

RESEARCH NOTE

RETAIL TRADE TREND ESTIMATE INCREASED 0.3 PER CENT FOR JULY 2017 AND BY 3.5 PER CENT YEAR-ON-YEAR

Thursday, September 7 2017 - The latest release (July 2017) of the monthly ABS Retail Trade data indicates that the overall month-on-month (m-o-m) **trend** estimate increased by 0.3 per cent, down from 0.4 per cent in the prior corresponding period (pcp). In **trend** terms, retail turnover increased by 3.5 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y), equal to (a revised) 3.5 per cent in the pcp.

STATE OF PLAY

The adjacent table summarises the key data in **seasonally adjusted** terms across the six ABS retail categories. The strongest growth was recorded for 'Other' retailing on a m-o-m basis (1.3 per cent), whilst 'Other' retailing along with 'Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services' retailing (both 4.4 per cent) were the strongest growing categories on a y-o-y basis. In seasonally adjusted terms, Retail Turnover remained relatively unchanged at -0.0 per cent in the month of July 2017. On a y-o-y basis, Retail Turnover increased by 3.6 per cent, down from (a revised) 3.7 per cent in the pcp. For the second consecutive month 'Department stores' retailing was the only category to record negative growth on a m-o-m and y-o-y basis.

TREND ANALYSIS: ONLINE RETAIL TURNOVER

As part of the monthly Retail Trade data release, the ABS produces an experimental series that estimates the value of 'online retail turnover' (i.e. turnover from domestic online retail sales) - the method, scope and coverage of which is further explained [here](#) - noting that this data is in original terms (i.e. non-seasonally adjusted). The adjacent chart highlights the m-o-m change in retail turnover for the month of July for the last five years for online retail, up 4.1 per cent in July 2017, and 'traditional' retail (total retail turnover less online retail), up 0.3 per cent in July 2017.

STATE BY STATE: BEST AND WORST

Retail turnover varies within the ABS defined six categories and across different jurisdictions. The adjacent map outlines and compares the total and growth of retail trade (y-o-y), and the best and worst retail growth categories. The strongest jurisdictions in seasonally adjusted terms were the ACT (up 5.0 per cent to \$5.7 billion) followed by Tasmania (up 4.8 per cent to \$4.8 billion) and South Australia (up 4.0 per cent to \$20.2 billion). Although still the weakest jurisdiction, there was a slight improvement in retail turnover growth for Western Australia (up 0.5 per cent to \$34.1 billion). 'Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services' retailing was the strongest growing category for all but two jurisdictions (Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory) with the highest y-o-y growth for that category recorded in Tasmania (up 11.0 per cent).

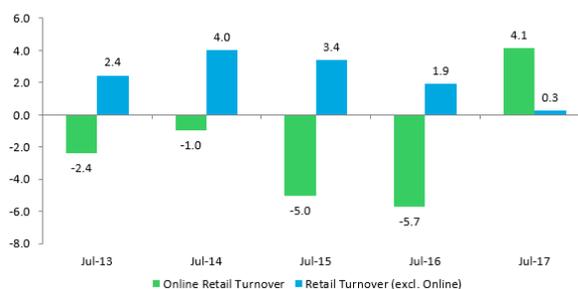
'Department stores' retailing was, once again, the weakest performing category in all jurisdictions except Tasmania, noting that the ABS does not report 'Department stores' retailing in that particular jurisdiction.

CATEGORIES	\$ billion	m-o-m	last 3 months	y-o-y
Food retailing	\$10.53	↑ 0.7%	↑ 0.6%	↑ 3.9%
Household goods retailing	\$4.54	↓ -1.7%	↑ 1.1%	↑ 4.2%
Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing	\$2.03	↓ -0.2%	↑ 2.1%	↑ 1.1%
Department stores	\$1.52	↓ -2.8%	↓ -4.4%	↓ -0.7%
Other retailing	\$3.78	↑ 1.3%	↑ 2.0%	↑ 4.4%
Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services	\$3.71	↑ 0.2%	↑ 1.2%	↑ 4.4%
Retail Turnover	\$26.11	↓ -0.0%	↑ 0.8%	↑ 3.6%

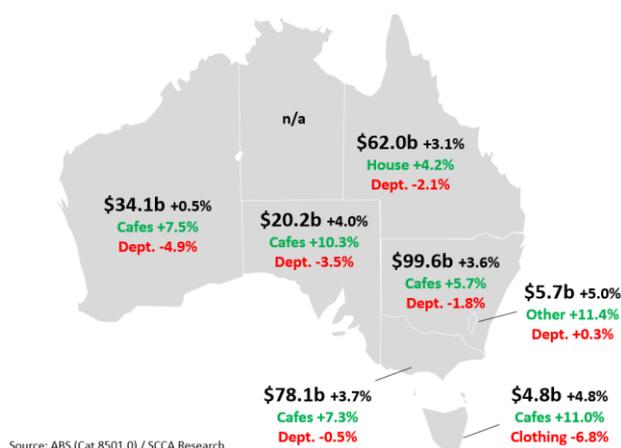
Source: ABS (Cat 8501.0) / SCCA Research

*Seasonally Adjusted

ABS Retail Trade - Online vs. Traditional Retail
Percentage Change from the Prior Month (Original) by Type



Source: ABS / SCCA Research



Source: ABS (Cat 8501.0) / SCCA Research