

Retail trade

January 2025 | Economic brief

Retail trade turnover (current prices)	NT	Aust
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.1%	↑0.3%
Year-ended change (trend)	↑4.0%	↑4.1%
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	flat	↑0.3%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	↑4.4%	↑3.8%

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 (trend)

Retail trade in the Territory increased by 0.1% to \$340 million in January 2025 compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The increase was driven by the categories of 'food retailing' and 'household goods' (contributing 0.1 ppt each).

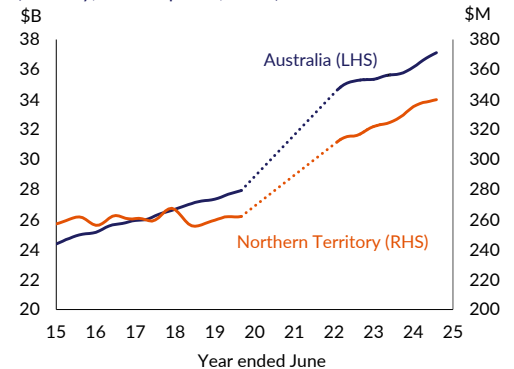
The Territory reported the second weakest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from no change in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 0.5% in South Australia and Tasmania. Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 0.3% to \$37.1 billion.

Year-ended results (trend)

Retail trade in the Territory increased by 4.0% over the year to January 2025 (Chart 2), with the largest contributor being 'food retailing' (contributing 3.0 ppt).

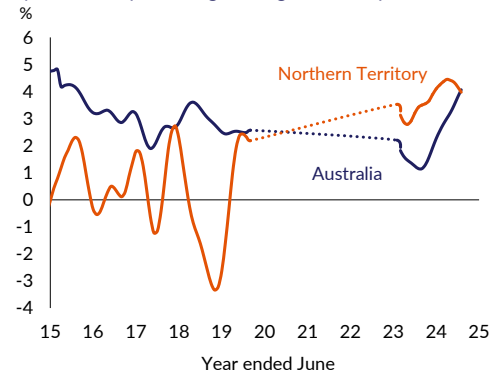
The Territory reported the fourth strongest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from an increase of 1.6% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 5.3% in Western Australia (Chart 3). Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 4.1%.

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



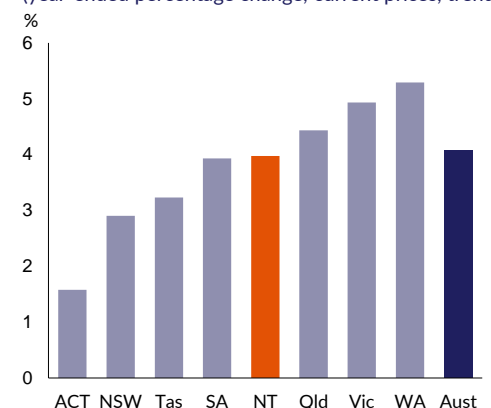
Note: Break in the time series from March 2020 to June 2022
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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	
	Jan 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²
Northern Territory						
Original	288	371	303	4 042	n.p	5.3%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	326	340	340	4 029	0.0%	4.4%
Trend	327	339	340	4 027	0.1%	4.0%
Australia						
Original	34 735	45 943	36 169	438 193	n.p	4.1%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	35 708	36 974	37 076	436 780	0.3%	3.8%
Trend	35 680	37 017	37 130	436 751	0.3%	4.1%
Other jurisdictions (trend)						
New South Wales	11 129	11 433	11 452	135 485	0.2%	2.9%
Victoria	9 178	9 590	9 630	112 653	0.4%	4.9%
Queensland	7 341	7 644	7 666	90 039	0.3%	4.4%
South Australia	2 312	2 390	2 403	28 140	0.5%	3.9%
Western Australia	4 004	4 203	4 216	49 547	0.3%	5.3%
Tasmania	718	738	742	8 716	0.5%	3.2%
Australian Capital Territory	671	682	682	8 145	0.0%	1.6%

1 Compares the latest month with the previous month.

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

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 to the previous month.
Year-ended change	Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year.
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://www.abs.gov.au)

More information

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