

RETAIL TRADE, DECEMBER 2016

Summary

During the month of December 2016, retail turnover in current prices:

- rose by 0.1% in South Australia in trend terms (rose by 0.3% nationally);
- rose by 1.2% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (fell by 0.1% 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 2016. 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 2016, real retail turnover:

- rose by 0.2% in South Australia in trend terms (rose 0.3% nationally);
- rose by 0.2% 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 2014-15.

Further Analysis

Nominal retail turnover (monthly)

Trend

During December 2016, trend nominal retail turnover in South Australia rose 0.1%, following a rise of 0.2% in the previous month. Trend nominal retail turnover rose 0.3% nationally during December.

All states recorded a rise in retail turnover in the month, with Victoria recording the strongest rise (up 0.4%), followed by NSW, Queensland and Tasmania (all up 0.3%) and SA and WA (both up 0.1%)—see Table 1.

Compared with a year earlier, retail turnover was 3.5% higher in South Australia and 3.2% higher nationally.

Seasonally adjusted

During December 2016, seasonally adjusted nominal retail turnover in South Australia rose 1.2%, following a fall of 0.5% in November.

Compared with a year earlier, retail turnover was 3.9% higher in South Australia and 3.0% higher nationally.

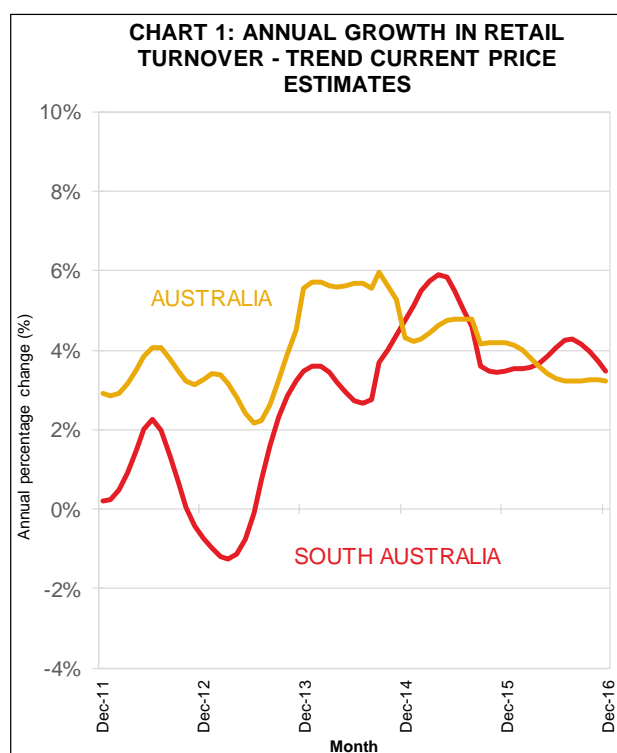


TABLE 1: Nominal Retail Turnover – Trend

	Dec 16 (\$m)	Dec 16 v Nov 16 (% change)	Dec 16 v Dec 15 (% change)
NSW	8,269.4	0.3	3.7
VIC	6,460.5	0.4	3.2
QLD	5,206.2	0.3	3.9
SA	1,665.6	0.1	3.5
WA	2,836.0	0.1	0.4
TAS	509.9	0.3	3.8
AUS	25,683.1	0.3	3.2

Through the year to December 2016, increases in South Australian retail turnover were recorded for cafes, restaurants and take away food services (up 7.8%), 'other' retailing (up 7.1%), food retailing (up 4.0%) and clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing (up 2.0%). Recording a decline in retail turnover in the

month were department stores (down 5.2%) and household goods retailing (down 0.3%).

Real retail turnover (quarterly)

Trend

The 0.2% rise in South Australian real retail turnover in the December quarter followed a rise of 0.4% in the September quarter.

Compared with a year earlier, real retail turnover was 2.3% higher in South Australia, and 1.6% higher nationally—see Chart 2.

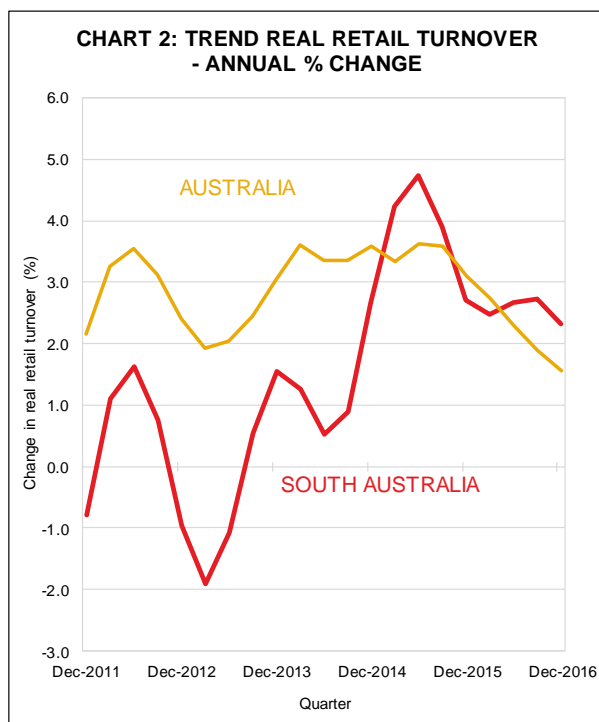


TABLE 2: Real Retail Turnover – Trend

	Dec qtr 16 (\$m)	Dec qtr 16 v Sep qtr 16 (% change)	Dec qtr 16 v Dec qtr 15 (% change)
NSW	24,033.2	0.2	1.8
VIC	18,851.2	0.3	1.6
QLD	15,111.1	0.9	2.1
SA	4,882.8	0.2	2.3
WA	8311.5	-0.2	-0.7
TAS	1,489.3	0.3	2.3
AUS	74,812.7	0.3	1.6

Reference year for chain volume measures is 2014-15

6 February 2017

Next release of ABS cat. no. 8501.0 is 6 March 2017

