

Retail trade

May 2022 | Economic brief

Retail trade turnover (current prices)

	NT	Aust
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	↑0.6%	↑0.9%
Annual change (seasonally adjusted)	↑2.3%	↑10.4%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑1.1%	↑5.1%

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 increased by 0.6% to \$305 million in May 2022 compared with the previous month (Chart 1). The increase was driven by the categories of 'household goods' and 'other retailing'.

The Territory reported the fourth lowest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a 0.4% decrease in Queensland to a 1.9% increase in South Australia. Nationally, retail trade turnover increased by 0.9% to \$34.2 billion.

Annual results

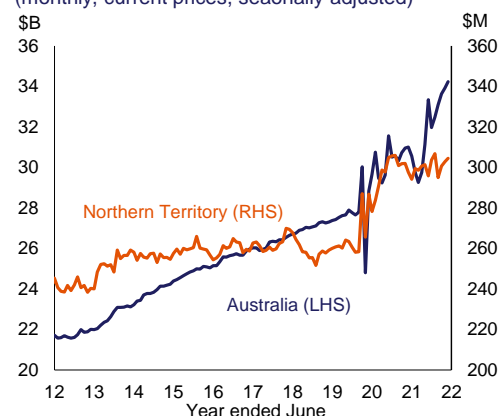
Retail trade in the Territory increased by 2.3% in annual terms (Chart 2), the weakest result of the jurisdictions. The largest contributor to annual growth was 'cafes, restaurants and takeaway food' (contributing 0.8 ppt).

Year-on-year results

In the year to May 2022, retail spending in the Territory increased by 1.1% to \$3.6 billion, ranking the second weakest of the jurisdictions. In other jurisdictions, results ranged from a 1.1% decrease in the Australian Capital Territory to an 8.9% increase in Victoria (Chart 3). Nationally, retail spending increased by 5.1% to \$383 billion over the same period.

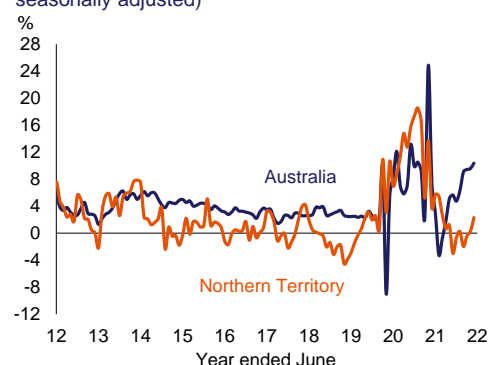
The Territory's year-on-year result was largely influenced by increased spending on 'other retailing' (contributing 0.6 ppt).

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



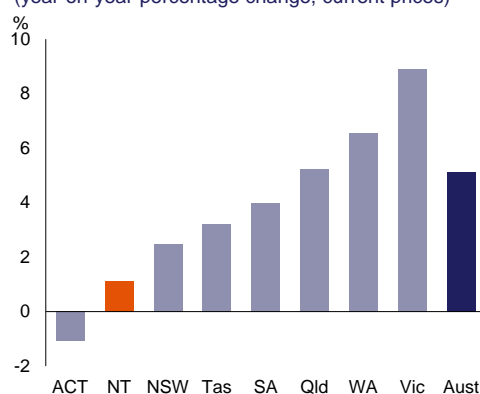
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8501.0; DTF

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

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

	Period				Change		
	May 21	Apr 22	May 22	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory							
Original	297	289	304	3 603	4.9%	2.1%	1.1%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	298	303	305	3 603	0.6%	2.3%	
Trend							
– suspended							
Australia							
Original	30 193	32 498	33 314	383 035	2.5%	10.3%	5.1%
Seasonally adjusted ⁴	31 008	33 923	34 229	383 145	0.9%	10.4%	
Trend							
– suspended							
Other jurisdictions (seasonally adjusted)							
New South Wales	9 821	10 619	10 784	118 711	1.6%	9.8%	
Victoria	7 840	8 690	8 806	97 716	1.3%	12.3%	
Queensland	6 431	7 139	7 110	80 430	-0.4%	10.6%	
South Australia	1 958	2 127	2 166	24 536	1.9%	10.6%	
Western Australia	3 422	3 746	3 754	43 296	0.2%	9.7%	
Tasmania	649	679	686	7 939	1.1%	5.7%	
ACT	589	621	619	6 915	-0.3%	5.1%	

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.

More information

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