

RETAIL TRADE, DECEMBER 2017

Summary

During the month of December 2017, retail turnover in current prices:

- rose by 0.6% in South Australia in trend terms (rose by 0.2% nationally);
- fell by 0.3% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (fell by 0.5% nationally).

In addition to the monthly release of nominal retail turnover data, the ABS has this month also released chain volume retail turnover data for the December quarter 2017. Chain volume or 'real' data removes the effect of price movements, and therefore provides a measure of the volume of retail trade.

During the December quarter 2017, real retail turnover:

- rose by 0.9% in South Australia in trend terms (rose 0.5% nationally);
- rose by 2.4% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (rose by 0.9% nationally).

Retail turnover in current prices incorporates both changes in prices and sales volumes. The base year for chain volume measures is 2015-16.

Further Analysis

Nominal retail turnover (monthly)

Trend

During December 2017, trend nominal retail turnover in South Australia rose 0.6%, following a rise of 0.6% in the previous month. Trend nominal retail turnover rose 0.2% nationally during December.

South Australia recorded the strongest rise in the month (up 0.6%) followed by Victoria (up 0.5%), Tasmania (up 0.2%) and New South Wales and Queensland (both up 0.1%). Retail turnover in Western Australia was unchanged in the month—see Table 1.

Compared with a year earlier, retail turnover was 4.4% higher in South Australia and 2.0% higher nationally.

CHART 1: ANNUAL GROWTH IN RETAIL TURNOVER - TREND CURRENT PRICE ESTIMATES

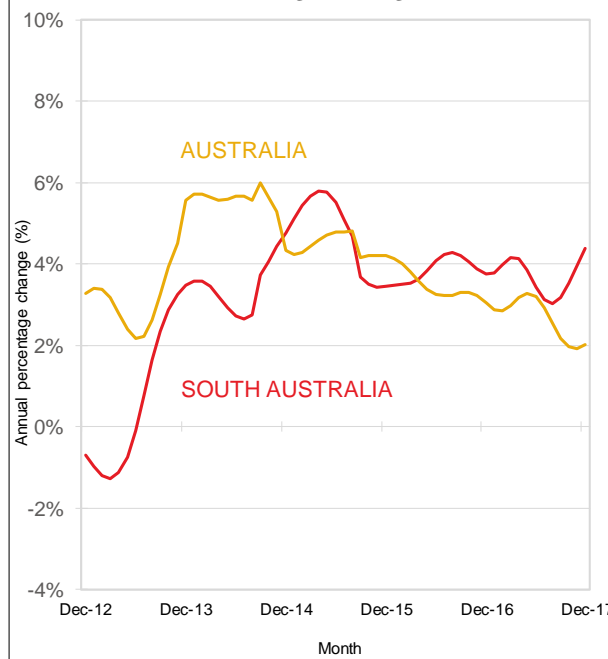


TABLE 1: Nominal Retail Turnover – Trend

| | Dec 17 (\$m) | Dec 17 v Nov 17 (% change) | Dec 17 v Dec 16 (% change) |
|------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| NSW | 8,443.3 | 0.1 | 2.1 |
| VIC | 6,710.7 | 0.5 | 3.9 |
| QLD | 5,194.2 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| SA | 1,743.4 | 0.6 | 4.4 |
| WA | 2,820.1 | 0.0 | -0.6 |
| TAS | 522.6 | 0.2 | 2.8 |
| AUS | 26,170.1 | 0.2 | 2.0 |

Through the year to December 2017, increases in South Australian retail turnover were recorded for Cafes, restaurants and take-away food services (up 17%), Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing (up 6.1%), Household goods retailing (up 4.3%) and Food retailing (up 3.3%). Turnover for Other retailing declined in the year to December (down 0.9%) as did turnover for Department stores (down 0.1%).

Real retail turnover (quarterly)

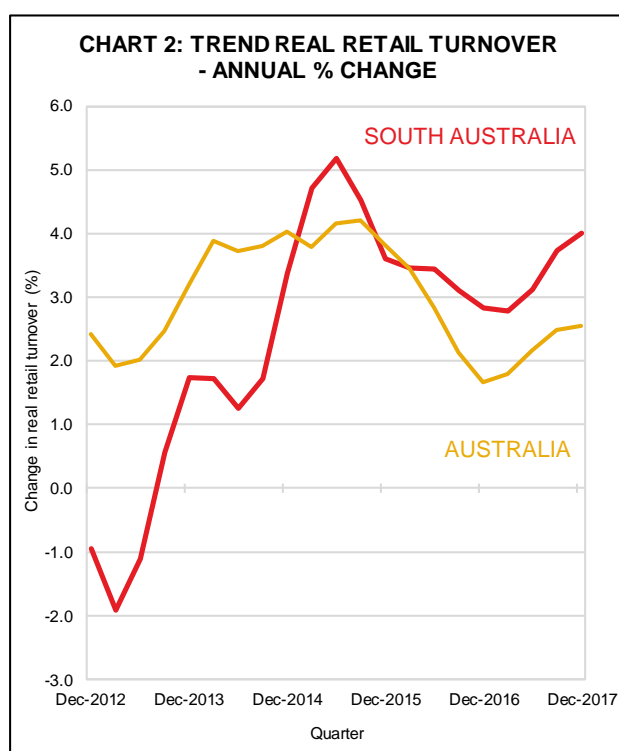


TABLE 2: Real Retail Turnover – trend

| | Dec qtr 17 (\$m) | Dec qtr 17 v Sep qtr 17 (% change) | Dec qtr 17 v Dec qtr 16 (% change) |
|------------|---------------------|--|--|
| NSW | 25,090.2 | 0.5 | 2.9 |
| VIC | 19,915.4 | 1.0 | 4.1 |
| QLD | 15,435.7 | 0.3 | 0.8 |
| SA | 5,162.5 | 0.9 | 4.0 |
| WA | 8,489.1 | -0.1 | 0.4 |
| TAS | 1,560.2 | 0.7 | 2.9 |
| AUS | 77,846.9 | 0.5 | 2.6 |

Reference year for chain volume measures is 2015-16

6 February 2018

Next release of ABS cat. no. 8501.0 is 6 March 2018

