

RESEARCH NOTE

RETAIL TRADE TREND ESTIMATE INCREASED BY 0.3 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 2019 AND BY 2.8 PER CENT YEAR-ON-YEAR

Thursday, February 6 2020 - The latest release (December 2019) 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 November 2019. In **trend** terms, Retail Turnover increased by 2.8 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y), up from (a revised) 2.7 per cent in the prior corresponding period (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 (0.2 per cent), whilst 'Clothing, footwear and personal accessory' retailing recorded the strongest growth on a y-o-y basis (4.8 per cent). In **seasonally adjusted** terms, Retail Turnover decreased by 0.5 per cent in the month of December 2019, down from (a revised) 1.0 per cent in November 2019. On a y-o-y basis, Retail Turnover increased by 2.7 per cent, down from (a revised) 3.3 per cent in the pcp.

TREND ANALYSIS: CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES

The quarterly chain volume measure estimates the change in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated, reflecting changes in volume. In the quarter to December 2019, Chain Volume Measures increased by 0.5 per cent, up from -0.1 per cent in the pcp. Retail Turnover increased by 0.6 per cent in the December 2019 quarter, slightly down from 0.7 per cent in the pcp. Retail Turnover is tracking ahead of Chain Volume Measures indicating that price inflation is the main driver of growth.

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 Queensland (up 4.6 per cent to \$66.4 billion) followed by the ACT (up 3.6 per cent to \$6.1 billion) and Victoria (up 3.4 per cent to \$86.2 billion). New South Wales (up 1.4 per cent to \$104.9 billion) was the worst performing jurisdiction. Western Australia (up 2.1 per cent to \$34.7 billion) continues to show signs of recovery in Retail Turnover. Victoria, Queensland and the ACT were the only jurisdictions to record positive growth across all six ABS categories. 'Household goods' retailing was the worst performing category across three jurisdictions.

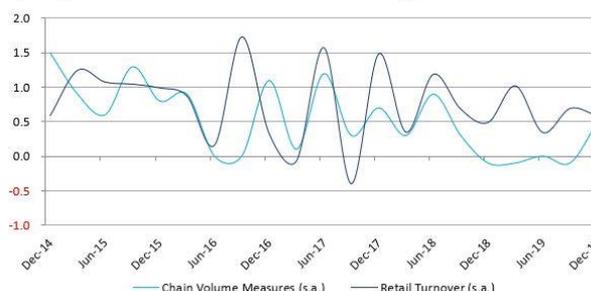
CATEGORIES	\$ billion	m-o-m	last 3 months	y-o-y
Food retailing	\$11.40	↓ -0.3%	↑ 0.6%	↑ 2.7%
Household goods retailing	\$4.67	↓ -0.3%	↑ 1.1%	↑ 2.7%
Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing	\$2.21	↓ -1.5%	↑ 1.2%	↑ 4.8%
Department stores	\$1.58	↓ -2.8%	↑ 0.2%	↑ 1.8%
Other retailing	\$3.98	↑ 0.2%	↓ -0.2%	↑ 2.5%
Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services	\$3.92	↓ -0.9%	↑ 0.6%	↑ 1.8%
Retail Turnover	\$27.77	↑ -0.5%	↑ 0.6%	↑ 2.7%

Source: ABS (Cat 8501.0) / SCCA Research

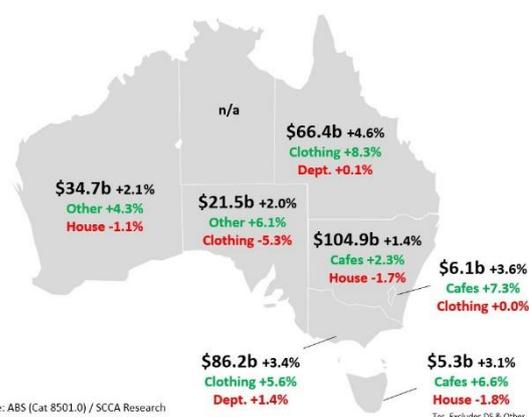
*Seasonally Adjusted

ABS Retail Turnover - Seasonally Adjusted

Quarterly Growth in Chain Volume Measures vs. Retail Turnover (%)



Source: ABS / SCCA Research



Source: ABS (Cat 8501.0) / SCCA Research

Tas. Excludes DS & Other