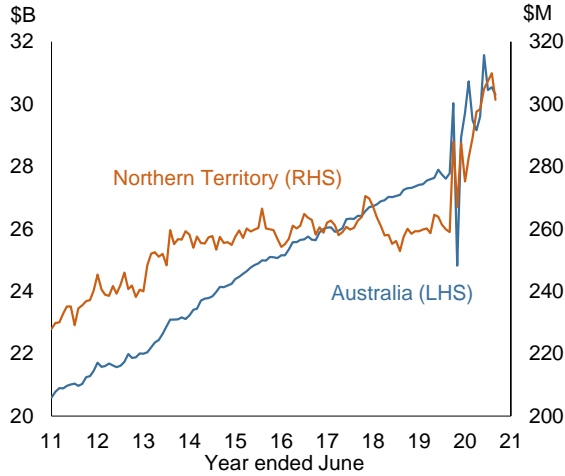


Retail trade

February 2021

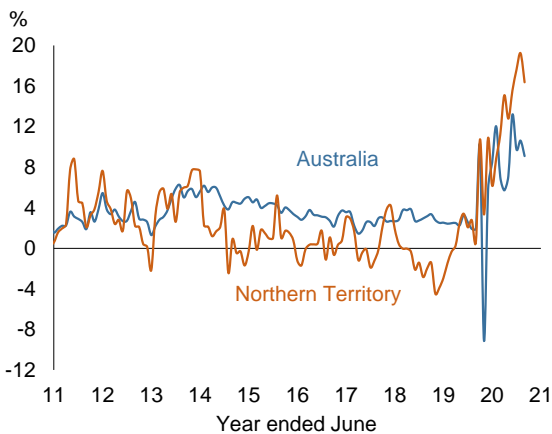
Released: 1 April 2021 | Next release: 10 May 2021

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



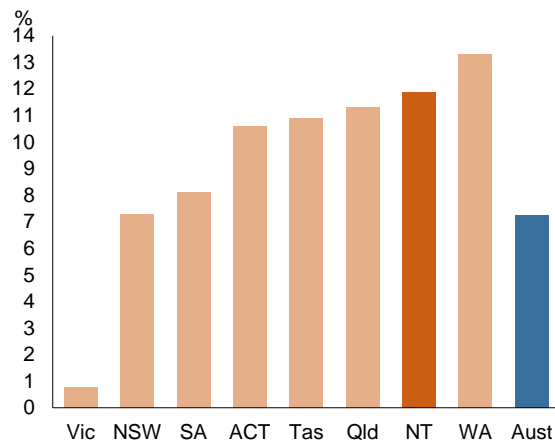
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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)	↓2.8%	↓0.8%
Annual change (seasonally adjusted)	↑16.4%	↑9.1%
Year-on-year (original)	↑11.9%	↑7.3%

Since the onset of COVID-19 the Australian Bureau of Statistics has suspended reporting trend estimates due to the sudden and extreme changes in retail expenditure (e.g. changes to regular and seasonal patterns) which significantly impacts the trend estimation process.

Monthly results

Retail trade in the Territory decreased by 2.8% to \$301 million in February 2021 compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The decrease is driven by the categories of ‘food retailing’, ‘cafes, restaurants and takeaway food’ and ‘clothing, footwear and personal accessory.’

The Territory had the third largest decline. In other jurisdictions, the monthly change ranged from a 5.4% decrease in Western Australia to a 1.2% increase in New South Wales. Nationally, retail trade turnover decreased by 0.8% to \$30.3 billion.

Annual results

Retail trade in the Territory increased by 16.4% in annual terms (Chart 2). The contributors in annual terms were ‘food retailing’ (contributing 6.1 percentage points (ppt)), ‘cafes, restaurants and takeaway food’ (contributing 1.3 ppt), ‘other recreational goods’ (contributing 1.1 ppt), ‘clothing, footwear and personal accessory’ (contributing 1.0 ppt), ‘pharmaceutical, cosmetic and toiletry’ (contributing 0.9 ppt) and ‘newspaper and book’ (contributing 0.1 ppt).

Year-on-year results

In the year to February 2021, retail spending in the Territory increased by 11.9% to \$3.5 billion, ranking the second highest of the jurisdictions. In other jurisdictions, growth ranged from 0.8% in Victoria to 13.3% in Western Australia (Chart 3). Nationally, retail spending increased by 7.3% to \$355.6 billion over the same period.

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

Retail trade February 2021

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

	Period				Change		
	Feb 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory							
Original	228	276	255	3 505	-7.5%	12.0%	11.9%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	259	310	301	3 509	-2.8%	16.4%	
Trend	– retail trade trend series was suspended from the February 2020 release						
Australia							
Original	25 428	30 129	26 758	355 572	-11.2%	5.2%	7.3%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	27 776	30 539	30 301	355 351	-0.8%	9.1%	
Trend	– retail trade trend series was suspended from the February 2020 release						
Other jurisdictions (seasonally adjusted)							
New South Wales	8 701	9 516	9 629	112 711	1.2%	10.7%	
Victoria	7 297	7 792	7 557	87 278	-3.0%	3.6%	
Queensland	5 697	6 317	6 385	74 665	1.1%	12.1%	
South Australia	1 796	1 955	1 959	23 327	0.2%	9.1%	
Western Australia	2 936	3 429	3 244	39 523	-5.4%	10.5%	
Tasmania	576	630	635	7 504	0.7%	10.3%	
ACT	514	589	591	6 833	0.3%	14.9%	

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, 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.

More information:

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