SHOPPING CENTRE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

RESEARCH NOTE

RETAIL TRADE ESTIMATE* INCREASED BY 7.1 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER 2020 AND BY 13.3 PER CENT YEAR-ON-YEAR

Monday, January 11 2020 - The latest release (November 2020) of the monthly ABS Retail Trade data indicates that the overall month-on-month (m-o-m) estimate* increased by 7.1 per cent, up from 1.4 per cent in October 2020. Retail Turnover increased by 13.3 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y), up from 7.1 per cent in the prior corresponding period (pcp).

* The ABS has temporarily suspended the publication trend data due to volatility.

STATE OF PLAY

The adjacent table summarises the key data in **seasonally adjusted** terms across the six ABS retail categories. For the second consecutive month, the strongest growth was recorded for 'Clothing, footwear and personal accessory' retailing on a m-o-m basis (26.7 per cent). 'Household goods' retailing recorded the strongest growth on a y-o-y basis (27.8 per cent). In **seasonally adjusted** terms, Retail Turnover increased by 7.1 per cent in the month of November, up from 1.4 per cent in October 2020. On a y-o-y basis, Retail Turnover increased by 13.3 per cent, up from 7.1 per cent in the pcp.

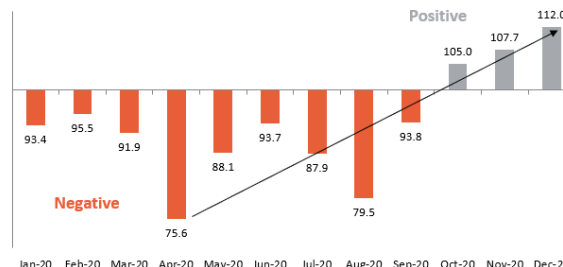| CATEGORIES	$ billion	m-o-m	last 3 months	y-o-y
Food retailing	$12.67	↓ -0.3%	↓ -2.0%	↑ 11.0%
Household goods retailing	$6.00	↑ 12.7%	↑ 7.5%	↑ 27.8%
Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing	$2.66	↑ 26.7%	↑ 33.8%	↑ 18.1%
Department stores	$1.89	↑ 21.1%	↑ 27.7%	↑ 15.5%
Other retailing	$4.71	↑ 7.9%	↑ 9.3%	↑ 18.7%
Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services	$3.72	↑ 6.7%	↑ 16.5%	↓ -6.0%
Retail Turnover	$31.65	↑ 7.1%	↑ 7.4%	↑ 13.3%

Source: ABS / SCCA Research   *Seasonally Adjusted

TREND ANALYSIS: CONSUMER SENTIMENT

According to the latest figures from the Westpac-Melbourne Institute Index of Consumer Confidence report, consumer sentiment was recorded at 112.0 in December 2020, up from 107.7 the prior month. Westpac commented that "The surge in the Index continues. It is now 48% above the low in April and has reached its highest level since October 2010 – marking a ten year high."

Westpac-MI Consumer Sentiment
12-months to December 2020

Positive — 112.0, 107.7, 105.0

Negative — 93.4, 95.5, 91.9, 75.6, 88.1, 93.7, 87.9, 79.5, 93.8

Jan-20 Feb-20 Mar-20 Apr-20 May-20 Jun-20 Jul-20 Aug-20 Sep-20 Oct-20 Nov-20 Dec-20

Source: Westpac-Melbourne Institute / 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 Western Australia (up 10.6 per cent to $38.3 billion) followed by Queensland (up 9.7 per cent to $72.5 billion) and the ACT (up 8.0 per cent to $6.6 billion). Victoria (up 0.0 per cent to $86.0 billion) was the worst performing jurisdiction following months of severe restrictions on retail trade, followed by Tasmania (up 1.0 per cent to $5.3 billion). 'Household goods' retailing was the strongest performing category across five jurisdictions, whilst discretionary spending categories remain the worst performing across most of the country, notably 'Cafes, Restaurants & Takeaway Food' retailing.

n/a

$72.5b +9.7%
House +19.1%
Cafes -7.1%

$38.3b +10.6%
House +21.2%
Clothing -3.5%

$22.8b +6.5%
House +17.7%
Cafes -11.3%

$110.3b +5.2%
House +16.2%
Cafes -16.1%

$6.6b +8.0%
House +22.1%
Cafes -13.9%

$86.0b 0.0%
Food +12.8%
Cafes -29.5%

$5.3b 1.0%
Food +11.2%
House -91.2%
Tas. Excludes DS & Other

Source: ABS / SCCA Research