

# Retail trade

April 2025 | Economic brief

The retail trade publication will be discontinued following the June 2025 release. This brief will cease at that time, to be replaced by a brief on the monthly household spending indicator.

Retail trade turnover (current prices)	NT	Aust
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.2%	↑0.1%
Year-ended change (trend)	↑3.5%	↑3.8%
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	↓0.2%	↓0.1%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	↑3.3%	↑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 0.2% to \$343 million in April 2025 compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The increase was driven by the categories of 'household goods' and 'food retailing'.

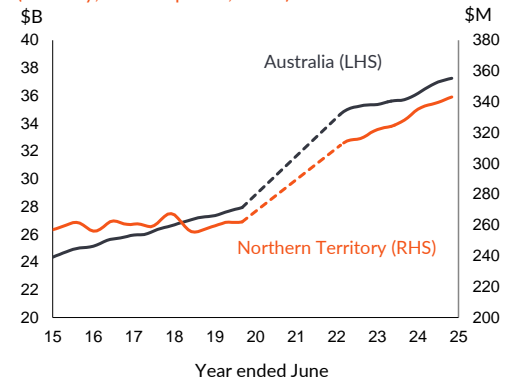
The Territory reported the second strongest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from no change in New South Wales and Tasmania to an increase of 0.5% in Western Australia. Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 0.1% to \$37.3 billion.

## Annual results (trend)

Retail trade in the Territory increased by 3.5% over the year (Chart 2). The largest contributors to growth were 'food retailing' and 'household goods'.

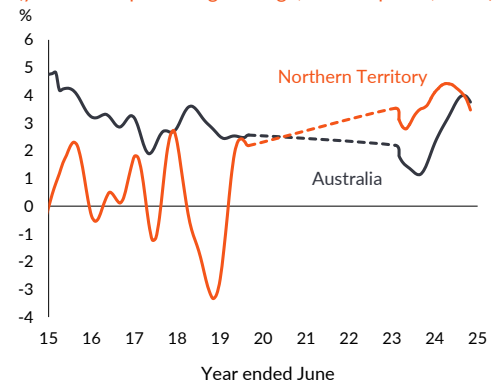
The territory reported the fourth weakest result of the jurisdictions (Chart 3). Results in other jurisdictions ranged from an increase of 1.3% in the Australian Capital Territory, to an increase of 5.7% in Western Australia. Nationally, retail trade increased by 3.8% over the year.

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



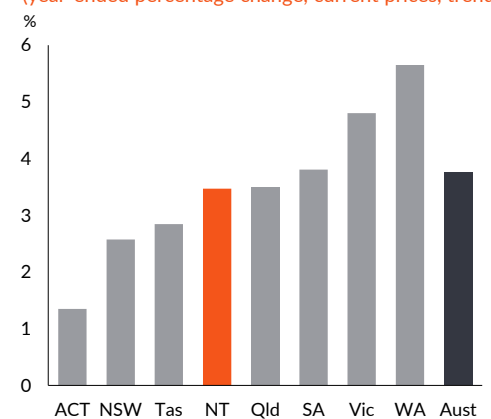
Note: Break in the time series from March 2020 to June 2022  
Source: ABS, Retail Trade; DTF

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, Retail Trade; DTF

Chart 3: Retail turnover (year-ended percentage change, current prices, trend)



Source: ABS, Retail Trade; DTF

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

	Period				Change	
	Apr 24	Mar 25	Apr 25	Year to date	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Year-ended <sup>2</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>						
Original	311	322	323	4 062	n.p.	3.9%
Seasonally adjusted	331	343	342	4 064	-0.2%	3.3%
Trend	332	342	343	4 065	0.2%	3.5%
<b>Australia</b>						
Original	34 021	36 277	35 382	440 694	n.p.	4.0%
Seasonally adjusted	35 854	37 235	37 208	440 987	-0.1%	3.8%
Trend	35 902	37 201	37 250	440 913	0.1%	3.8%
<b>Other jurisdictions (trend)</b>						
New South Wales	11 172	11 458	11 459	136 434	0.0%	2.6%
Victoria	9 233	9 659	9 676	113 988	0.2%	4.8%
Queensland	7 392	7 642	7 650	90 805	0.1%	3.5%
South Australia	2 320	2 406	2 408	28 402	0.1%	3.8%
Western Australia	4 059	4 269	4 288	50 266	0.5%	5.7%
Tasmania	721	741	741	8 776	0.0%	2.8%
Australian Capital Territory	675	684	684	8 178	0.1%	1.3%

<sup>1</sup> Compares the latest month with the previous month.

<sup>2</sup> Compares the latest month with the same month last year.

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, *Retail Trade*

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.
Quarterly change	Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.
Year-ended change	Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year.
Year-average change	Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest quarter 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

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6718 | E: [economics.dtf@nt.gov.au](mailto:economics.dtf@nt.gov.au) | W: [nteconomy.nt.gov.au](http://nteconomy.nt.gov.au)