

RESEARCH NOTE

RETAIL TRADE TREND ESTIMATE INCREASED BY 0.3 PER CENT IN APRIL 2018 AND BY 2.6 PER CENT YEAR-ON-YEAR

Monday, June 4 2018 - The latest release (April 2018) 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, equal to 0.3 per cent in the prior corresponding period (pcp). In **trend** terms, Retail Turnover increased by 2.6 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y), slightly down from (a revised) 2.7 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 'Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services' retailing on a m-o-m basis (1.3 per cent), whilst 'Food' retailing recorded the strongest y-o-y growth (3.5 per cent). In **seasonally adjusted** terms, Retail Turnover increased by 0.4 per cent in the month of April 2018, up from a "relatively unchanged" 0.0 per cent in March 2018. On a y-o-y basis, Retail Turnover increased by 2.6 per cent, down from (a revised) 3.2 per cent in the pcp. 'Department stores' retailing recorded negative growth on a m-o-m, last 3 months and y-o-y basis in April 2018.

CATEGORIES	\$ billion	m-o-m	last 3 months	y-o-y
Food retailing	\$10.82	↑ 0.3%	↑ 1.5%	↑ 3.5%
Household goods retailing	\$4.62	↑ 0.7%	↑ 1.6%	↑ 3.0%
Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing	\$2.03	↓ -0.8%	↓ -0.5%	↑ 2.0%
Department stores	\$1.53	↓ -0.9%	↓ -0.0%	↓ -3.7%
Other retailing	\$3.77	↑ 0.9%	↑ 0.3%	↑ 2.1%
Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services	\$3.79	↑ 1.3%	↑ 1.2%	↑ 3.4%
Retail Turnover	\$26.56	↑ 0.4%	↑ 1.0%	↑ 2.6%

Source: ABS (Cat 8501.0) / SCCA Research

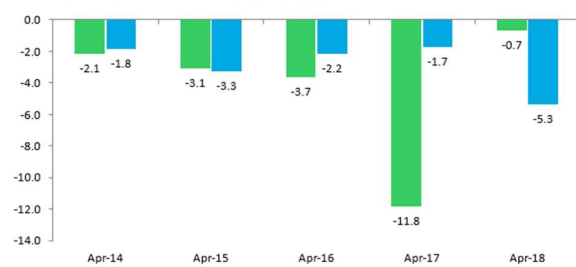
*Seasonally Adjusted

TREND ANALYSIS: ONLINE RETAIL TURNOVER

According to the 'experimental estimates of online retail turnover' (i.e. turnover from domestic online retail sales - explained [here](#)) online retail turnover decreased by 0.7 per cent on a m-o-m basis in April 2018, noting that this data is in original (non-seasonally adjusted) terms and is highly volatile. Similarly, 'traditional' retail (total retail turnover less online retail) decreased by 5.3 per cent over the same timeframe. According to the ABS data, online retail totalled \$14.81 billion (or 4.7 per cent) of the \$314.24 billion retail market in the 12-months to April 2018.

ABS Retail Trade - Online vs. Traditional Retail

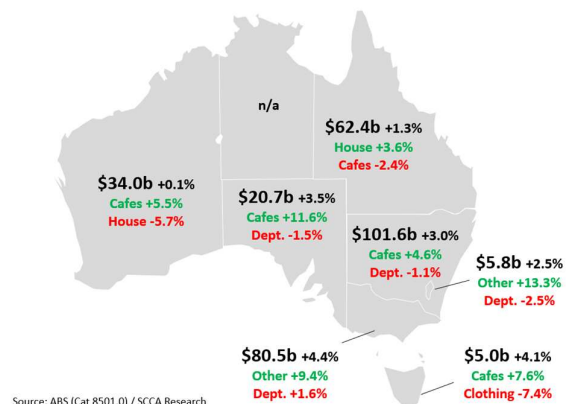
Percentage Change Month-on-Month (Original) by Type



Source: ABS / SCCA Research

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 Victoria (up 4.4 per cent to \$80.5 billion) followed by Tasmania (up 4.1 per cent to \$5.0 billion) and South Australia (up 3.5 per cent to \$20.7 billion). 'Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services' retailing continues to drive growth in New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia. 'Department stores' retailing was the weakest performing category in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. Victoria was once again the only jurisdiction to record positive growth across all six ABS categories.



Source: ABS (Cat 8501.0) / SCCA Research