

Retail trade

April 2024 | Economic brief

Retail trade turnover (current prices)	NT	Aust
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.4%	flat
Annual change (trend)	↑3.4%	↑1.2%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑3.7%	↑2.0%

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

Retail trade in the Territory increased by 0.4% to \$330 million in April 2024 compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The increase was driven by the categories of 'cafes, restaurants and takeaway food' and 'household goods'.

The Territory reported the strongest result of the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from a decrease of 0.1% in Queensland to an increase of 0.1% in South Australia and Western Australia. Nationally, retail trade turnover was unchanged at \$35.7 billion.

Annual results

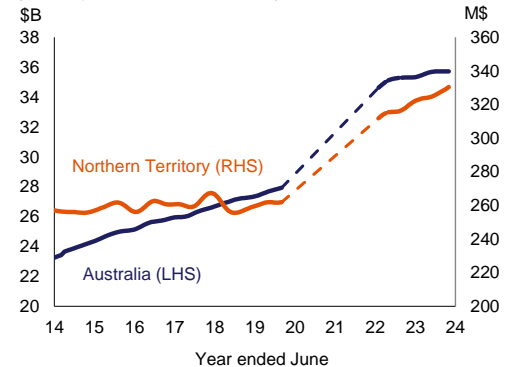
Retail trade in the Territory increased by 3.4% in annual terms (Chart 2), the strongest result of the jurisdictions. The largest contributor to annual growth was 'food retailing' (contributing 2.3 ppt).

Year-on-year results

In the year to April 2024, retail spending in the Territory increased by 3.7% to \$3.9 billion, the second strongest result of the jurisdictions. In other jurisdictions, results ranged from an increase of 1.1% in New South Wales to an increase of 4.1% in the Australian Capital Territory (Chart 3). Nationally, retail spending increased by 2.0% to \$427.9 billion over the same period.

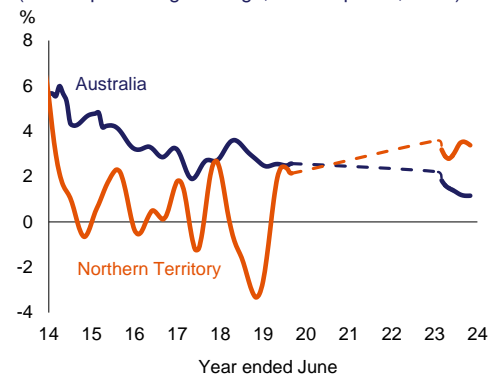
The Territory's year-on-year result was largely influenced by increased spending on 'food retailing' (contributing 2.6 ppt) and 'cafes, restaurants and takeaway food' (contributing 1.1 ppt).

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



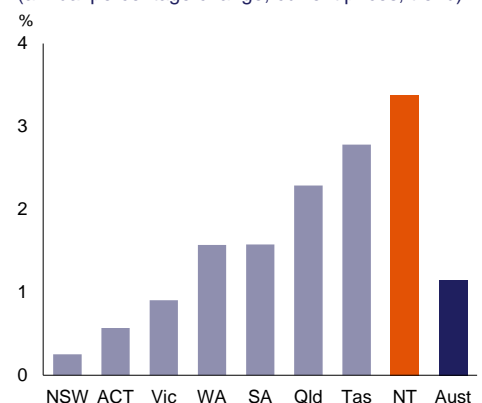
Note: Break in the time series from March 2020 to June 2022
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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

	Period				Change		
	Apr 23	Mar 24	Apr 24	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory							
Original	301	314	311	3 912	-0.9%	3.5%	3.7%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	319	331	331	3 905	0.0%	3.8%	
Trend	320	329	330	3 903	0.4%	3.4%	
Australia							
Original	33 603	35 137	34 021	427 944	-3.2%	1.2%	2.0%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	35 264	35 667	35 714	426 970	0.1%	1.3%	
Trend	35 308	35 712	35 714	426 943	0.0%	1.2%	
Other jurisdictions (trend)							
New South Wales	11 109	11 134	11 137	133 465	0.0%	0.3%	
Victoria	9 096	9 181	9 178	109 946	0.0%	0.9%	
Queensland	7 181	7 349	7 345	87 502	-0.1%	2.3%	
South Australia	2 285	2 319	2 321	27 638	0.1%	1.6%	
Western Australia	3 949	4 008	4 011	47 914	0.1%	1.6%	
Tasmania	701	721	721	8 524	0.0%	2.8%	
Australian Capital Territory	667	671	671	8 052	0.0%	0.6%	

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.

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

More information

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