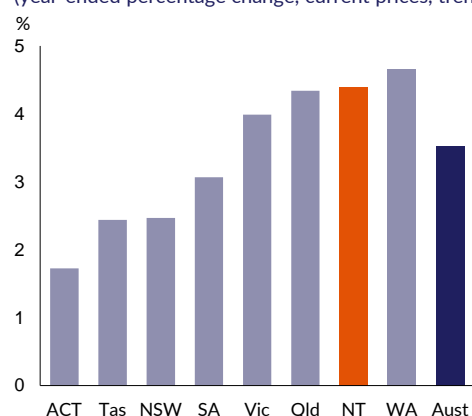
Note: Break in the time series from March 2020 to June 2022  
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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		
	Nov 23	Oct 24	Nov 24	Year to date	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Year-ended <sup>2</sup>	Year-average <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>							
Original	337	342	352	4 011	n.p	4.3%	4.1%
Seasonally adjusted <sup>4</sup>	331	335	341	3 996	1.6%	3.0%	
Trend	325	339	339	4 000	0.1%	4.4%	
<b>Australia</b>							
Original	38 649	37 318	40 227	434 974	n.p	4.1%	2.4%
Seasonally adjusted <sup>4</sup>	35 978	36 759	37 053	433 752	0.8%	3.0%	
Trend	35 673	36 772	36 932	433 932	0.4%	3.5%	
<b>Other jurisdictions (trend)</b>							
New South Wales	11 150	11 381	11 425	134 829	0.4%	2.5%	
Victoria	9 183	9 502	9 549	111 796	0.5%	4.0%	
Queensland	7 322	7 599	7 639	89 412	0.5%	4.3%	
South Australia	2 307	2 363	2 378	27 973	0.6%	3.1%	
Western Australia	4 000	4 176	4 187	49 123	0.2%	4.7%	
Tasmania	714	729	732	8 669	0.4%	2.4%	
Australian Capital Territory	673	683	684	8 129	0.1%	1.7%	

1 Compares the latest month with the previous month.

2 Compares the latest month with the same month 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.
Monthly change	Compares the latest month with the previous month.
Year-ended change	Compares the latest month with the same month last year.
Year-average change	Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest month with the previous 12 month period.
Seasonally adjusted	A seasonally adjusted series involves estimating and removing the cyclical and seasonal effects from the original data. Seasonally adjusting a time series is useful if you wish to understand the underlying patterns of change or movement in a population, without the impact of the seasonal or cyclical effects.
Trend	A trend series is a seasonally adjusted series that has been further adjusted to remove irregular effects and 'smooth' out the series to show the overall 'trend' of the data over time.

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://abs.gov.au)

## More information

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