



CATALOGUE NO. 8501.0

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RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), AUSTRALIA, OCTOBER 1986

PHONE INQUIRIES • *about these statistics*—contact Mr Jim Barratt on Canberra (062) 52 5633 or any ABS State office.

• *about the constant price estimates*—contact Mr Henry Foira on Canberra (062) 52 6724.

• *about other statistics and ABS services*—contact **Information Services** on Canberra (062) 52 6627, 52 5402, 52 6007 or any ABS State office.

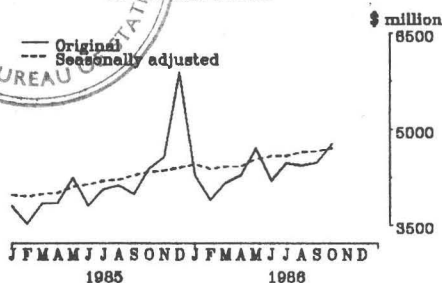
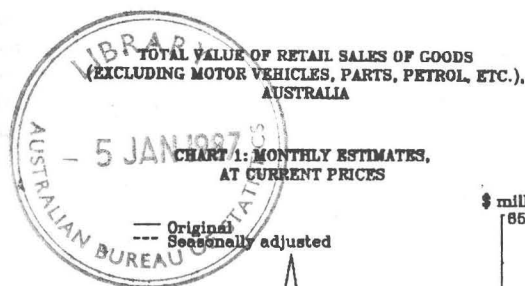
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MAIN FEATURES

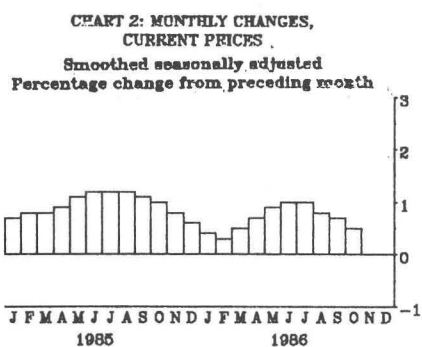


This publication includes smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates of retail sales. The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series is a means of reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series to provide a basis for identifying the underlying trend. However, the smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates for the most recent months are subject to revision as data for subsequent months become available. Further details are given in paragraphs 16 to 21 of the Explanatory Notes at the end of this publication.

Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling variability as explained in paragraphs 10 to 15.

AUSTRALIAN TOTAL ESTIMATES (see Charts 1 to 3)

For October 1986, the estimated value of retail sales in Australia (excluding sales of motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.), in original terms, is \$4,775 million (see Chart 1). This is an increase of 6.5% from September 1986 and 8.9% from October 1985.

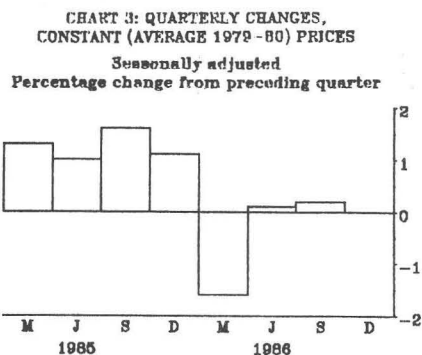


The underlying trend in Australian retail sales, as indicated by the smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates, continues to show growth, but there is a progressive slackening in the rate from August to October 1986 (see Chart 2). The monthly increases for June and July of 1.0% are followed by increases of 0.8%, 0.7% and 0.5% for August, September and October, respectively.

In smoothed seasonally adjusted terms, retail sales in October 1986 are 8.6% above sales in October 1985.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATES (see Charts 4 to 9 on page 2)

As indicated by the latest smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates, the trend in retail sales by grocers, confectioners and tobacconists shows a progressive decline in the monthly growth rate from a peak of 1.2% in March and April 1986 to 0.1% in October 1986 (see Chart 4). With the addition of data for October, the estimates of monthly growth for the preceding few months have been revised downwards. Grocers, confectioners and tobacconists account for about 32% of total retail sales.



Other food stores (principally take away food stores, milk bars and fruit and cake shops), which account for about 6% of total retail sales, have a progressive decline in the monthly growth rate of the trend in sales from a peak of 1.5% in April and May 1986 to 0.7% in October 1986 (see Chart 5).

For hotels, liquor stores and licensed clubs, which account for about 11% of total retail sales, the latest estimates of the trend in sales show the monthly growth for October 1986 as 0.7% — about the same as at the beginning of 1986 — following a decline

**TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS
(EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.),
SMOOTHED SEASONALLY ADJUSTED. MONTHLY CHANGES
CURRENT PRICES, SELECTED INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA
Percentage change from preceding month**

CHART 4: GROCERS, CONFECTIONERS, TOBACCONISTS

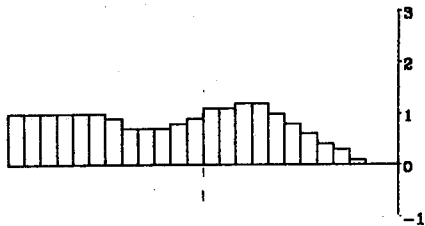


CHART 5: OTHER FOOD STORES

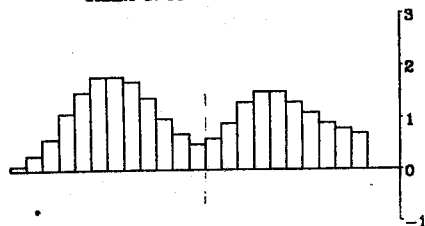


CHART 6: HOTELS, LIQUOR STORES, LICENSED CLUBS

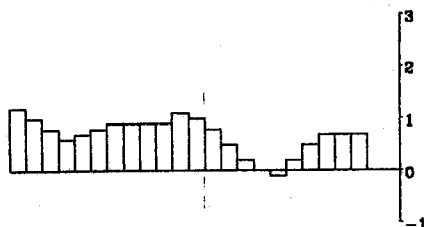


CHART 7: CLOTHING AND FABRICS STORES

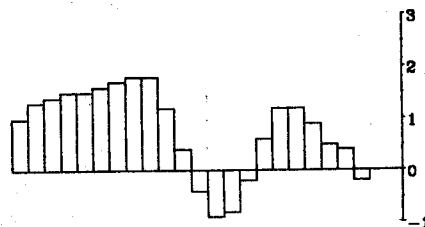


CHART 8: DEPARTMENT STORES

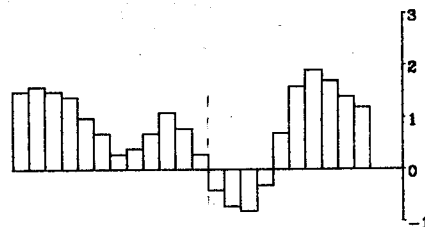
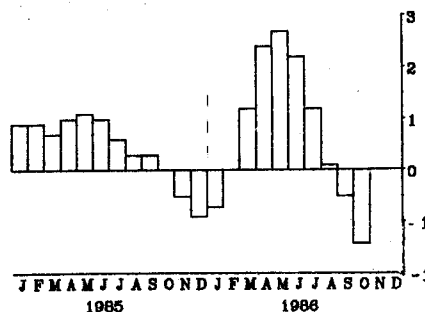


CHART 9: ELECTRICAL GOODS STORES



in the rate to -0.1% in May 1986 (see Chart 6). With data for October being taken into account, the estimates of the growth rates for the preceding few months have been revised upwards.

The trend in sales by clothing and fabrics stores (which account for about 9% of total retail sales) shows a sharp drop in the monthly growth rate, on the basis of the provisional estimate for October 1986, -0.2% (see Chart 7). This follows a peak in the monthly growth rate of 1.2% in May and June 1986. With data for October, the estimates of the growth rate for August and September have been revised downwards.

Department stores (about 11% of total retail sales) continue to show strong growth in the trend in retail sales, with the provisional monthly rate for October 1986 being 1.2%. However there is a decline in the rate from the peak of 1.9% in July 1986 (see Chart 8).

The trend in sales by electrical goods stores (which account for about 5% of total retail sales) is showing a strong decline, on the basis of estimates to October 1986 (see Chart 9). The provisional monthly growth rate for October is -1.4% . With the addition of data for October, the rates for the preceding few months have been revised downwards substantially. This follows a peak in the growth rate of 2.7% in May 1986. This series shows more irregular movements than the other large retail industries, and the provisional growth rate could be revised substantially in subsequent months.

STATE ESTIMATES (see Charts 10 to 15 on page 7)

As indicated by the smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates, the monthly growth rate of the trend of retail sales in New South Wales has slackened to 0.5% in October 1986, following a peak of 1.5% in June 1986 (see Chart 10). New South Wales accounts for about 36% of total retail sales in Australia.

Victoria (which accounts for about 27% of total retail sales) also experienced a slackening in the growth rate, from a peak of 1.6% in April and May 1986 to 0.2% in October 1986 (see Chart 11).

Queensland (which accounts for about 16% of total retail sales) continued to have a steady monthly growth rate of 0.4% to 0.5% (see Chart 12). This has been the rate from May to October 1986.

South Australia (about 8% of total sales), on the basis of data to October 1986, shows a gradual decline in the monthly rate of growth of the trend in retail sales, from 0.9% in September 1985 to -0.2% in October 1986. This follows a period of decline in earlier months (see Chart 13). With the additional data for October 1986, the estimates of the rates for the preceding few months were revised downwards. South Australia is the only State showing negative retail sales growth rates for September and October 1986.

On the basis of data to October 1986, Western Australia (about 9% of total retail sales) shows a steady rate of growth in the trend of retail sales of 0.6% from August to October 1986, following a rate of 0.1% in May 1986 (see Chart 14). With the additional data for October, the estimates of the growth rates for the preceding few months have been revised upwards.

The provisional estimate of the monthly trend growth rate of retail sales in Tasmania (which accounts for about 3% of total retail sales) for October 1986 indicates a slackening of the rate (see Chart 15). The estimate for October is 0.7%, following estimates of 1.1% for June, July and August 1986.

TABLE 1. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA(a)

Month	Original		Seasonally adjusted		Smoothed seasonally adjusted		
	\$ m	% change from preceding month	\$ m	% change from preceding month	\$ m	% change from preceding month	% change from corresponding month of previous year
<i>1985—</i>							
August	4,127.8	1.5	4,215.0	0.4	4,235.7	1.2	11.9
September	3,988.7	-3.4	4,282.7	1.6	4,283.1	1.1	12.3
October	4,384.6	9.9	4,332.8	1.2	4,326.8	1.0	12.4
November	4,572.5	4.3	4,353.4	0.5	4,362.0	0.8	12.4
December	5,874.8	28.5	4,399.2	1.1	4,386.7	0.6	12.2
<i>1986—</i>							
January	4,276.0	-27.2	4,459.1	1.4	4,403.2	0.4	11.8
February	3,902.7	-8.7	4,383.4	-1.7	4,418.1	0.3	11.3
March	4,162.5	6.7	4,415.7	0.7	4,438.6	0.5	10.9
April	4,284.9	2.9	4,424.4	0.2	r4,469.5	0.7	r10.6
May	4,706.5	9.8	4,536.2	2.5	r4,510.6	0.9	r10.4
June	4,196.8	-10.8	4,590.0	1.2	r4,557.4	1.0	10.2
July	4,477.3	6.7	4,589.3	0.0	r4,603.0	1.0	r10.0
August	4,439.1	-0.9	4,652.8	1.4	r4,641.7	0.8	r9.6
September	4,484.0	1.0	4,663.0	0.2	r4,673.7	r0.7	r9.1
October	4,775.1	6.5	4,707.5	1.0	4,698.8	0.5	8.6
Standard error(b) of—							
October 1986	30.6						
Change: October 1986 from September 1986	34.3	0.8					

(a) Excluding Northern Territory. (b) See paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), QUARTERLY ESTIMATES, AT CONSTANT (AVERAGE 1979-80) PRICES, AUSTRALIA(a)

Quarter	Original			Seasonally adjusted		
	\$m	% change from preceding quarter	% change from corresponding quarter of previous year	\$m	% change from preceding quarter	% change from corresponding quarter of previous year
<i>1985—</i>						
September quarter	8,115.1	0.2	6.1	8,443.3	1.6	5.4
December quarter	9,659.4	19.0	5.4	8,533.4	1.1	5.0
<i>1986—</i>						
March quarter	7,810.8	-19.1	1.6	8,396.8	-1.6	2.0
June quarter	8,189.9	4.9	1.2	8,407.4	0.1	1.2
September quarter	8,144.9	-0.5	0.4	8,428.4	0.2	-0.2

(a) Excluding Northern Territory.

TABLE 3. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARIS, PETROL, ETC.), MONTHLY ESTIMATES, BY INDUSTRY, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA(a)

Month	Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists		Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs		Clothing and fabrics stores		Department stores		Foot-wear stores		Domestic hardware stores, jewellers		Electrical goods stores		Furniture stores		Floor coverings stores		Chemists		News-agents		Other		Total		
ORIGINAL																											
\$ million																											
1985—	1,331.0	147.2	36.4	261.1	477.7	376.3	445.6	63.2	92.7	233.1	118.7	48.3	168.1	145.3	183.1	4,127.8											
August	1,270.6	140.3	37.1	262.3	470.3	364.8	429.4	67.8	90.6	219.0	116.7	46.4	157.3	138.9	177.4	3,988.7											
September	1,386.9	159.3	40.9	273.9	494.4	340.8	486.6	77.2	113.0	231.2	126.7	54.1	169.3	142.0	198.9	4,384.6											
October	1,389.4	157.8	41.5	280.4	523.4	457.9	536.2	77.2	136.4	249.3	133.3	55.4	173.3	149.8	211.4	4,572.5											
November	1,544.9	178.2	69.6	303.5	668.0	618.8	915.2	93.5	237.3	350.9	145.2	51.3	215.3	188.5	294.6	5,874.8											
December																											
1986—	1,399.7	148.7	38.4	297.0	528.3	360.3	434.6	75.6	101.4	223.5	116.4	38.5	167.1	153.8	192.8	4,276.0											
January	1,307.9	136.9	35.3	258.8	482.3	321.2	360.5	58.2	102.0	198.4	107.8	41.8	155.7	157.3	178.6	3,902.7											
February	1,409.2	145.7	36.9	279.0	525.2	342.3	416.4	60.1	102.3	201.5	109.8	41.1	161.6	145.6	185.6	4,162.5											
March	1,379.8	147.6	41.6	276.7	490.3	413.9	450.3	79.3	101.4	224.0	115.9	47.1	171.6	145.0	200.6	4,284.9											
April	1,471.2	157.6	45.7	285.0	494.6	488.3	577.6	93.0	105.8	264.6	131.2	51.0	179.7	152.7	208.6	4,706.5											
May	1,379.7	151.3	34.6	273.7	467.9	401.5	423.1	73.0	98.3	234.5	117.3	49.7	168.9	138.2	185.2	4,196.8											
June	1,456.1	155.4	40.0	282.7	476.8	412.4	503.0	81.0	95.0	257.6	121.5	51.3	180.5	156.2	207.7	4,477.3											
July	1,448.3	156.3	38.6	296.1	506.7	387.8	441.3	72.2	104.0	258.0	125.1	48.8	184.7	150.3	221.0	4,439.1											
August	1,431.0	152.3	42.1	296.8	501.8	400.1	505.5	80.8	104.5	232.5	122.2	48.0	183.0	153.1	230.2	4,484.0											
September	1,527.1	158.4	43.2	312.1	540.8	437.8	511.6	83.9	129.7	240.0	132.9	52.0	199.5	162.3	243.7	4,775.1											
October																											
Standard error of—	14.1	6.9	0.7	10.7	10.0	8.9	0.0	3.4	5.7	5.7	5.3	4.0	7.2	6.1	9.1	30.6											
Level(b)	11.1	3.8	0.3	7.9	5.5	6.8	0.8	3.5	4.7	5.2	5.7	3.5	5.0	4.2	13.1	34.3											
Change(c)																											
SMOOTHED SEASONALLY ADJUSTED																											
\$ million																											
1985—	1,328.1	145.1	40.6	263.4	489.3	404.4	487.2	70.0	107.9	238.0	119.4	48.1	165.4	146.2	184.3	4,235.7											
August	1,337.0	148.6	40.9	267.0	493.6	411.7	490.6	72.3	109.8	238.6	121.1	47.9	166.8	146.1	188.2	4,283.1											
September	1,346.7	151.4	41.4	269.7	498.2	416.8	495.9	74.3	111.7	238.5	122.0	47.6	167.7	146.3	191.1	4,326.8											
October	1,357.7	153.1	42.0	271.6	503.5	418.3	500.0	75.5	113.5	237.2	121.9	47.1	168.4	147.0	193.0	4,362.0											
November	1,370.0	153.5	42.5	273.0	508.5	416.5	501.6	75.7	114.5	235.1	121.4	46.5	169.4	148.2	195.1	4,386.7											
December																											
1986—	1,384.4	153.1	42.8	274.6	512.7	412.9	499.8	74.9	115.1	233.5	121.0	46.2	170.8	149.8	197.8	4,403.2											
January	1,400.3	152.6	42.6	277.0	515.5	409.8	496.1	73.9	115.7	233.4	120.8	46.5	172.5	151.6	201.6	4,418.1											
February	1,416.8	152.3	42.0	280.6	516.6	409.1	492.1	73.3	116.4	236.1	121.4	47.3	174.4	153.4	206.3	4,438.6											
March	1,433.3	152.9	41.3	284.8	516.5	411.7	490.6	73.8	117.4	241.7	122.5	48.5	176.1	155.1	211.5	4,469.5											
April	1,447.7	154.0	40.9	289.0	516.2	416.6	493.8	75.4	118.6	248.3	123.7	49.5	178.1	156.4	216.8	4,510.6											
May	1,459.5	154.9	41.0	292.9	517.1	421.8	501.6	77.5	119.7	253.8	124.5	49.9	180.4	157.5	221.9	4,557.4											
June	1,468.8	155.3	41.6	296.1	519.6	425.6	511.0	79.4	120.5	256.9	124.8	49.7	183.0	158.2	226.8	4,603.0											
July	1,475.4	155.1	42.3	298.9	523.2	427.8	519.5	80.8	121.4	257.1	124.7	49.1	185.9	158.6	231.3	4,641.7											
August	1,479.6	154.6	43.0	301.4	527.1	429.4	526.7	81.8	122.4	255.8	124.7	48.5	189.0	158.7	235.3	4,673.7											
September	1,481.8	153.9	43.7	303.4	531.0	428.6	532.9	82.1	123.2	252.2	123.9	47.7	191.5	158.5	238.2	4,698.8											
October																											

For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 3. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), MONTHLY ESTIMATES, BY INDUSTRY, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA(a)—continued

Month	Hotels, liquor stores, and clubs										Domesic goods stores										Total
	Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	General stores	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, and clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Department stores	Foot-wear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electrical goods stores	Furniture stores	Floor coverings stores	Chemists	News-agents	Other							
SMOOTHED SEASONALLY ADJUSTED—continued																					
% change from preceding month																					
1985—																					
August	0.7	2.3	0.5	1.7	0.9	1.8	0.4	3.1	1.4	0.3	2.1	0.2	1.1	0.0	2.3						
September	0.7	2.4	0.7	1.4	0.9	1.8	0.7	3.3	1.8	0.3	1.4	-0.4	0.8	-0.1	2.1						
October	0.7	1.9	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.1	2.8	1.7	0.0	0.7	-0.6	0.5	0.1	1.5						
November	0.8	1.1	1.4	0.7	1.1	0.4	0.8	1.6	1.6	-0.5	-0.1	-1.1	0.4	0.5	1.0						
December	0.9	0.3	1.2	0.5	1.0	-0.4	0.3	0.3	0.9	-0.9	-0.4	-1.3	0.6	0.8	1.1						
1986—																					
January	1.1	-0.3	0.7	0.6	0.8	-0.9	-0.4	-1.1	0.5	-0.7	-0.3	-0.6	0.8	1.1	1.4						
February	1.1	-0.3	-0.5	0.9	0.5	-0.8	-0.7	-1.3	0.5	0.0	-0.2	0.6	1.0	1.2	1.9						
March	1.2	-0.2	-1.4	1.3	0.2	-0.2	-0.8	-0.8	0.6	1.2	0.5	1.7	1.1	1.2	2.3						
April r	1.2	0.4	-1.7	1.5	0.0	0.6	-0.3	0.7	0.9	2.4	0.9	2.5	1.0	1.1	2.5						
May r	1.0	0.7	-1.0	1.5	-0.1	1.2	2.2	2.2	1.0	2.7	1.0	2.1	1.1	0.8	2.5						
June r	0.8	0.6	0.2	1.3	0.2	1.2	1.6	2.8	0.9	2.2	0.6	0.8	1.3	0.7	2.4						
July r	0.6	0.3	1.5	1.1	0.5	0.9	1.9	2.5	0.7	1.2	0.2	-0.4	1.4	0.4	2.2						
August r	0.4	-0.1	1.7	0.9	0.7	0.5	1.7	1.8	0.7	0.1	-0.1	-1.2	1.6	0.3	2.0						
September r	0.3	-0.3	1.7	0.8	0.7	0.4	1.4	1.2	0.8	-0.5	0.0	-1.2	1.7	0.1	1.7						
October	0.1	-0.5	1.6	0.7	0.7	-0.2	1.2	0.4	0.7	-1.4	-0.6	-1.6	1.3	-0.1	1.2						
% change from corresponding month of previous year																					
1985—																					
August	10.9	18.1	2.8	10.4	11.4	16.5	12.9	1.2	10.0	8.0	22.5	17.6	10.6	3.9	16.0						
September	11.2	20.8	3.5	11.4	11.6	17.7	12.6	4.2	11.6	8.3	22.6	14.6	10.5	2.4	18.7						
October	11.3	22.1	5.1	12.1	11.7	18.0	12.9	7.1	13.6	8.1	23.1	12.5	9.8	1.0	20.3						
November	11.2	19.8	9.3	13.1	11.3	15.9	11.9	11.5	17.8	5.3	23.6	11.6	9.2	0.3	20.5						
December															20.4						
1986—																					
January	11.3	17.2	10.6	13.7	10.9	13.7	9.9	12.1	18.3	3.7	23.0	8.7	9.6	1.9	20.5						
February	11.4	14.9	10.1	14.3	10.5	11.4	7.3	12.3	17.6	2.8	21.0	7.1	10.4	3.8	21.4						
March	11.6	13.1	7.7	15.1	9.8	9.7	4.9	12.4	16.2	3.2	18.4	6.1	11.2	5.7	22.8						
April r	11.8	12.3	4.6	15.6	9.1	8.7	3.1	13.5	14.8	4.7	15.3	5.9	11.5	7.0	24.4						
May r	11.9	12.0	2.5	15.6	8.3	8.4	2.7	15.3	14.0	6.3	12.4	5.8	11.6	7.6	25.5						
June r	11.7	11.3	2.0	15.1	7.7	8.0	3.7	16.7	13.8	7.6	9.3	5.1	11.7	8.0	25.9						
July r	11.4	9.5	3.0	14.3	7.2	7.2	5.3	16.9	13.3	8.3	6.7	3.5	11.9	8.2	25.9						
August r	11.1	6.9	4.2	13.5	6.9	5.8	6.6	15.4	12.5	8.0	4.4	2.1	12.4	8.5	25.5						
September r	10.7	4.0	5.1	12.9	6.8	4.3	7.4	13.1	11.5	7.2	3.0	1.3	13.3	8.6	25.0						
October	10.0	1.7	5.6	12.5	6.6	2.8	7.5	10.5	10.3	5.7	1.6	0.2	14.2	8.3	24.6						

(a) Excluding Northern Territory. (b) The standard error of the estimate for the latest month—see paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory Notes. (c) The standard error of the change of the latest month from the preceding month—see paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 4. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS PETROL, ETC.), MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA(a), STATES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Australian Capital Territory	Australia(a)
ORIGINAL								
\$ million								
1985—								
August	1,453.1	1,078.5	679.1	355.9	376.6	110.7	73.9	4,127.8
September	1,408.2	1,033.3	659.4	344.6	363.3	106.6	73.3	3,988.7
October	1,560.6	1,157.9	708.6	376.9	386.5	116.9	77.2	4,384.6
November	1,655.1	1,199.1	725.1	390.9	400.3	122.4	79.6	4,572.5
December	2,153.2	1,534.0	924.2	493.9	508.0	161.3	100.2	5,874.8
1986—								
January	1,512.9	1,107.4	719.7	360.0	391.6	110.5	74.0	4,276.0
February	1,350.9	1,048.8	634.9	334.0	362.1	106.9	65.1	3,902.7
March	1,459.0	1,106.0	674.3	355.0	381.5	111.7	75.0	4,162.5
April	1,500.6	1,160.4	681.8	371.8	383.4	111.4	75.4	4,284.9
May	1,665.2	1,266.0	745.6	406.8	415.4	122.6	84.9	4,706.5
June	1,477.2	1,110.2	692.7	357.7	374.4	108.6	76.0	4,196.8
July	1,597.2	1,189.9	720.9	373.3	394.0	117.0	85.0	4,477.3
August	1,567.0	1,179.2	726.8	371.2	396.2	116.7	81.9	4,439.1
September	1,596.4	1,178.4	734.6	373.4	399.5	118.3	83.3	4,484.0
October	1,695.3	1,280.7	775.7	388.5	427.7	122.8	84.4	4,775.1
Standard error of—								
Level(b)	19.3	17.1	12.9	5.9	7.5	1.9	2.1	30.6
Change(c)	22.9	21.3	10.8	4.6	7.2	1.2	1.2	34.3
SMOOTHED SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
\$ million								
1985—								
August	1,517.0	1,116.7	678.0	363.9	377.9	114.9	76.4	4,235.7
September	1,534.4	1,126.1	685.3	367.1	381.1	115.7	76.4	4,283.1
October	1,548.3	1,132.3	693.6	370.1	384.6	116.5	76.3	4,326.8
November	1,556.0	1,136.5	701.6	372.7	388.6	117.1	76.3	4,362.0
December	1,557.9	1,141.0	708.8	375.0	392.7	117.5	76.7	4,386.7
1986—								
January	1,556.7	1,147.3	715.5	377.2	396.8	117.5	77.2	4,403.2
February	1,556.4	1,157.6	721.6	379.2	400.3	117.2	77.8	4,418.1
March	1,560.5	1,172.5	726.6	381.0	402.7	117.0	78.6	4,438.6
April r	1,573.3	1,190.9	730.6	382.6	403.7	117.3	79.6	4,469.5
May r	1,594.4	1,209.7	733.9	383.9	404.2	118.0	80.9	4,510.6
June r	1,618.9	1,226.1	737.2	384.6	405.1	119.3	82.4	4,557.4
July r	1,640.8	1,238.8	740.8	384.7	406.9	120.6	83.8	4,603.0
August r	1,657.6	1,248.0	744.4	384.6	409.2	121.9	84.8	4,641.7
September r	1,670.6	1,254.6	747.9	384.4	411.8	123.0	85.3	4,673.7
October	1,679.3	1,257.6	750.8	383.8	414.1	123.9	85.6	4,698.8
% change from preceding month								
1985—								
August	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.3	1.2
September	1.1	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.0	1.1
October	0.9	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.7	-0.1	1.0
November	0.5	0.4	1.2	0.7	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.8
December	0.1	0.4	1.0	0.6	1.1	0.3	0.5	0.6
1986—								
January	-0.1	0.6	0.9	0.6	1.0	0.0	0.7	0.4
February	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.9	-0.3	0.8	0.3
March	0.3	1.3	0.7	0.5	0.6	-0.2	1.0	0.5
April r	0.8	1.6	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.3	1.3	0.7
May r	1.3	1.6	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.6	1.6	0.9
June r	1.5	1.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.1	1.9	1.0
July r	1.4	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	1.1	1.7	1.0
August r	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.6	1.1	1.2	0.8
September r	0.8	0.5	0.5	-0.1	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.7
October	0.5	0.2	0.4	-0.2	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.5
% change from corresponding month of previous year								
1985—								
August	12.9	10.7	10.9	12.5	13.3	10.9	14.5	11.9
September	13.3	11.5	11.2	12.4	13.0	10.6	14.5	12.3
October	13.5	11.7	12.0	12.2	12.7	10.2	14.2	12.4
November	13.3	11.4	12.7	11.8	12.5	9.4	13.9	12.4
December	12.7	11.1	13.3	11.2	12.5	8.5	13.6	12.2
1986—								
January	12.0	10.8	13.5	10.6	12.6	7.2	13.0	11.8
February	11.1	10.8	13.3	9.8	12.6	5.8	11.9	11.3
March	10.3	11.2	12.9	9.2	12.2	4.7	10.7	10.9
April r	9.8	11.8	12.3	8.6	11.4	4.3	9.6	10.6
May r	9.7	12.2	11.6	8.1	10.2	4.4	9.2	10.4
June r	9.7	12.3	10.9	7.4	9.2	5.0	9.3	10.2
July r	9.6	12.1	10.3	6.6	8.6	5.6	10.0	10.0
August r	9.3	11.8	9.8	5.7	8.3	6.1	11.0	9.6
September r	8.9	11.4	9.1	4.7	8.1	6.3	11.6	9.1
October	8.5	11.1	8.2	3.7	7.7	6.4	12.2	8.6

(a) Excluding Northern Territory. (b) The standard error of the estimate for the latest month—see paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory Notes. (c) The standard error of the change of the latest month from the preceding month—see paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory Notes.

TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS
(EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.),
SMOOTHED SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, MONTHLY CHANGES
CURRENT PRICES, STATES
Percentage change from preceding month

CHART 10: NEW SOUTH WALES

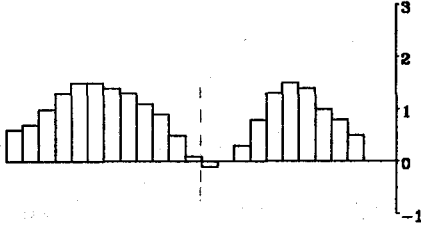


CHART 11: VICTORIA

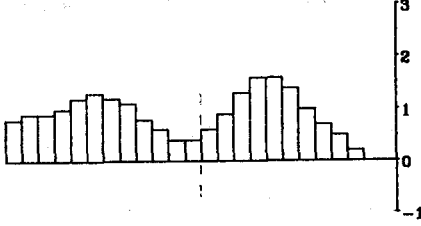


CHART 12: QUEENSLAND

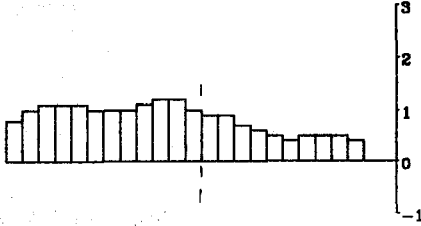


CHART 13: SOUTH AUSTRALIA

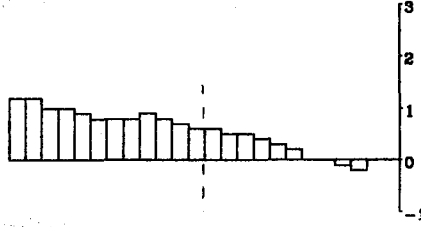


CHART 14: WESTERN AUSTRALIA

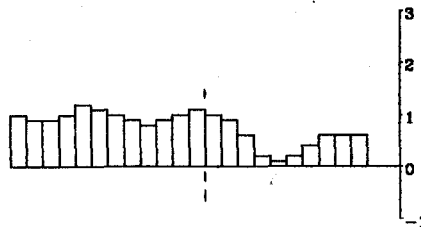


CHART 15: TASMANIA

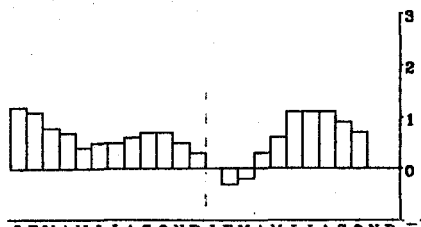


TABLE 5. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.),
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
(\$ million)

Month	NEW SOUTH WALES										Total					
	Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	Butchers	General stores	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Department stores	Footwear stores	Domestic hardware stores	Electrical goods stores		Furniture stores	Floor coverings stores	Chemists	Newsagents	Other
1985—																
August	403.7	60.4	9.6	102.4	174.3	132.6	182.6	21.2	34.0	71.1	42.5	19.0	73.2	61.8	64.7	1,453.1
September	390.4	56.4	9.6	103.7	169.2	128.7	174.5	23.5	32.8	67.6	42.8	18.0	69.9	57.6	63.4	1,408.2
October	421.5	65.4	10.2	109.4	181.4	161.9	206.3	30.2	42.0	71.2	40.6	17.0	72.1	60.9	70.3	1,560.6
November	423.6	63.2	10.6	115.5	191.5	176.5	226.6	31.5	55.4	82.0	44.5	19.8	74.9	64.2	75.2	1,655.1
December	482.6	74.5	16.7	125.3	245.8	230.6	391.2	35.0	99.3	118.3	48.8	18.2	88.9	78.4	99.6	2,153.2
1986—																
January	422.1	61.2	10.7	114.5	191.3	135.5	191.4	28.9	39.0	69.4	36.5	11.1	70.4	60.3	70.5	1,512.9
February	393.9	54.3	8.8	100.0	170.7	113.9	142.0	19.8	38.7	62.2	34.9	11.6	65.3	64.7	70.0	1,350.9
March	425.0	61.8	9.3	109.0	187.7	121.4	172.9	22.2	38.8	65.2	37.3	11.8	67.0	59.6	69.8	1,459.0
April	420.1	61.5	12.4	112.2	179.6	140.7	181.0	27.9	39.2	61.5	38.8	12.9	71.6	60.6	80.7	1,500.6
May	445.4	69.5	11.1	115.0	176.6	180.8	245.8	33.1	40.6	72.4	42.4	13.9	75.8	63.0	79.7	1,665.2
June	424.2	66.6	9.2	109.4	166.0	147.8	175.9	27.7	38.2	66.1	35.6	12.5	72.3	56.1	69.6	1,477.2
July	456.9	70.5	9.3	106.6	169.1	147.4	166.0	28.9	32.8	72.5	40.0	15.0	77.2	64.7	81.0	1,597.2
August	452.4	69.1	8.6	113.1	182.8	134.2	184.4	26.1	37.5	78.2	39.6	15.9	77.5	62.6	84.9	1,567.0
September	450.2	68.6	9.1	111.4	179.6	144.6	212.4	29.7	37.0	73.1	39.3	14.4	75.9	65.6	85.5	1,596.4
October	464.8	69.3	9.3	118.8	202.4	159.1	214.9	33.2	49.7	73.2	43.0	16.8	79.6	68.8	92.2	1,695.3
Standard error of—																
Level(a)	7.2	4.8	0.6	7.0	6.6	5.8	0.0	2.5	3.6	3.8	3.8	2.8	5.6	4.0	5.5	19.3
Change(b)	8.4	3.1	0.2	4.9	3.3	4.2	0.0	1.8	2.9	4.4	4.5	2.5	3.9	3.0	4.3	22.9

For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 5. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), MONTHLY ESTIMATES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—continued
(\$ million)

Month	VICTORIA										QUEENSLAND										Total
	Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	Butchers	General stores	Other food stores	Hôtels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Department stores	Foot-wear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electrical goods stores	Furniture stores	Floor coverings stores	Chemists	News-agents	Other						
1985—																					
August	378.9	43.9	10.2	57.9	98.1	118.1	96.8	17.1	25.6	66.7	32.7	12.3	37.1	34.1	48.8	1,078.5					
September	358.5	42.4	10.5	58.3	99.5	112.8	87.8	17.2	23.9	62.7	32.4	12.6	33.3	34.5	46.8	1,033.3					
October	399.1	46.8	11.9	61.6	105.6	133.2	99.9	19.4	34.0	65.7	40.9	16.1	37.9	33.3	52.6	1,157.9					
November	402.1	48.0	12.1	61.0	112.6	138.3	110.4	19.0	37.4	69.1	43.1	15.3	40.0	35.4	55.2	1,199.1					
December	434.7	52.3	20.5	64.9	147.6	191.9	192.4	25.0	59.8	96.4	45.2	14.3	55.9	47.0	86.1	1,534.0					
1986—																					
January	389.5	43.8	10.3	66.5	117.1	102.8	87.1	17.4	32.2	64.8	37.2	11.6	38.4	38.6	50.0	1,107.4					
February	374.1	43.2	9.9	59.0	112.1	96.6	76.8	15.5	32.1	57.7	32.0	13.4	38.8	40.2	47.4	1,048.8					
March	402.1	43.7	10.4	63.8	122.1	104.0	88.4	14.7	32.1	58.9	31.2	13.0	39.3	35.0	47.2	1,106.0					
April	396.9	45.1	11.6	60.3	106.3	139.0	97.5	21.7	31.4	74.6	34.8	13.4	43.0	35.0	49.8	1,160.4					
May	426.9	44.7	13.1	63.2	109.1	152.8	118.0	24.1	33.1	89.8	40.8	16.8	42.1	36.7	55.0	1,266.0					
June	396.9	42.6	9.3	60.3	101.7	121.4	85.6	17.5	30.3	75.3	36.4	15.3	39.5	31.8	46.4	1,110.2					
July	407.8	44.5	10.6	68.2	101.9	130.3	105.0	25.1	32.4	77.8	37.8	14.9	40.9	36.7	56.1	1,189.9					
August	398.2	43.4	10.3	74.3	108.5	122.8	91.5	20.3	34.0	82.7	41.5	14.9	42.0	32.1	62.9	1,179.2					
September	400.7	42.7	11.7	75.0	106.7	121.0	101.0	21.6	33.6	69.2	39.2	14.8	40.2	32.2	68.7	1,178.4					
October	443.2	45.3	11.9	80.1	110.9	135.6	102.3	22.1	41.3	74.1	41.9	17.2	48.6	36.6	69.6	1,280.7					
Standard error of—																					
Level(a)	8.7	3.7	0.0	6.0	5.0	4.9	0.0	2.1	3.7	3.1	2.2	2.3	2.9	3.1	5.8	17.1					
Change(b)	4.9	1.6	0.0	4.3	1.7	3.4	0.0	2.8	2.9	1.7	2.2	1.9	2.2	1.6	12.1	21.3					
1985—																					
August	233.5	20.7	5.9	42.1	100.8	50.9	58.5	10.6	15.5	39.4	17.6	5.6	24.7	23.7	29.8	679.1					
September	223.1	20.6	6.4	40.7	95.2	50.7	62.4	11.2	16.5	37.3	16.3	4.8	22.9	22.9	28.4	659.4					
October	241.5	24.1	6.6	43.5	95.3	57.1	64.3	10.7	19.1	39.3	18.4	8.6	26.0	22.8	31.3	708.6					
November	240.2	23.4	6.2	43.8	101.6	57.9	69.1	10.2	22.6	38.8	19.3	8.3	25.7	23.8	34.1	725.1					
December	268.6	25.1	11.7	47.6	127.1	78.5	124.1	13.0	39.1	54.6	23.1	6.9	31.8	28.9	44.1	924.2					
1986—																					
January	258.4	21.4	6.4	53.8	98.8	50.4	56.6	12.6	16.6	38.7	17.6	5.3	24.8	28.8	29.4	719.7					
February	231.7	18.1	6.0	46.3	89.9	42.1	49.6	8.6	16.9	32.4	17.1	6.4	21.6	25.2	23.0	634.9					
March	248.2	18.6	6.2	49.5	96.7	46.9	55.3	8.4	17.5	32.3	16.9	5.5	24.1	23.9	24.3	674.3					
April	236.7	20.0	6.4	47.9	93.3	51.5	58.8	11.8	15.7	37.5	18.0	7.3	24.5	24.8	27.6	681.8					
May	256.8	21.2	7.6	49.7	97.4	60.7	69.9	15.1	15.5	43.0	17.9	7.6	27.4	26.5	29.2	745.6					
June	240.7	20.3	6.1	49.1	93.6	54.5	55.1	12.2	15.9	39.3	18.4	8.9	25.2	25.8	27.5	692.7					
July	255.1	20.2	6.9	49.9	100.1	52.1	64.1	10.6	14.8	41.2	19.2	6.7	26.2	26.4	27.4	720.9					
August	261.0	23.2	7.2	49.8	103.0	52.5	60.0	10.6	15.7	39.4	18.9	4.9	26.0	26.0	26.7	726.8					
September	251.3	20.1	7.5	49.3	101.0	56.1	73.1	12.6	17.3	36.5	18.7	4.9	30.4	27.3	28.6	734.6					
October	268.4	23.2	7.7	52.2	104.4	59.8	70.9	11.6	18.5	39.2	19.9	6.6	32.3	28.7	32.3	775.7					
Standard error of—																					
Level(a)	6.9	2.7	0.1	3.9	4.1	3.4	0.0	0.8	1.7	2.0	2.4	1.4	2.9	2.6	3.6	12.9					
Change(b)	3.9	1.1	0.0	2.4	3.1	3.1	0.8	0.6	1.6	1.3	2.1	1.2	1.9	2.0	1.8	10.8					

For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 5. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARIS, PETROL, ETC.),
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—continued
(\$ million)

Month	Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists		Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs		Clothing and fabrics stores		Department stores		Foot-wear stores		Domestic hardware stores, jewellers		Electrical goods stores		Furniture stores		Floor coverings stores		Chemists		News-agents		Other		Total
	Butchers	General stores	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Department stores	Foot-wear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electrical goods stores	Furniture stores	Floor coverings stores	Chemists	News-agents	Other	Total										
SOUTH AUSTRALIA																									
1985—																									
August	124.6	10.1	4.5	20.2	37.4	27.5	49.2	5.2	7.1	20.9	10.8	4.2	13.2	8.5	12.4	355.9									
September	118.8	9.2	4.2	20.9	37.3	27.0	48.0	5.6	6.5	19.4	10.7	4.5	12.7	7.8	11.9	344.6									
October	128.4	10.0	4.7	23.5	40.8	29.9	52.1	6.3	6.5	21.5	11.4	4.0	13.7	9.1	15.1	376.9									
November	125.3	10.3	5.0	24.3	42.2	33.3	58.8	6.2	8.0	24.3	11.5	3.6	13.4	9.3	15.5	390.9									
December	141.1	12.2	7.5	26.6	54.1	44.0	87.3	7.9	16.1	33.7	12.7	4.1	14.9	10.5	21.4	493.9									
1986—																									
January	127.3	10.6	4.5	23.5	43.9	27.4	42.4	6.3	5.0	18.4	10.7	3.4	13.9	8.5	14.2	360.0									
February	118.1	9.6	3.8	19.6	40.3	24.3	40.7	5.5	5.5	17.7	10.1	3.7	12.4	8.9	13.7	334.0									
March	130.5	9.7	4.1	21.3	45.2	24.5	40.8	5.2	5.5	17.5	9.8	3.6	13.0	8.6	15.6	355.0									
April	128.4	9.5	4.4	21.7	39.1	32.6	51.3	6.8	6.3	19.6	11.9	4.2	13.0	7.6	15.1	371.8									
May	135.0	10.3	5.4	22.9	39.1	35.0	66.5	7.7	6.8	21.4	15.5	4.0	14.2	8.4	14.7	406.8									
June	123.8	10.1	4.4	20.5	38.1	27.4	49.5	5.8	5.6	19.1	13.7	4.2	12.8	8.1	14.6	357.7									
July	130.6	9.3	6.2	22.7	37.6	27.6	53.9	6.0	5.8	19.7	10.7	5.3	15.5	9.1	13.4	373.3									
August	133.0	9.3	5.3	21.7	40.2	27.2	46.8	5.7	6.0	20.4	10.5	4.8	15.9	9.0	15.4	371.2									
September	128.2	9.3	6.0	23.7	39.9	28.1	52.0	5.8	5.8	20.1	10.5	5.4	14.9	8.7	15.3	373.4									
October	137.9	9.0	6.1	23.8	42.0	30.3	53.0	6.1	7.0	18.6	10.4	4.4	16.5	8.0	15.5	388.5									
Standard error of—																									
Level(a)	3.9	0.9	0.2	1.9	2.1	1.5	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.9	1.0	0.3	1.2	1.0	1.8	5.9									
Change(b)	2.7	0.4	0.0	1.5	1.1	1.3	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.3	4.6									
WESTERN AUSTRALIA																									
1985—																									
August	129.3	6.0	5.3	27.3	48.5	33.4	33.3	6.0	7.1	24.6	9.5	4.9	13.8	11.6	16.2	376.6									
September	121.2	5.7	5.4	27.9	50.8	31.7	33.4	7.0	7.3	21.5	8.8	3.9	12.4	10.3	15.9	363.3									
October	132.8	6.6	6.0	25.5	50.9	33.1	36.8	7.2	7.2	22.1	10.1	6.0	13.3	10.2	18.7	386.5									
November	134.1	6.8	6.3	25.6	54.7	35.6	40.9	7.0	7.7	23.2	9.0	6.0	12.9	11.1	19.6	400.3									
December	149.3	7.1	11.4	28.3	66.5	51.2	67.0	8.7	13.8	30.7	9.3	5.4	16.3	15.4	27.5	508.0									
1986—																									
January	141.7	5.5	5.5	28.0	56.3	29.6	33.5	7.2	4.9	23.3	10.1	5.4	13.4	11.5	15.7	391.6									
February	132.7	5.8	5.8	24.2	49.9	30.1	31.0	5.7	5.2	19.7	9.1	5.1	12.1	11.5	14.3	362.1									
March	140.2	5.7	6.1	25.2	52.0	31.2	35.2	6.4	5.2	19.2	10.4	5.5	13.1	11.0	15.1	381.5									
April	136.2	6.4	6.2	24.9	51.3	32.8	35.2	7.6	5.7	21.0	7.5	7.3	13.3	11.0	17.1	383.4									
May	141.3	6.5	7.5	24.7	50.6	40.1	43.6	9.0	6.3	26.1	9.0	6.4	13.9	11.5	18.8	415.4									
June	131.6	6.1	5.0	25.1	48.1	34.5	33.3	6.8	5.3	23.5	7.9	6.4	13.2	10.2	17.4	374.4									
July	138.5	5.3	6.2	24.9	48.6	38.8	35.4	7.2	6.0	24.7	8.7	7.0	14.2	11.9	16.7	394.0									
August	138.3	5.3	6.6	26.4	50.9	36.3	34.4	6.7	7.5	25.6	9.1	5.9	14.5	11.9	17.0	396.2									
September	134.3	5.5	7.1	27.0	53.7	35.3	39.5	7.9	7.1	21.7	8.9	6.3	14.9	12.0	18.1	399.5									
October	144.5	5.0	7.5	26.3	58.9	37.4	42.5	7.5	9.1	24.3	11.8	4.6	15.4	13.2	19.5	427.7									
Standard error of—																									
Level(a)	2.4	1.0	0.1	2.9	3.0	2.5	0.0	0.4	1.5	1.8	1.3	0.5	1.1	1.7	1.3	7.5									
Change(b)	1.8	0.6	0.2	3.1	2.4	2.3	0.0	0.3	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.7	0.6	1.0	1.4	7.2									

For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 5. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), MONTHLY ESTIMATES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—continued
(\$ million)

Month	Grocers, confectioners, tobacco onists	Butchers	General stores	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Department stores	Foot-wear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electrical goods stores	Furniture stores	Floor coverings stores	Chemists	News-agents	Other	Total
TASMANIA																
1985—																
August	39.5	4.5	n.p.	6.4	13.3	8.1	13.7	2.0	1.5	5.1	3.2	1.4	3.1	3.2	n.p.	110.7
September	36.8	4.7	n.p.	6.3	13.1	8.2	12.1	2.3	1.7	5.0	3.3	1.6	3.1	3.3	n.p.	106.6
October	40.9	4.5	n.p.	6.3	14.1	8.7	14.7	2.3	2.3	5.8	2.8	1.6	3.2	3.2	n.p.	116.9
November	41.1	4.6	n.p.	6.1	14.4	10.0	16.6	2.4	2.6	6.4	3.2	1.6	3.3	3.4	n.p.	122.4
December	45.5	5.4	n.p.	6.5	19.1	15.4	29.6	3.0	3.7	9.6	3.4	1.5	4.2	5.0	n.p.	161.3
1986—																
January	38.8	4.5	n.p.	6.6	14.9	8.4	11.5	2.1	2.0	4.6	2.6	0.9	3.3	3.7	n.p.	110.5
February	37.8	4.3	n.p.	6.1	14.2	9.1	11.7	2.3	1.7	4.1	2.5	0.9	3.0	4.1	n.p.	106.9
March	40.6	4.5	n.p.	6.6	15.0	9.2	12.4	2.2	1.4	4.3	2.4	0.9	2.8	4.1	n.p.	111.7
April	38.6	3.9	n.p.	6.1	13.9	10.5	13.4	2.4	1.5	3.5	2.8	1.0	3.6	3.5	n.p.	111.4
May	41.9	4.1	n.p.	6.1	14.7	10.9	16.5	2.8	1.5	6.3	3.2	1.2	3.8	4.0	n.p.	122.6
June	38.7	3.8	n.p.	5.9	13.4	9.3	12.1	2.2	1.3	5.7	2.9	1.3	3.5	3.7	n.p.	108.6
July	42.1	3.8	n.p.	6.2	13.7	9.5	14.2	2.2	1.3	6.2	2.7	1.3	3.9	4.4	n.p.	117.0
August	42.9	4.1	n.p.	6.2	14.7	8.9	12.7	2.0	1.5	6.3	2.7	1.3	3.8	4.5	n.p.	116.7
September	42.2	4.1	n.p.	6.1	14.5	8.9	14.3	2.2	1.7	6.3	2.7	1.3	4.1	4.0	n.p.	118.3
October	44.1	4.3	n.p.	6.9	15.8	9.3	13.4	2.2	2.0	6.0	2.6	1.5	4.2	4.2	n.p.	122.8
Standard error of—																
Level(a)	0.9	0.2	n.p.	0.6	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	n.p.	1.9
Change(b)	0.6	0.1	n.p.	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	n.p.	1.2
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY																
1985—																
August	21.5	1.6	n.p.	4.6	5.3	5.7	11.4	1.0	1.9	5.3	2.4	0.9	3.1	2.4	n.p.	73.9
September	21.8	1.6	n.p.	4.5	5.1	5.7	11.1	1.0	1.9	5.4	2.3	1.0	3.0	2.5	n.p.	73.3
October	22.7	1.6	n.p.	4.1	6.2	6.3	12.6	0.9	2.0	5.6	2.5	0.8	3.0	2.5	n.p.	77.2
November	22.9	1.6	n.p.	4.2	6.3	6.3	13.9	0.9	2.7	5.5	2.8	0.8	3.0	2.6	n.p.	79.6
December	23.1	1.6	n.p.	4.2	7.9	7.2	23.6	0.9	5.6	7.6	2.7	0.8	3.3	3.3	n.p.	100.2
1986—																
January	21.9	1.7	n.p.	4.0	6.0	6.1	12.1	1.0	1.8	4.2	1.7	0.8	2.8	2.4	n.p.	74.0
February	19.6	1.7	n.p.	3.6	5.2	5.1	8.8	0.9	1.8	4.7	2.1	0.8	2.8	2.6	n.p.	65.1
March	22.5	1.8	n.p.	3.6	6.6	5.2	11.3	0.9	1.7	4.1	1.7	0.9	2.3	3.4	n.p.	75.0
April	22.8	1.3	n.p.	3.5	6.7	6.9	13.0	1.1	1.6	4.4	2.0	0.9	2.6	2.5	n.p.	75.4
May	23.9	1.4	n.p.	3.4	7.1	8.1	17.4	1.2	1.9	5.5	2.4	1.1	2.5	2.5	n.p.	84.9
June	23.8	1.8	n.p.	3.3	6.9	6.7	11.7	0.9	1.7	5.4	2.4	1.0	2.4	2.4	n.p.	76.0
July	25.0	1.8	n.p.	4.2	5.9	6.8	14.3	1.0	1.8	6.2	2.5	1.1	2.7	3.1	n.p.	85.0
August	22.5	1.9	n.p.	4.6	6.6	6.7	11.6	0.9	1.8	5.4	2.8	1.0	2.7	4.2	n.p.	81.9
September	24.1	1.9	n.p.	4.3	6.4	6.2	13.3	1.0	1.9	5.7	2.9	1.0	2.6	3.1	n.p.	83.3
October	24.3	2.3	n.p.	4.0	6.4	6.2	14.5	1.1	2.0	4.5	3.3	1.0	2.9	2.8	n.p.	84.4
Standard error of—																
Level(a)	0.9	0.6	n.p.	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	n.p.	2.1
Change(b)	0.5	0.2	n.p.	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4	n.p.	1.2

(a) The standard error of the estimate for the latest month—see paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory Notes. (b) The standard error of the change of the latest month from the preceding month—see paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication presents monthly estimates of the value of retail sales classified by *industry* (i.e. type of store) for Australia and each State.

2. Quarterly estimates of total retail sales at constant (average 1979-80) prices are also included.
3. All the series shown in this publication, with estimates for earlier periods, are available on AUSSTATS — see paragraph 29.
4. Quarterly estimates of retail sales classified by *commodity* groups are published in Catalogue No. 8503.0. Analysis of the quarterly commodity data may lead to revisions in the monthly industry series. For this reason the monthly figures which relate to periods subsequent to the latest quarterly release should be regarded as preliminary.

Scope and coverage

5. The estimates are derived from a survey which includes in its scope all retail trade establishments, i.e. establishments classified to subdivision 48 of the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), 1983 Edition (Catalogue Nos. 1201.0 and 1202.0), *except* motor vehicle dealers, petrol retailers etc. (ASIC classes 4861-4868), bread and milk vendors (4878-4879), footwear repairers (4846) and electrical appliance repairers n.e.c. (4857). *Also included* are cafes and restaurants (9231), hotels, etc. (mainly drinking places) (9232), licensed clubs (9241-9243) and hairdressers (9351-9352).

6. The scope of the survey includes establishments in all States and the Australian Capital Territory, but excludes those in the Northern Territory.

7. The survey is based on a random sample of establishments within the scope defined above. From the data reported by the sampled establishments, aggregates comprising all retail sales in Australia (excluding Northern Territory) are estimated.

8. The retail sales reported are principally sales of new or used goods to final consumers for personal or household consumption. Excluded are sales of tools of trade, building materials and supplies, agricultural supplies and equipment, and business equipment. Sales of motor vehicles, parts, petrol, boats, caravans, etc. are out of scope of the estimates of retail sales in this publication. Also excluded are takings from meals consumed on the premises, accommodation, hairdressing, beauty treatments, and repairs. However, the estimates of retail sales in this publication include sales of take-away food, and beer, wine and spirits served with meals.

Industry statistics

9. Details of the value of retail sales are available for 15 industries. The ASIC class(es) which make up each industry are as follows:

<i>Industry</i>	<i>ASIC Class(es)</i>
Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	4881
Butchers	4882
General stores	4815
Other food stores	4883, 4885, 4886
Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	9232, 4884, 9241, 9242, 9243
Clothing and fabrics stores	4843, 4844, 4847
Department stores	4814
Footwear stores	4845
Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	4853, 4854
Electrical goods stores	4855, 4856
Furniture stores	4849
Floor coverings stores	4848
Chemists	4891
Newsagents	4894
Other	4892, 4893, 4895, 4896, 4897, 9231, 9351, 9352

Reliability of estimates

10. Since the estimates are based on information obtained from a sample survey of retail establishments, the estimates of levels and changes are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all units had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of units was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all units had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

11. Standard errors of estimates for the latest month and of estimates of change since the preceding month are shown in the tables. Examples of the use of these standard errors are given below:

- (a) The estimate of \$4,775.1 million for the total value of retail sales in October 1986 has a standard error of about \$30.6 million. Therefore, there are two chances in three that the figure which would have been obtained if all establishments had been included in the survey would be within the range \$4,744.5 million to \$4,805.7 million, and nineteen chances in twenty that the figure would be within \$4,713.9 million to \$4,836.3 million.
- (b) The estimated change of +\$291.1 million (+6.5 per cent) in the total value of retail sales between September 1986 and October 1986 has a standard error of about \$34.3 million (0.8 per cent). Therefore, there are two chances in three that the change which would have been obtained if all establishments had been included in the survey would be within the range +\$256.8 million to +\$325.4 million (+5.7 per cent to +7.3 per cent), and nineteen chances in twenty that the change would be within +\$222.5 million to +\$359.7 million (+4.9 per cent to +8.1 per cent).

12. Standard errors of estimates of change between non consecutive months are not shown in this publication. These standard errors are generally much higher than the standard errors of change between consecutive months. For example, the standard error of change between the latest month and the corresponding month of the previous year is, on average, approximately 1.4 times the standard error of *level* of the latest month.

13. Users of the statistics in this publication should note that the standard errors are relatively large for estimates for some industries in some States.

14. Seasonally adjusted, smoothed seasonally adjusted and constant price estimates are also subject to sampling variability. For seasonally adjusted estimates, the standard errors in percentage terms approximate those for the unadjusted series. For smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates, the standard errors are generally not larger than for the seasonally adjusted estimates and are likely to be smaller. For constant price estimates, the standard errors may be up to 10 per cent higher than those for the corresponding current price estimates, because of the sampling variability contained in the prices data used to deflate the current price estimates.

15. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting

by respondents and errors made in collection and processing of data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error and they may occur in any collection, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of forms, editing of data and efficient operating procedures.

Seasonal adjustment and smoothing

16. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences can be more clearly recognised. In the seasonal adjustment of the retail sales estimates, account has been taken of both normal seasonal factors and 'trading-day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays etc. in the month). For total retail sales for Australia, adjustment has also been made for the effects of change in the date of Easter and Australia Day holidays. Seasonal adjustment does not remove from the series the effect of irregular influences (e.g. abnormal weather, industrial disputes) and the seasonally adjusted estimates still reflect the sampling and non-sampling errors to which the original estimates are subject. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these series are available on request.

17. The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series is a means of reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates of retail sales have been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. Smoothed seasonally adjusted series (often referred to as estimates of trend) are an indicator of the underlying behaviour of the series over time.

18. While this smoothing technique enables smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions to the estimates for the most recent months as data for subsequent months become available. Generally subsequent revisions become smaller and after 3 months have a negligible impact on the series. There will also be revisions as a result of revisions to the original estimates and periodic reviews of seasonal and trading day factors.

19. This publication includes monthly smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates of retail sales for Australia, classified by industry, and for each State (total all industries). Seasonally adjusted estimates for industries and States are not included. These series, which commence in April 1982, are not long enough to provide sufficient information to allow reliable seasonal adjustment at present, since the seasonally adjusted estimates are subject to a relatively high degree of revision as data for later months become available and are taken into account in the re-estimation of seasonal and trading day factors. However the smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates included in this publication are not expected to be subject to the same degree of revision.

20. The seasonal adjustment of each industry series and each State series has been done independently and so, for any one month, the smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates for industries and States may not add to the smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates of total retail sales for Australia.

21. Seasonally adjusted and smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates of retail sales by industries in each State are not included because the series are not yet long enough to allow reliable adjustment.

Estimates at constant prices

22. A quarterly series of the value of total retail sales at average 1979-80 prices is provided in both original and seasonally adjusted form. The scope of the series at constant prices is identical to that of the series at current prices.

23. The series is a measure of change in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated. Measures of this type are subject to approximations and assumptions, and should not be interpreted in any precise quantitative sense.

24. Further information on the nature and concepts of constant price estimates is contained in Chapter 4 of *Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (5216.0).

25. As indicated in paragraph 4, the estimates of retail sales (at current prices), for months subsequent to the latest quarterly release, may be revised following analysis of the quarterly commodity data. Similarly, the constant price estimates of total retail sales for quarters subsequent to the latest quarterly release may be revised and therefore should be regarded as preliminary.

Related publications

26. Estimates of retail sales at current and constant prices for States and commodity groups are published quarterly in *Retail Sales of Goods (Excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.) Australia* (8503.0).

27. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- r revised
- n.p. not available for publication, but included in totals

28. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Electronic services

29. VIATEL. Key *656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through CSIRONET.

For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (062) 52 6017.

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements.

Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

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