



RETAIL TRADE, DECEMBER 2015

Summary

During the month of December 2015, retail turnover in current prices:

- rose by 0.2% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (was unchanged nationally);
- rose by 0.3% in South Australia in trend terms (also rose 0.3% 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 2015. 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 2015, real retail turnover:

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

Retail turnover in current prices incorporates both changes in prices and sales volumes. The base year for chain volume measures is 2013-14.

Further Analysis

Nominal retail turnover (monthly)

Seasonally adjusted

During December 2015, seasonally adjusted nominal retail turnover in South Australia rose 0.2%, following a rise of 0.4% in November.

Compared with a year earlier, retail turnover was 3.6% higher in South Australia and 4.2% higher nationally.

Trend

During December 2015, trend nominal retail turnover in South Australia rose 0.3%, following a rise of 0.3% in the previous month. Trend

nominal retail turnover also rose 0.3% nationally during December.

Victoria recorded the strongest rise in the month (up 0.4%) with all other states (excepting WA which was flat in the month) recording increases of 0.3% in the month—see Table 1.

Compared with a year earlier, retail turnover was 3.1% higher in South Australia and 4.0% higher nationally.

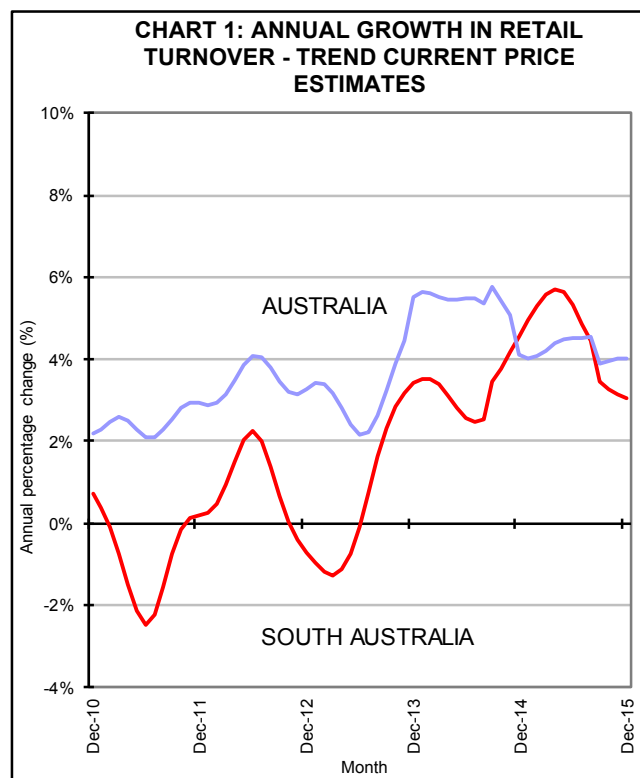


TABLE 1: Nominal Retail Turnover – Trend

	Dec 15	Dec 15 v Nov 15	Dec 15 v Dec 14
	(\$m)	(% change)	(% change)
NSW	7,940.3	0.3	4.7
VIC	6,243.0	0.4	5.7
QLD	4,991.5	0.3	2.6
SA	1,599.6	0.3	3.1
WA	2,817.6	0.0	1.7
TAS	487.8	0.3	4.4
AUS	24,783.4	0.3	4.0



Through the year to December 2015, increases in South Australian retail turnover were recorded for restaurant and take away food services (up 12%), household good retailing (up 6.7%), 'other' retailing (up 5.2%), department stores (up 2.3%), and food retailing (up 1.1%). Retail turnover for clothing and soft good retailing declined in the year to December (down 8.7%).

Real retail turnover (quarterly)

Seasonally adjusted

The 0.6% rise in South Australian real retail turnover in the December quarter followed a fall of 0.4% in the previous quarter.

Compared with a year earlier, real retail turnover was 1.8% higher in South Australia, and 2.5% higher nationally—see Chart 2.

TABLE 2: Real Retail Turnover – Seasonally adjusted

	Dec qtr 15	Dec qtr 15 v Sep qtr 15	Dec qtr 15 v Dec qtr 14
	(\$m)	(% change)	(% change)
NSW	23,049	0.7	2.9
VIC	18,237	1.4	4.3
QLD	14,489	0.1	1.4
SA	4,665	0.6	1.8
WA	8,155	-0.8	-0.1
TAS	1,421	0.9	3.5
AUS	72,063	0.6	2.5

Reference year for chain volume measures is 2013-14

