

# Retail trade

October 2024 | Economic brief

Retail trade turnover (current prices)	NT	Aust
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.1%	↑0.3%
Year-ended change (trend)	↑4.2%	↑2.9%
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	↓0.5%	↑0.6%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	↑3.6%	↑3.4%

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 \$338 million compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The increase was largely driven by 'food retailing' (contributing 0.1 ppt).

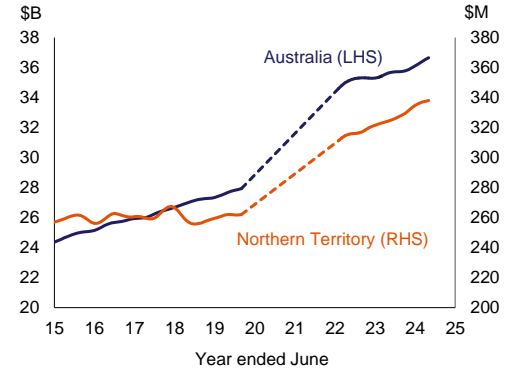
The Territory reported the weakest result of the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from an increase of 0.2% in Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 0.5% in Victoria. Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 0.3% to \$36.7 billion.

## Year-ended results

In trend terms, retail trade in the Territory increased by 4.2% over the year (Chart 2). The largest contributor was 'food retailing' (contributing 3.2 ppt).

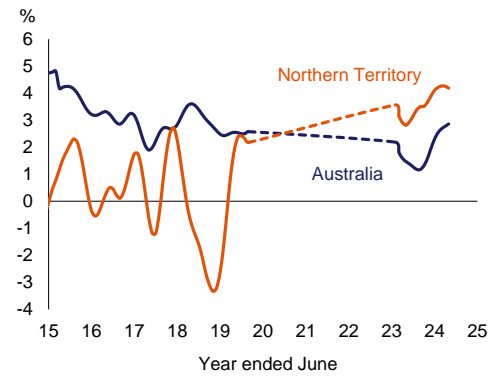
The Territory reported the second strongest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from an increase of 1.6% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 4.3% in Western Australia (Chart 3). Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 2.9%.

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



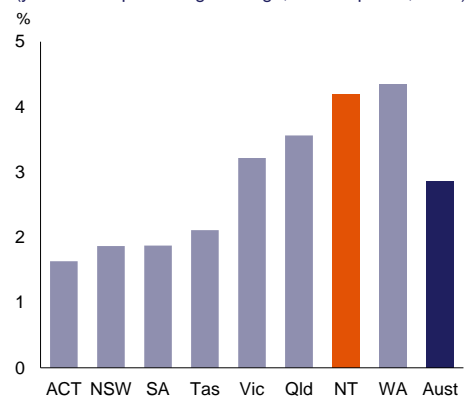
Note: Break in the time series from March 2020 to June 2022  
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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		
	Oct 23	Sep 24	Oct 24	Year to date	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Year-ended <sup>2</sup>	Year-average <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>							
Original	328	342	342	3 996	n.p	4.2%	4.1%
Seasonally adjusted <sup>4</sup>	323	337	335	3 985	-0.5%	3.6%	
Trend	324	338	338	3 984	0.1%	4.2%	
<b>Australia</b>							
Original	35 947	35 311	37 318	433 396	n.p	3.8%	2.2%
Seasonally adjusted <sup>4</sup>	35 495	36 498	36 703	432 621	0.6%	3.4%	
Trend	35 636	36 529	36 656	432 439	0.3%	2.9%	
<b>Other jurisdictions (trend)</b>							
New South Wales	11 145	11 322	11 353	134 496	0.3%	1.9%	
Victoria	9 179	9 430	9 474	111 371	0.5%	3.2%	
Queensland	7 303	7 533	7 563	89 025	0.4%	3.6%	
South Australia	2 303	2 340	2 346	27 875	0.3%	1.9%	
Western Australia	3 999	4 161	4 173	48 924	0.3%	4.3%	
Tasmania	710	724	725	8 646	0.2%	2.1%	
Australian Capital Territory	673	683	684	8 118	0.2%	1.6%	

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://www.abs.gov.au)

## More information

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