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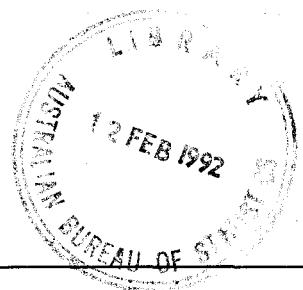


Australian Bureau of Statistics

CATALOGUE NO. 8501.0

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 12 FEBRUARY 1992

RETAIL TRADE AUSTRALIA, DECEMBER 1991



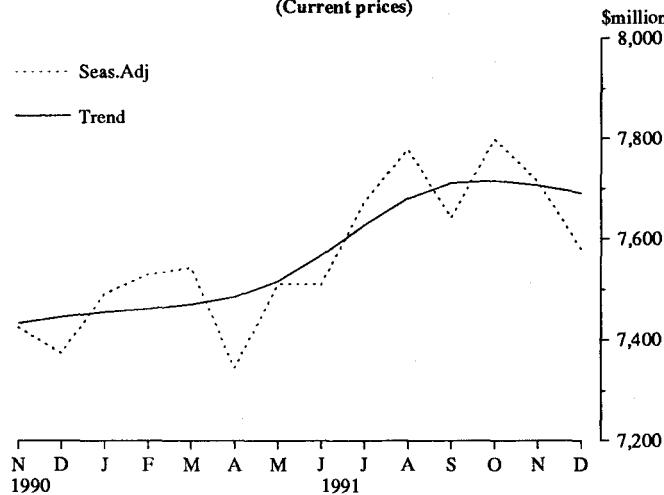
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Australian estimates

The seasonally adjusted estimate of turnover for retail and selected service establishments fell by 1.8 per cent in December 1991. This follows a fall of 1.1 per cent in November 1991 and a rise of 2.0 per cent in October 1991. In original terms the estimate of turnover rose by 25.1 per cent to \$10,071.2m.

With the fall in the seasonally adjusted estimate for December 1991 the trend estimates are showing an average decline of 0.1 per cent over the last three months. The current trend estimates indicate a levelling out after the recovery in growth observed around the middle of 1991. Some care should be exercised in the interpretation of the trend data as the last two observations are likely to be revised with the addition of subsequent months' data.

CHART 1: TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AUSTRALIA
(Current prices)

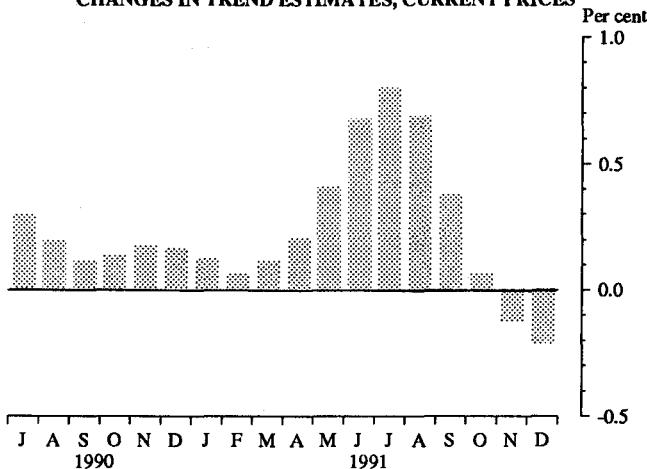


In constant price seasonally adjusted terms, turnover in the December quarter 1991 fell by 0.6 per cent over September quarter 1991 but rose by 1.1 per cent over December 1990. The full year ended December 1991 over the full year ended December 1990 showed a decrease of 0.6 per cent. In current prices there was an increase of 3.3 per cent over the same period.

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Bill Powell on Canberra (06) 252 6132 or any ABS office.
- for further information about constant price estimates contact Alan Tryde on Canberra (06) 252 6801.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.

CHART2: TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, AUSTRALIA, MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN TREND ESTIMATES, CURRENT PRICES



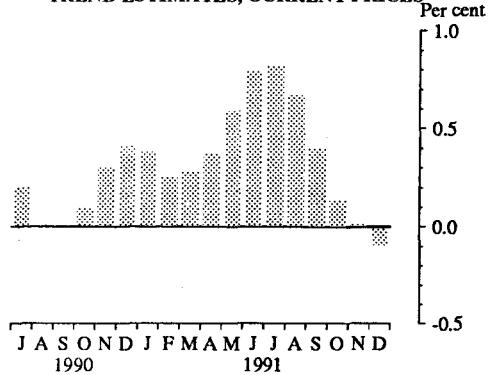
Industry trends

The decline in the trend estimates was influenced by three of the major industries covered by the survey. Grocers are showing no growth over the last three months, whilst Department stores averaged 0.2 per cent over the past three months. Hotels, licensed clubs and liquor stores remain in decline. Clothing and fabric stores has improved slightly but is still showing weak growth. Other food stores (excluding Butchers) is showing strong growth.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN TREND ESTIMATES OF TURNOVER

Industry	Average monthly increase for 3 months to December 1991	Average monthly increase for 12 months to December 1991
Grocers	0.0	0.4
Other food stores (excluding Butchers)	1.3	0.8
Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	-0.9	-0.5
Department and general stores	0.2	0.4
Clothing and fabrics stores	0.3	0.2
Total all industries	-0.1	0.3

CHART3: TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS, AUSTRALIA, MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN TREND ESTIMATES, CURRENT PRICES



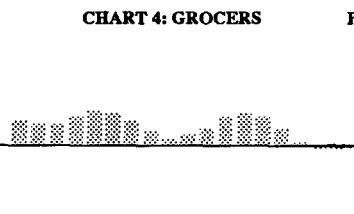
Analysis of the *retail only* industries shows no growth over the last 3 months. Over the past year (December 1991 over December 1990) the *retail* industries have experienced growth in turnover of 4.7 per cent, which is 1.2 percentage points higher than the all industries growth rate over the same period.

State trends

The decline in trend estimates for Australia is reflected in the State results, the exception being Queensland which is currently showing moderate to strong growth.

TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, AUSTRALIA

**TREND ESTIMATES, MONTHLY CHANGES
CURRENT PRICES, SELECTED INDUSTRIES**
Percentage change from preceding month



TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

**TREND ESTIMATES, MONTHLY CHANGES
CURRENT PRICES, STATES**
Percentage change from preceding month

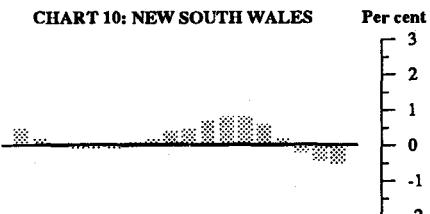


CHART 5 : OTHER FOOD STORES

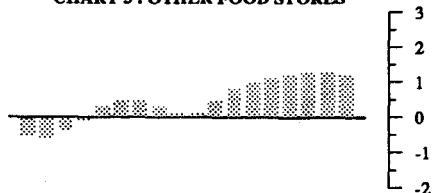


CHART 11 : VICTORIA

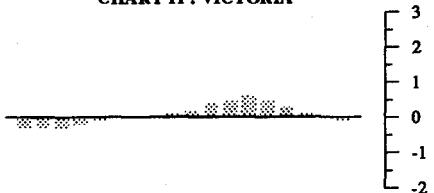


CHART 6 : HOTELS, CLUBS etc

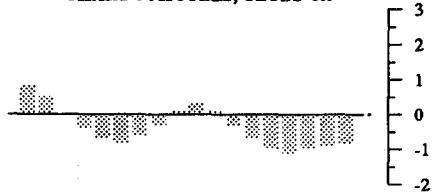


CHART 12 : QUEENSLAND

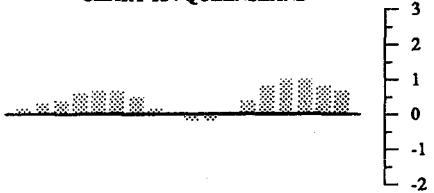


CHART 7 : CLOTHING STORES etc

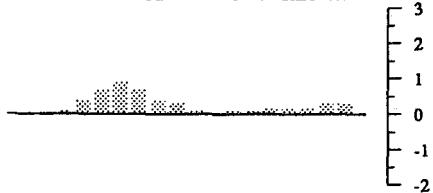


CHART 13 : SOUTH AUSTRALIA

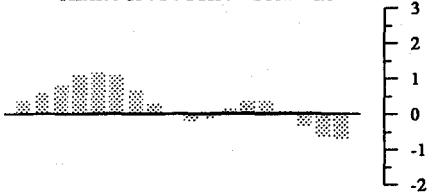


CHART 8 : DEPARTMENT STORES

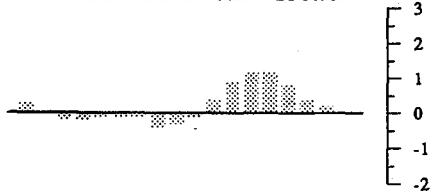


CHART 14 : WESTERN AUSTRALIA

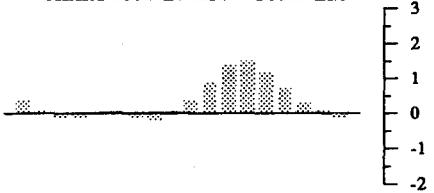


CHART 9 : ELECTRICAL GOODS STORES

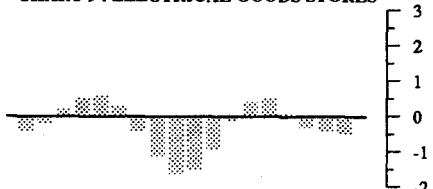
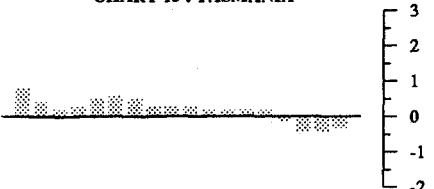


CHART 15 : TASMANIA



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1990 1991

J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1990 1991

TABLE 1. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA (a)

Month	Original		Seasonally adjusted		Trend estimates (b)	
	\$m	% change from preceding month	% change from corresponding month of previous year	\$m	% change from preceding month	\$m
			% change from corresponding month of previous year			
<i>1990—</i>						
October	7,431.2	5.2	6.2	7,383.6	-0.9	7,420.3
November	7,779.8	4.7	3.8	7,425.9	0.6	7,433.6
December	9,745.5	25.3	0.1	7,374.0	-0.7	7,446.2
<i>1991—</i>						
January	7,254.5	-25.6	4.3	7,492.5	1.6	7,456.1
February	6,616.4	-8.8	3.2	7,530.7	0.5	7,461.5
March	7,270.2	9.9	1.0	7,545.0	0.2	7,470.8
April	7,082.5	-2.6	2.9	7,344.5	-2.7	7,486.2
May	7,532.6	6.4	3.3	7,511.4	2.3	7,516.6
June	7,060.6	-6.3	-1.4	7,509.9	0.0	7,567.7
July	7,471.3	5.8	7.1	7,674.3	2.2	7,628.2
August	7,577.9	1.4	4.1	7,778.7	1.4	7,681.2
September	7,225.8	-4.6	2.3	7,642.4	-1.8	7,710.7
October	7,903.5	9.4	6.4	7,798.4	2.0	7,716.4
November	8,051.6	1.9	3.5	7,714.3	-1.1	7,707.0
December	10,071.2	25.1	3.3	7,579.1	-1.8	7,691.1
Standard error (c) of Latest month	112.5					
Change from previous month	61.8	0.8				

(a) Excludes motor vehicle dealers, petrol stations, etc. (b) Subject to revision - see from paragraph 21 of Explanatory Notes. (c) See paragraphs 9 to 13 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
QUARTERLY ESTIMATES, 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						
AT CURRENT PRICES									
<i>1990—</i>									
December	24,956.5	17.0	3.0	22,183.5	-0.3				
<i>1991—</i>									
March	21,141.1	-15.3	2.8	22,568.2	1.7				
June	21,675.7	2.5	1.6	22,365.8	-0.9				
September	22,275.0	2.8	4.5	23,095.4	3.3				
December	26,026.3	16.8	4.3	23,091.8	0.0				
AT CONSTANT (AVERAGE 1984-85) PRICES									
<i>1990—</i>									
December	17,115.2	15.7	-1.4	15,209.4	-1.6				
<i>1991—</i>									
March	14,284.9	-16.5	-2.1	15,211.3	0.0				
June	14,558.8	1.9	-2.1	15,047.9	-1.1				
September	14,914.3	2.4	0.8	15,476.5	2.8				
December	17,342.3	16.3	1.3	15,376.7	-0.6				

(a) Excludes motor vehicle dealers, petrol stations, etc.

TABLE 3. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES BY INDUSTRY, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA (a)

Month	Grocers, confectioners, tobacc- onists	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Cafes and rest- aurants	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment general stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electri- cal goods stores	Furni- ture stores	Floor- cover- ings stores	Pharma- cies	News- agents	Other stores	Total
	Butchers	Other food stores	Other food stores	Buckets	Original \$ million								
<i>1990 —</i>													
October	2,084.4	191.9	493.9	1,027.2	363.6	545.0	778.6	94.4	213.4	430.2	160.3	70.7	328.4
November	2,176.5	189.3	492.1	1,038.2	375.3	574.1	921.8	95.6	239.4	447.4	160.9	70.9	313.3
December	2,409.2	207.1	562.1	1,256.4	413.4	771.8	1,547.5	132.5	376.4	618.7	167.5	61.8	363.3
<i>1991 —</i>													
January	2,188.2	176.0	520.4	1,008.8	365.8	496.9	687.2	109.4	199.5	432.6	145.0	50.0	273.5
February	2,008.7	165.3	458.8	913.2	329.1	428.9	598.6	81.3	203.1	389.0	135.9	55.1	262.7
March	2,237.7	183.3	499.9	993.9	344.0	475.4	712.1	93.7	196.0	395.7	150.4	55.8	304.3
April	2,051.1	177.4	483.8	947.1	337.2	552.0	740.7	105.9	190.0	403.9	145.0	56.8	304.0
May	2,220.7	186.9	486.7	951.1	350.7	590.0	820.0	111.0	205.0	430.9	154.6	68.0	328.7
June	2,064.5	177.7	491.7	922.8	338.3	522.1	739.1	102.0	192.8	396.5	153.7	60.1	326.1
July	2,185.2	187.6	498.9	918.4	352.2	591.5	786.5	96.5	206.3	438.8	163.3	66.7	315.1
August	2,310.5	187.4	510.1	950.8	359.4	528.6	762.5	86.5	209.2	434.9	174.5	64.8	372.6
September	2,097.6	177.1	508.3	912.3	395.7	507.9	733.9	99.2	203.3	386.8	161.4	71.7	319.6
October	2,294.5	188.1	535.0	967.7	415.5	592.0	849.9	109.6	238.7	414.7	189.7	79.8	332.9
November	2,298.5	178.2	537.5	994.6	422.0	575.2	935.0	99.2	254.5	427.2	190.7	80.4	340.5
December	2,491.4	204.1	614.2	1,182.6	462.7	815.1	1,589.2	136.7	389.4	584.4	203.5	67.0	401.0
<i>Standard error (b) of</i>													
Level	33.1	14.0	46.2	50.4	31.0	43.6	0.0	7.9	16.6	21.8	24.4	5.6	27.5
Change	17.2	5.9	20.3	18.7	18.5	25.7	0.0	4.0	12.3	13.4	15.7	3.6	17.8
<i>TREND ESTIMATES (c) \$ million</i>													
<i>1990 —</i>													
October	2,095.9	188.9	489.5	1,011.2	n.p.	537.1	820.1	98.9	212.4	443.0	148.6	63.0	302.9
November	2,116.4	186.7	490.8	1,004.5	n.p.	541.0	818.9	100.7	210.3	445.6	148.4	62.0	301.3
December	2,136.1	185.3	493.1	996.7	n.p.	545.6	818.4	102.3	210.4	447.0	149.4	61.1	298.9
<i>1991 —</i>													
January	2,151.4	184.8	495.5	990.6	n.p.	549.2	817.3	103.5	212.3	445.4	151.3	60.6	297.9
February	2,159.4	184.6	497.0	987.8	n.p.	551.3	814.0	103.7	215.8	440.4	153.3	60.5	301.1
March	2,164.4	184.4	497.6	988.9	n.p.	552.7	811.4	102.7	220.4	433.4	155.3	61.0	310.0
April	2,170.2	184.1	498.2	991.8	n.p.	553.1	810.3	100.8	225.2	426.9	156.8	61.6	323.2
May	2,181.2	183.7	500.5	993.1	n.p.	553.3	813.5	99.3	229.7	423.2	158.2	62.2	336.4
June	2,198.7	183.2	504.3	990.5	n.p.	553.6	821.1	98.7	233.7	422.7	160.2	63.2	345.6
July	2,218.5	182.7	509.3	983.3	n.p.	554.4	831.0	99.2	236.1	424.6	163.2	64.5	348.6
August	2,235.6	182.1	514.9	973.6	n.p.	555.5	840.8	100.3	236.3	426.6	166.7	66.1	346.2
September	2,245.9	181.5	521.2	962.9	n.p.	556.6	847.9	102.1	233.5	426.9	170.0	67.6	340.6
October	2,249.1	180.8	528.0	952.8	n.p.	557.9	851.3	104.0	228.6	425.7	172.7	68.8	333.7
November	2,247.9	180.0	534.8	944.1	n.p.	559.7	852.7	106.0	222.9	424.2	174.9	69.6	327.2
December	2,245.8	179.3	541.1	936.9	n.p.	561.3	852.6	108.0	216.7	422.1	175.9	70.0	321.0

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES BY INDUSTRY, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA (a)—continued

Month	Grocers, confec- tioners, tobacc- onists	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Cafes and rest- aurants	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment and general stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electri- cal goods stores	Furni- ture stores	Floor- cover- ings stores	Pharma- cies	News- agents	Other stores	Total
	Butchers	Other food stores	Footwear stores	Footwear stores	Footwear stores	Jewellers	Electri- cal goods stores	Furniture stores	Furniture stores	Pharmacy	Newspaper agents	Other stores	Total
TREND ESTIMATES (c)													
1990—													
October	0.8	-1.3	-0.1	-0.4	n.p.	0.4	-0.2	1.5	-1.7	0.5	-1.0	-1.8	n.p.
November	1.0	-1.2	0.3	-0.7	n.p.	0.7	-0.1	1.8	-1.0	0.6	-0.1	-1.6	n.p.
December	0.9	-0.7	0.5	-0.8	n.p.	0.9	-0.1	1.6	0.0	0.3	0.7	-0.8	n.p.
1991—													
January	0.7	-0.3	0.5	-0.6	n.p.	0.7	-0.1	1.2	0.9	-0.4	1.3	-0.3	-0.1
February	0.4	-0.1	0.3	-0.3	n.p.	0.4	-0.4	0.2	1.6	-1.1	1.3	-0.2	0.1
March	0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.1	n.p.	0.3	-0.3	-1.0	2.1	-1.6	1.3	0.8	0.1
April	0.3	-0.2	0.1	0.3	n.p.	0.1	-0.1	-1.9	2.2	-1.5	1.0	1.0	0.2
May	0.5	-0.2	0.5	0.1	n.p.	0.0	0.4	-1.5	2.0	-0.9	0.9	1.0	4.1
June	0.8	-0.3	0.8	-0.3	n.p.	0.1	0.9	-0.6	1.7	-0.1	1.3	2.7	n.p.
July	0.9	-0.3	1.0	-0.7	n.p.	0.1	1.2	0.5	1.0	0.4	1.9	2.1	0.7
August	0.8	-0.3	1.1	-1.0	n.p.	0.2	1.2	1.1	0.1	0.5	2.1	2.5	0.8
September	0.5	-0.3	1.2	-1.1	n.p.	0.2	0.8	1.8	-1.2	0.1	2.0	-0.7	0.7
October	0.1	-0.4	1.3	-1.0	n.p.	0.2	0.4	1.9	-2.1	-0.3	1.6	-2.0	n.p.
November	-0.1	-0.4	1.3	-0.9	n.p.	0.3	0.2	1.9	-2.5	-0.4	1.3	1.2	-0.1
December	-0.1	-0.4	1.2	-0.8	n.p.	0.3	0.0	1.9	-2.8	-0.5	0.6	0.6	-0.2
TREND ESTIMATES (c)													
1990—													
October	7.8	7.5	3.5	3.9	n.p.	1.1	1.1	3.3	-9.9	-1.3	-1.7	12.5	-2.7
November	8.5	4.0	2.2	3.2	n.p.	1.8	1.1	4.8	-9.8	-1.0	-3.4	10.4	-4.6
December	9.2	0.5	1.4	2.3	n.p.	2.7	1.4	6.0	-8.6	-0.6	-3.6	8.0	-5.9
1991—													
January	9.5	-2.1	1.1	1.6	n.p.	3.4	1.5	7.1	-6.6	-0.7	-2.6	6.1	-6.4
February	9.2	-4.0	0.9	1.1	n.p.	3.8	1.2	7.8	-4.2	-1.6	-1.1	-7.1	5.9
March	8.7	-5.0	0.6	0.8	n.p.	4.1	0.6	7.5	-1.6	-2.9	0.4	-7.0	8.1
April	8.1	-5.6	0.4	0.5	n.p.	4.0	-0.1	6.1	0.8	-4.2	1.6	-6.4	12.1
May	7.7	-5.9	0.5	-0.1	n.p.	3.8	-0.4	4.2	2.7	-4.7	2.5	-5.3	16.2
June	7.8	-6.1	1.4	-1.1	n.p.	3.6	0.0	3.1	4.4	-4.4	3.8	-3.7	18.4
July	8.0	-6.1	2.9	-2.6	n.p.	3.7	0.9	3.3	5.9	-3.7	6.3	-1.4	17.9
August	8.3	-5.8	4.6	-4.0	n.p.	3.9	2.1	3.9	7.4	-3.0	9.7	2.0	15.4
September	8.1	-5.1	6.3	-5.1	n.p.	4.1	3.2	4.8	8.1	-3.2	13.3	5.6	12.6
October	7.3	-4.3	7.9	-5.8	n.p.	3.9	3.8	5.2	7.6	-3.9	16.2	9.2	10.2
November	6.2	-3.6	9.0	-6.0	n.p.	3.5	4.1	5.3	6.0	-4.8	17.9	12.3	8.6
December	5.1	-3.2	9.7	-6.0	n.p.	2.9	4.2	5.6	3.0	-5.6	17.7	14.6	7.4

(a) Excludes motor vehicle dealers, petrol stations, etc. (b) The standard error of the estimates for the latest month and of the latest month from the preceding month - see paragraphs 9 to 13 of Explanatory Notes. (c) Subject to revision - see from paragraph 21 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 4. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
QUARTERLY ESTIMATES BY INDUSTRY, AT CONSTANT (AVERAGE 1984—85) PRICES, AUSTRALIA (a)

Quarter	Grocers, confec- tioners, tobacc- onists	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Other food stores	Butchers	Cafes and restau- rants	Clothing and fabrics	Depart- ment stores	Domestic hardware stores, Footwear general stores	Electri- cal goods stores	Floor cover- ings stores	Furni- ture stores	Pharma- cies stores	News- agents stores	Other stores	Total
															ORIGINAL \$million
1990— December	4,570.7	430.0	997.1	2,164.2	765.7	1,243.8	2,237.4	225.6	636.6	1,248.3	323.3	127.9	701.1	506.8	935.7 17,115.2
1991— March	4,336.1	377.7	912.0	1,866.6	685.1	917.1	1,367.8	197.1	457.0	1,016.0	287.2	100.9	573.2	476.7	714.4 14,284.9
June	4,268.9	392.6	920.4	1,783.4	671.9	1,074.2	1,553.9	220.0	436.8	1,018.6	297.9	117.0	649.3	453.8	700.1 14,558.8
September	4,412.5	400.7	948.3	1,747.5	720.0	1,055.4	1,544.4	193.4	468.6	1,045.6	332.4	127.9	709.6	475.3	732.7 14,914.3
December	4,713.2	422.5	1,036.8	1,959.9	842.5	1,283.1	2,271.2	236.2	664.0	1,182.1	376.0	142.8	714.1	518.1	979.8 17,342.3
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES															
1990— December	4,339.2	403.7	947.6	1,952.4	n.p.	1,066.5	1,693.3	211.1	475.2	1,110.7	290.4	117.5	640.0	475.2	n.p. 15,209.4
1991— March	4,412.6	396.4	913.1	1,896.5	n.p.	1,082.9	1,674.1	213.2	505.0	1,109.2	310.3	112.6	615.1	476.8	n.p. 15,211.3
June	4,359.0	402.8	945.0	1,885.8	n.p.	1,065.0	1,627.3	207.0	503.2	1,032.3	310.7	120.8	670.5	479.1	n.p. 15,047.9
September	4,497.5	401.3	973.8	1,828.5	n.p.	1,078.9	1,722.5	204.7	541.6	1,079.5	330.6	122.2	712.1	485.6	n.p. 15,476.5
December	4,485.0	393.8	985.2	1,768.4	n.p.	1,100.1	1,720.3	220.0	497.8	1,048.6	339.5	131.8	647.7	485.3	n.p. 15,376.7
percentage change from preceding quarter															
1990— December	0.9	-4.5	-2.8	-3.2	n.p.	-0.2	-1.4	1.3	-7.6	-0.1	-6.8	-2.1	0.6	-7.0	n.p. -1.6
1991— March	1.7	-1.8	-3.6	-2.9	n.p.	1.5	-1.1	1.0	6.3	-0.1	6.9	-4.2	-3.9	0.3	n.p. 0.0
June	-1.2	1.6	3.5	-0.6	n.p.	-1.7	-2.8	-2.9	-0.4	-6.9	0.1	7.3	9.0	0.5	n.p. -1.1
September	3.2	-0.4	3.0	-3.0	n.p.	1.3	5.9	-1.1	7.6	4.6	6.4	1.2	6.2	1.4	n.p. 2.8
December	-0.3	-1.9	1.2	-3.3	n.p.	2.0	-0.1	7.5	-8.1	-2.9	2.7	7.9	-9.0	-0.1	n.p. -0.6
percentage change from corresponding quarter of previous year															
1990— December	3.4	2.2	1.0	-3.8	n.p.	-3.2	-3.5	0.2	-11.9	-2.2	-13.0	-5.8	4.1	-9.6	n.p. -1.7
1991— March	5.6	-5.5	-5.6	-5.2	n.p.	-0.2	-2.0	3.4	-4.8	-2.0	-3.8	-11.3	-0.6	-10.2	n.p. -1.3
June	3.4	-4.6	-0.1	-6.0	n.p.	-2.1	-6.7	0.9	-2.1	-8.1	-1.8	-6.7	6.0	-6.6	n.p. -2.2
September	4.6	-5.1	-0.1	-9.3	n.p.	1.0	0.3	-1.8	5.3	-2.9	6.1	1.8	11.9	-5.0	n.p. 0.1
December	3.4	-2.5	4.0	-9.4	n.p.	3.2	1.6	4.2	4.8	-5.6	16.9	12.2	1.2	2.1	n.p. 1.1

(a) Excludes motor vehicle dealers, petrol stations, etc.

TABLE 5. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA, STATES AND TERRITORIES (a)

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
								ORIGINAL \$ million	
<i>1990 —</i>									
October	2,692.1	1,812.3	1,268.3	595.4	663.7	187.3	80.6	131.5	7,431.2
November	2,816.8	1,898.3	1,306.7	652.7	691.0	191.1	77.9	137.4	7,779.8
December	3,490.0	2,459.5	1,616.6	796.2	879.3	245.3	87.5	171.0	9,745.5
<i>1991 —</i>									
January	2,589.6	1,779.6	1,255.6	603.6	644.9	190.7	67.0	123.5	7,254.5
February	2,369.3	1,627.9	1,126.3	541.1	591.2	177.0	65.3	118.3	6,616.4
March	2,599.0	1,777.9	1,222.2	612.4	650.1	197.8	74.4	136.4	7,270.2
April	2,546.1	1,733.9	1,186.4	590.4	635.8	180.5	72.8	136.5	7,082.5
May	2,718.1	1,839.3	1,264.8	627.3	671.1	190.3	80.3	141.5	7,532.6
June	2,538.3	1,700.9	1,215.6	571.0	638.7	181.4	80.5	134.2	7,060.6
July	2,707.8	1,789.5	1,268.3	609.8	673.5	193.2	87.3	142.0	7,471.3
August	2,750.6	1,803.3	1,296.2	614.9	687.2	194.5	86.7	144.5	7,577.9
September	2,612.8	1,726.5	1,249.7	582.4	658.7	176.1	81.4	138.1	7,225.8
October	2,835.5	1,926.8	1,346.0	646.6	719.4	192.8	84.0	152.5	7,903.5
November	2,914.6	1,950.5	1,366.8	652.4	731.5	201.3	80.3	154.2	8,051.6
December	3,605.7	2,511.8	1,706.0	781.6	919.6	263.7	91.0	191.8	10,071.2
<i>Standard error (b) of</i>									
Level	73.2	69.6	39.7	16.9	22.3	6.4	2.4	5.1	112.5
Change	37.5	37.6	21.5	14.9	16.9	4.1	1.7	3.2	61.8
<i>1990 —</i>									
October	2,672.7	1,820.8	1,252.9	600.0	665.9	189.5	n.p.	131.3	7,420.3
November	2,669.2	1,819.8	1,261.3	607.2	665.7	190.5	n.p.	131.9	7,433.6
December	2,667.7	1,819.8	1,269.5	613.8	665.5	191.7	n.p.	133.2	7,446.2
<i>1991 —</i>									
January	2,670.3	1,820.0	1,275.8	618.4	664.6	192.6	n.p.	134.8	7,456.1
February	2,675.3	1,820.6	1,278.5	620.4	663.2	193.2	n.p.	136.6	7,461.5
March	2,684.9	1,823.1	1,278.6	620.5	663.1	193.8	n.p.	138.3	7,470.8
April	2,698.7	1,827.1	1,276.4	619.5	665.8	194.3	n.p.	139.7	7,486.2
May	2,716.7	1,833.6	1,273.5	618.9	671.9	194.7	n.p.	140.6	7,516.6
June	2,739.2	1,833.6	1,273.2	620.2	681.2	195.0	n.p.	141.7	7,567.7
July	2,761.1	1,834.8	1,278.3	622.5	691.3	195.4	n.p.	143.2	7,628.2
August	2,777.3	1,863.9	1,288.8	624.7	699.5	195.8	n.p.	144.8	7,681.2
September	2,782.5	1,869.0	1,301.8	625.2	704.5	195.6	n.p.	146.5	7,710.7
October	2,777.9	1,870.7	1,314.1	623.3	706.6	194.9	n.p.	147.6	7,716.4
November	2,767.7	1,870.0	1,324.9	619.6	707.2	194.2	n.p.	148.3	7,707.0
December	2,754.3	1,867.7	1,333.6	615.5	706.2	193.6	n.p.	148.5	7,691.1

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, AUSTRALIA, STATES AND TERRITORIES (a)—continued

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
								TREND ESTIMATES (c)	percentage change from preceding month
<i>1990—</i>									
October	-0.1	-0.2	0.6	1.1	-0.1	0.3	n.p.	0.2	0.1
November	-0.1	-0.1	0.7	1.2	0.0	0.5	n.p.	0.5	0.2
December	-0.1	0.0	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.6	n.p.	1.0	0.2
<i>1991—</i>									
January	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.7	-0.1	0.5	n.p.	1.2	0.1
February	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	-0.2	0.3	n.p.	1.3	0.1
March	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	n.p.	1.2	0.1
April	0.5	0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.4	0.3	n.p.	1.0	0.2
May	0.7	0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.9	0.2	n.p.	0.6	0.4
June	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.2	1.4	0.2	n.p.	0.8	0.7
July	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4	1.5	0.2	n.p.	1.1	0.8
August	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.4	1.2	0.2	n.p.	1.1	0.7
September	0.2	0.3	1.0	0.1	0.7	-0.1	n.p.	1.2	0.4
October	-0.2	0.1	0.9	-0.3	0.3	-0.4	n.p.	0.8	0.1
November	-0.4	0.0	0.8	-0.6	0.1	-0.4	n.p.	0.5	-0.1
December	-0.5	-0.1	0.7	-0.7	-0.1	-0.3	n.p.	0.1	-0.2
<i>1990—</i>									
October	5.2	-1.3	4.5	6.7	3.4	8.4	n.p.	8.2	3.6
November	4.6	-2.1	4.5	7.5	3.2	8.5	n.p.	8.1	3.3
December	4.1	-2.6	4.6	8.3	3.4	8.6	n.p.	8.7	3.0
<i>1991—</i>									
January	3.6	-2.9	4.5	8.6	3.3	8.2	n.p.	9.4	2.7
February	3.2	-2.7	4.1	8.4	2.9	7.6	n.p.	10.0	2.5
March	2.9	-2.2	3.7	7.8	2.4	6.9	n.p.	10.4	2.4
April	2.8	-1.5	3.4	7.1	2.0	6.2	n.p.	10.3	2.3
May	2.9	-0.7	3.1	6.5	2.0	5.5	n.p.	9.8	2.4
June	3.1	0.2	3.1	6.4	2.6	4.7	n.p.	9.5	2.8
July	3.5	1.1	3.3	6.4	3.7	4.1	n.p.	9.8	3.3
August	3.8	1.9	3.9	6.1	4.9	3.9	n.p.	10.5	3.8
September	4.0	2.5	4.5	5.3	5.7	3.5	n.p.	11.7	4.1
October	3.9	2.7	4.9	3.9	6.1	2.8	n.p.	12.4	4.0
November	3.7	2.8	5.0	2.0	6.2	1.9	n.p.	12.4	3.7
December	3.2	2.6	5.0	0.3	6.1	1.0	n.p.	11.5	3.3

(a) Excludes motor vehicle dealers, petrol stations, etc. (b) The standard error of the estimates for the latest month and of the latest month from the preceding month - see paragraphs 9 to 13 of Explanatory Notes. (c) Subject to revision - see from paragraph 21 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 6. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
QUARTERLY ESTIMATES, AT CONSTANT (AVERAGE 1984-85) PRICES, AUSTRALIA, STATES AND TERRITORIES (a)

Quarter	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
<i>1990 —</i>									
December	6,254.8	4,163.0	2,874.8	1,399.4	1,515.5	431.1	166.6	310.0	17,115.2
<i>1991 —</i>									
March	5,151.4	3,467.0	2,424.1	1,195.7	1,263.8	381.1	138.5	263.3	14,284.9
June	5,309.8	3,486.5	2,452.9	1,208.6	1,291.5	370.0	154.7	284.8	14,558.8
September	5,462.5	3,504.1	2,557.6	1,217.9	1,332.1	377.2	170.7	292.2	14,914.3
December	6,297.0	4,184.6	2,951.2	1,396.6	1,567.0	435.3	168.3	342.3	17,342.3
ORIGINAL \$ million									
<i>1990 —</i>									
December	5,525.0	3,678.8	2,590.4	1,249.9	1,349.8	385.1	n.p.	276.8	15,209.4
<i>1991 —</i>									
March	5,506.1	3,643.5	2,584.0	1,268.6	1,339.5	400.2	n.p.	287.7	15,211.3
June	5,515.1	3,628.8	2,553.4	1,243.4	1,329.2	382.4	n.p.	290.9	15,047.9
September	5,562.7	3,691.4	2,594.1	1,267.0	1,390.8	396.0	n.p.	297.2	15,476.5
December	5,567.2	3,679.2	2,654.9	1,246.6	1,397.7	386.2	n.p.	306.0	15,376.7
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES \$ million									
percentage change from preceding quarter									
<i>1990 —</i>									
December	-2.2	-2.1	0.5	1.5	-1.7	-1.9	n.p.	-0.6	-1.6
<i>1991 —</i>									
March	-0.3	-1.0	-0.2	1.5	-0.8	3.9	n.p.	3.9	0.0
June	0.2	-0.4	-1.2	-2.0	-0.8	-4.4	n.p.	1.1	-1.1
September	2.7	1.7	1.6	1.9	4.6	3.6	n.p.	2.2	2.8
December	-1.7	-0.3	2.3	-1.6	0.5	-2.5	n.p.	3.0	-0.6
percentage change from corresponding quarter of previous year									
<i>1990 —</i>									
December	-0.6	-6.5	0.6	2.2	-2.2	2.7	n.p.	3.1	-1.7
<i>1991 —</i>									
March	-0.5	-6.8	-0.9	3.6	-0.5	5.6	n.p.	6.4	-1.3
June	-1.2	-5.1	-1.8	0.3	-2.8	-1.2	n.p.	4.9	-2.2
September	0.2	-1.8	0.6	2.9	1.3	0.9	n.p.	6.7	0.1
December	0.8	0.0	2.5	-0.3	3.5	0.3	n.p.	10.5	1.1

(a) Excludes motor vehicle dealers, petrol stations, etc.

TABLE 7. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND ACT (a)

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND ACT (a)—continued

Month	Grocers, confec- tioners, tobacc- onists		Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs		Cafes and rest- aurants		Clothing and fabrics		Depart- ment and general stores		Footwear stores		Domestic hardware stores, jewellers		Electri- cal goods stores		Floor- cover- ings stores		Furni- ture stores		Pharma- cies		News- agents		Other stores		Total			
ORIGINAL \$ million																														
<i>1990—</i>																														
October	581.7	47.3	113.1	182.7	99.5	141.3	176.7	22.2	71.6	108.7	36.9	14.2	58.2	53.6	104.5	1,812.3														
November	604.5	45.5	113.5	194.3	95.5	149.1	212.1	22.9	79.2	110.4	39.0	12.4	55.5	56.1	108.2	1,898.3														
December	668.6	50.1.	140.8	249.7	101.5	212.3	373.6	35.2	129.6	150.0	43.0	13.4	66.5	76.8	148.4	2,459.5														
<i>1991—</i>																														
January	597.0	45.2	125.2	175.5	91.6	124.8	152.7	30.2	69.6	108.8	37.8	9.2	52.4	66.8	92.8	1,779.6														
February	551.5	42.7	104.2	167.2	86.7	114.9	135.6	23.4	71.6	91.5	34.3	9.4	48.0	57.6	89.3	1,627.9														
March	613.0	44.4	116.7	176.0	85.8	128.8	167.9	25.1	65.0	98.5	36.7	9.8	65.7	55.8	89.4	1,777.9														
April	560.9	44.9	113.9	164.6	82.1	149.5	174.5	28.7	66.3	106.5	34.0	9.8	63.6	49.8	84.6	1,733.9														
May	609.0	46.7	117.7	165.2	86.6	152.8	191.3	29.3	67.4	109.8	34.5	13.0	68.3	58.8	89.0	1,839.3														
June	556.3	41.5	119.2	160.4	88.8	126.6	176.8	24.3	60.0	101.2	42.6	11.9	67.3	51.7	72.4	1,700.9														
July	579.9	44.7	116.4	159.2	89.9	144.9	177.3	24.4	73.2	108.1	44.8	14.0	77.6	57.5	77.5	1,789.5														
August	616.0	41.2	117.5	164.6	90.4	132.6	174.3	22.7	69.8	104.7	46.0	13.2	75.2	54.2	80.8	1,803.3														
September	563.5	42.7	120.1	161.4	93.4	120.0	174.2	25.5	63.0	94.2	38.9	17.3	69.7	46.2	96.4	1,726.5														
October	631.0	45.7	126.1	170.6	86.7	142.3	192.8	30.3	82.6	96.3	49.9	18.2	76.1	52.9	125.2	1,926.8														
November	635.2	41.2	127.7	179.5	90.0	139.2	216.8	28.3	79.2	98.7	47.3	17.5	76.1	51.4	122.3	1,950.5														
December	678.8	46.2	168.7	234.7	99.0	201.0	380.9	39.3	131.0	137.5	65.4	15.1	91.1	72.7	150.3	2,511.8														
Standard error (b) of Level Change	22.3	7.4	38.5	30.3	11.1	16.1	0.0	6.6	12.8	13.5	23.0	2.5	13.2	7.5	18.8	69.6														
	13.8	2.7	14.6	15.8	9.4	8.8	0.0	2.9	9.3	4.7	12.7	1.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	16.5	37.6													
TREND ESTIMATES (c)																														
<i>1991—</i>																														
July	604.3	42.5	120.9	177.5	n.p.	138.2	196.4	25.8	76.1	104.9	41.4	13.8	75.3	56.6	n.p.	1,854.8														
August	607.7	42.8	121.8	174.9	n.p.	136.7	198.9	27.0	76.3	103.4	42.6	14.7	75.7	55.7	n.p.	1,863.9														
September	609.3	43.1	123.6	172.3	n.p.	135.8	199.9	28.3	76.0	101.8	44.1	15.3	75.3	54.8	n.p.	1,869.0														
October	609.4	43.3	126.5	170.3	n.p.	135.2	199.4	29.4	75.3	100.2	45.8	15.5	74.4	54.0	n.p.	1,870.7														
November	608.3	43.4	130.2	168.9	n.p.	134.6	197.8	30.3	74.5	98.9	47.9	15.5	73.3	53.6	n.p.	1,870.0														
December	607.5	43.4	134.2	168.3	n.p.	134.5	195.9	30.9	73.5	97.6	49.4	15.3	71.8	53.4	n.p.	1,867.7														
percentage change from preceding month																														
July	0.8	-0.5	0.7	-0.9	n.p.	-1.6	1.7	3.2	0.5	-1.2	2.7	8.7	2.2	-1.2	n.p.	0.6														
August	0.6	0.7	0.7	-1.5	n.p.	-1.1	1.3	4.7	0.3	-1.4	2.9	6.5	0.5	-1.6	n.p.	0.5														
September	0.3	0.7	1.5	-1.5	n.p.	-0.7	0.5	4.8	-0.4	-1.5	3.5	4.1	-0.5	-1.6	n.p.	0.3														
October	0.0	0.5	2.3	-1.2	n.p.	-0.4	-0.3	3.9	-0.9	-1.6	3.9	1.3	-1.2	-1.5	n.p.	0.1														
November	-0.2	0.2	2.9	-0.8	n.p.	-0.4	-0.8	3.1	-1.1	-1.3	4.6	0.0	-1.5	-1.5	n.p.	0.0														
December	-0.1	0.0	3.1	-0.4	n.p.	-0.1	-1.0	2.0	-1.3	-1.3	3.1	-1.3	-0.4	-2.0	-2.0	-0.4	-0.4													

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND ACT (a)—continued

Month	Grocers, confec- tioners, tobacc- onists	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Other food stores	Cafes and rest- aurants	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment and general stores	Footwear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electri- cal goods stores	Floor cover- ings stores	Furni- ture stores	Pharma- cies	News- agents	Other stores	Total														
															QUEENSLAND														
ORIGINAL \$ million																													
<i>1990—</i>																													
October	359.1	34.9	88.3	154.2	51.1	106.6	127.6	16.0	29.4	80.0	27.4	13.6	55.1	47.8	77.2														
November	366.1	34.3	86.5	160.9	52.3	112.0	146.7	15.8	34.4	86.5	28.0	14.1	49.0	45.2	74.9														
December	399.3	36.8	95.5	191.2	59.8	138.5	237.5	21.2	53.9	120.1	27.1	11.7	58.1	52.9	113.0														
<i>1991—</i>																													
January	374.5	32.5	96.1	153.4	58.2	97.5	114.5	19.6	33.1	86.0	20.9	10.8	43.5	44.9	70.1														
February	341.6	29.8	85.3	134.7	50.0	81.6	97.0	12.0	33.1	80.9	20.7	12.2	40.2	44.5	62.7														
March	379.0	36.7	89.4	155.2	51.3	83.6	112.2	15.1	27.5	79.4	24.5	10.2	45.0	46.1	67.0														
April	350.9	33.0	84.5	147.9	53.0	90.0	113.4	15.9	25.9	78.7	24.1	10.9	45.6	44.9	67.8														
May	376.6	34.9	83.6	149.4	54.2	99.5	127.5	17.7	29.5	81.4	25.8	12.2	50.6	48.6	73.1														
June	356.8	32.9	89.2	151.9	49.2	96.5	122.7	20.0	28.6	75.7	24.4	11.8	40.7	45.1	70.1														
July	381.8	36.1	89.8	150.4	50.4	104.8	119.5	16.3	26.6	84.9	26.5	14.8	47.2	45.4	73.7														
August	394.5	35.8	92.8	152.4	53.7	99.0	125.4	14.6	27.9	87.2	29.5	12.0	50.8	45.5	75.2														
September	358.0	35.4	95.6	141.7	58.1	106.7	123.7	19.6	29.5	75.1	28.1	16.7	38.1	49.4	74.0														
October	392.2	37.0	101.8	154.2	60.7	114.3	135.6	17.5	31.8	81.1	33.2	19.8	38.0	51.9	76.9														
November	387.1	36.1	99.3	156.0	60.2	112.2	152.1	16.7	37.9	87.9	31.9	21.4	38.0	49.6	80.5														
December	413.2	39.9	110.7	187.0	72.5	153.2	243.1	23.9	62.4	123.4	33.1	16.3	56.1	74.7	96.4														
<i>Standard error (b) of</i>																													
Level	9.0	6.3	12.3	18.5	11.4	20.1	0.0	2.8	5.3	9.2	2.3	3.4	11.8	8.9	8.6														
Change	2.0	3.0	5.5	5.9	6.2	6.5	0.0	1.2	3.4	8.1	2.1	2.1	9.4	7.2	8.7														
<i>TREND ESTIMATES (c)</i>																													
\$ million																													
<i>1991—</i>																													
July	379.6	34.3	91.0	154.2	n.p.	99.7	131.4	16.7	32.1	83.3	27.2	13.3	44.3	48.0	n.p.														
August	382.6	34.4	92.8	151.9	n.p.	101.0	132.9	16.9	32.5	83.4	28.1	14.6	42.6	48.7	n.p.														
September	384.1	34.7	95.1	150.0	n.p.	102.8	134.4	17.3	32.7	83.8	28.9	15.8	41.4	50.1	n.p.														
October	384.0	35.2	97.4	148.7	n.p.	104.7	135.6	17.9	32.9	84.2	29.5	16.8	40.6	51.8	n.p.														
November	383.0	35.6	99.7	147.9	n.p.	106.7	136.4	18.6	33.2	84.9	29.8	17.6	40.3	53.8	n.p.														
December	381.6	36.0	101.6	147.3	n.p.	108.4	137.0	19.3	33.4	85.4	30.0	18.2	40.6	55.6	n.p.														
percentage change from preceding month																													
July	1.0	-0.6	1.1	-1.4	n.p.	0.3	0.9	0.6	0.6	-0.6	3.4	8.1	-3.5	0.0	n.p.														
August	0.8	0.3	2.0	-1.5	n.p.	1.3	1.1	1.2	0.1	3.3	9.8	-3.8	1.5	n.p.	0.8														
September	0.4	0.9	2.5	-1.3	n.p.	1.8	1.1	2.4	0.6	0.5	2.8	8.2	-2.8	2.9	n.p.														
October	0.0	1.4	2.4	-0.9	n.p.	1.8	0.9	3.5	0.6	0.5	2.1	6.3	-1.9	3.4	n.p.														
November	-0.3	1.1	2.4	-0.5	n.p.	1.9	0.6	3.9	0.9	0.8	1.0	4.8	-0.7	3.9	n.p.														
December	-0.4	1.1	1.9	-0.4	n.p.	1.6	0.4	3.8	0.6	0.6	0.7	3.4	0.7	3.3	n.p.														

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND ACT (a)—continued

	Grocers, confec- tioners, tobacc- onists	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Cafes and rest. aurants	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment and general stores	Footwear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Elec- trical goods stores	Furni- ture stores	Floor- cover- ings stores	Pharma- cies	News- agents	Other stores	Total
SOUTH AUSTRALIA														
ORIGINAL \$million														
<i>1990—</i>														
October	175.1	15.6	46.2	65.5	28.1	38.0	84.6	8.6	14.8	34.4	15.1	6.0	23.1	12.9
November	186.9	15.9	48.9	68.3	35.0	37.6	106.4	8.5	16.6	37.1	15.2	7.2	23.6	15.5
December	206.9	20.3	50.9	84.7	30.2	46.1	157.9	10.5	25.5	48.4	14.3	4.0	30.7	19.6
<i>1991—</i>														
January	189.1	15.0	46.3	69.4	27.0	37.2	75.9	8.7	12.9	36.2	14.2	4.4	25.2	12.5
February	172.9	13.4	41.5	60.9	22.3	29.4	68.2	6.5	12.2	31.8	12.7	4.5	24.3	12.7
March	200.1	14.6	48.0	65.9	25.6	38.2	74.2	8.2	12.0	33.4	15.1	5.2	28.4	15.3
April	176.9	13.4	42.8	62.3	25.1	45.0	83.0	9.5	12.5	34.4	13.8	5.2	28.4	12.1
May	200.2	14.4	47.3	58.4	25.2	42.6	89.3	9.5	13.3	37.4	13.5	5.2	30.9	13.5
June	183.1	15.1	41.5	54.9	24.4	34.9	78.6	8.9	12.8	31.0	13.7	4.4	30.3	11.5
July	194.0	15.8	45.1	55.9	26.0	40.5	86.5	8.8	14.5	34.3	13.9	4.7	32.1	11.7
August	201.8	17.0	47.8	59.1	25.2	32.5	83.3	7.8	14.6	34.6	14.7	4.6	31.9	12.3
September	181.6	11.5	51.7	59.5	26.5	30.2	76.7	8.1	13.8	31.4	13.4	4.3	30.5	11.5
October	194.8	12.4	55.9	71.0	27.0	33.6	96.3	9.3	16.4	32.1	15.0	4.6	33.2	11.5
November	194.5	12.1	59.5	69.2	28.1	32.8	100.7	8.5	18.0	33.4	13.3	4.5	34.2	14.2
December	205.3	13.9	56.3	87.3	28.2	38.6	155.9	10.0	28.8	50.2	17.3	3.8	35.1	10.1
<i>Standard error (b) of</i>														
Level	5.3	1.3	6.8	4.6	4.6	2.4	0.0	0.5	2.0	3.5	3.9	0.7	6.9	1.4
Change	2.6	1.1	5.1	1.8	2.1	1.4	0.0	0.5	1.7	2.2	4.0	0.5	11.4	1.3
TREND ESTIMATES (c)														
<i>1991—</i>														
July	194.6	15.4	47.4	62.4	n.p.	37.2	88.9	8.6	15.8	33.1	13.7	4.6	31.9	12.5
August	194.0	14.8	49.1	63.7	n.p.	35.4	89.8	8.7	15.8	33.3	13.7	4.4	31.9	12.3
September	192.5	13.8	51.0	65.2	n.p.	33.7	90.4	8.7	15.7	33.9	13.8	4.3	31.8	12.1
October	190.5	12.8	52.5	66.5	n.p.	32.3	90.7	8.7	15.6	34.7	13.9	4.2	31.5	11.7
November	188.2	11.8	53.5	67.4	n.p.	31.0	90.6	8.8	15.5	35.6	14.0	4.1	31.1	11.3
December	186.4	10.9	54.4	68.1	n.p.	30.1	90.4	8.7	15.3	36.6	14.1	4.0	30.6	10.9
percentage change from preceding month														
<i>1991—</i>														
July	0.0	-1.3	2.8	1.0	n.p.	-4.4	1.0	1.2	1.3	-1.2	-1.4	-4.2	0.6	-1.6
August	-0.3	-3.9	3.6	2.1	n.p.	-4.8	1.0	1.2	0.6	0.6	-4.3	0.0	-1.6	n.p.
September	-0.8	-6.8	3.9	2.4	n.p.	-4.8	0.7	0.0	-0.6	1.8	0.7	-2.3	-0.3	-1.6
October	-1.0	-7.2	2.9	2.0	n.p.	-4.2	0.3	0.0	-0.6	2.4	0.7	-2.3	-0.9	-3.3
November	-1.2	-7.8	1.9	1.4	n.p.	-4.0	-0.1	1.1	-0.6	2.6	0.7	-2.4	-1.3	-3.4
December	-1.0	-7.6	1.7	1.0	n.p.	-2.9	-0.2	-1.1	-1.3	2.8	0.7	-2.4	-1.6	-3.5

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND ACT (a)—continued

Month	Grocers, confec- tioners, tobac- conists	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Cafes and rest- aurants	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment and general stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electri- cal goods stores	Floor cover- ings stores	Furni- ture stores	Pharma- cies	News- agents	Other stores	Total
	Other food stores	Butchers	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average
WESTERN AUSTRALIA													
ORIGINAL \$ million													
1990—													
October	210.2	5.8	57.6	76.6	36.2	32.5	74.3	7.1	17.3	40.3	11.6	6.9	31.2
November	220.5	5.7	56.3	77.3	37.6	33.5	84.6	7.1	18.2	43.1	11.6	7.1	30.9
December	251.3	6.2	64.6	96.9	44.5	48.3	141.3	9.0	32.0	54.5	11.6	5.1	40.5
1991—													
January	221.6	5.8	56.1	77.2	37.8	30.0	66.5	7.2	15.1	38.2	11.1	4.4	25.2
February	205.7	4.7	52.8	68.9	34.1	26.0	57.5	5.3	14.3	35.4	10.7	5.1	24.6
March	235.8	5.1	53.7	73.0	37.0	29.4	68.8	6.1	13.9	31.6	9.9	5.4	26.1
April	217.7	5.2	52.2	68.3	38.3	35.5	70.7	7.7	13.0	33.6	9.9	6.1	25.9
May	235.2	5.0	51.5	67.5	37.7	38.1	79.1	7.8	15.2	37.2	10.8	6.3	27.3
June	221.5	4.4	53.7	68.9	35.8	38.8	70.7	7.4	14.5	34.7	12.3	5.3	26.4
July	233.8	4.9	57.7	69.1	39.3	39.7	72.9	7.8	14.8	38.4	14.5	5.1	30.0
August	242.7	4.7	58.4	71.7	38.9	40.4	72.2	6.8	16.6	35.5	13.1	5.2	32.0
September	225.4	6.1	53.5	76.6	42.4	33.6	66.6	7.2	18.6	32.1	13.2	5.6	26.2
October	241.8	6.5	54.5	74.7	43.7	40.3	82.4	8.9	21.0	36.7	16.0	6.4	29.1
November	241.4	6.1	54.0	75.0	45.4	37.7	88.1	7.1	24.1	38.7	16.1	7.3	30.9
December	270.7	8.5	60.0	90.1	53.5	55.0	147.7	9.2	33.4	48.8	12.9	6.5	34.2
Standard error (b) of													
Level	8.3	1.2	9.3	3.8	9.9	7.8	0.0	0.5	3.3	5.7	1.3	1.0	2.1
Change	6.8	0.6	3.2	2.5	6.9	6.0	0.0	0.3	2.6	6.1	1.9	0.6	4.7
TREND ESTIMATES (c)													
\$ million													
1991—													
July	238.4	4.8	56.9	75.9	n.p.	38.5	78.4	7.5	17.6	35.7	13.0	5.4	29.3
August	240.5	5.2	56.6	76.3	n.p.	39.0	79.3	7.6	18.4	36.2	13.6	5.4	29.2
September	241.0	5.8	55.7	75.9	n.p.	39.0	80.0	7.6	19.2	36.6	14.0	5.6	28.9
October	240.4	6.3	54.5	75.1	n.p.	38.7	80.4	7.6	19.7	36.8	14.1	5.9	28.3
November	239.2	6.9	53.4	74.1	n.p.	38.5	80.8	7.5	20.0	37.0	14.1	6.3	27.7
December	238.0	7.3	52.3	73.0	n.p.	38.0	81.0	7.4	20.2	37.1	13.8	6.6	27.1
percentage change from preceding month													
1991—													
July	1.4	4.3	0.9	1.7	n.p.	2.1	1.0	1.4	4.8	1.1	5.7	-1.8	-0.7
August	0.9	8.3	-0.5	0.5	n.p.	1.3	1.1	4.5	1.4	4.6	0.0	-0.3	-2.4
September	0.2	11.5	-1.6	-0.5	n.p.	0.0	0.9	0.0	4.3	1.1	2.9	3.7	-1.0
October	-0.2	8.6	-2.2	-1.1	n.p.	-0.8	0.5	0.0	2.6	0.5	0.7	5.4	-2.1
November	-0.5	9.5	-2.0	-1.3	n.p.	-0.5	0.5	-1.3	1.5	0.5	0.0	6.8	-2.1
December	-0.5	5.8	-2.1	-1.5	n.p.	-1.3	0.2	-1.3	1.0	0.3	-2.1	4.8	-2.2

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND ACT (a)—continued

Month	Grocers, confectioners, tobacc- anists	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Depart- ment stores	Cafes and rest- aurants	Clothing and fabrics stores	Footwear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Elec- trical goods stores	Furni- ture stores	Floor cover- ings stores	Pharma- cies	New- tenants	Other stores	Total
	Butchers	Other food stores	Antiques	Auctions			TASMANIA							
<i>1990—</i>														
October	58.9	5.0	11.9	26.3	6.4	13.5	17.9	2.6	3.2	10.0	3.3	2.2	7.8	9.6
November	63.0	4.5	11.7	27.9	6.1	14.0	21.6	2.8	3.7	11.1	3.7	1.9	8.3	9.7
December	69.9	5.7	13.0	33.5	7.3	17.0	36.5	4.1	6.6	14.4	3.8	1.8	7.7	11.1
<i>1991—</i>														
January	63.2	4.3	12.6	31.4	6.1	12.4	17.0	2.8	3.1	9.9	3.1	1.3	7.1	7.3
February	56.8	4.0	11.7	27.6	5.3	14.4	15.5	3.1	2.7	9.3	2.9	1.4	6.1	7.9
March	63.9	4.0	13.5	32.5	8.7	13.6	17.8	3.2	3.4	9.7	3.2	1.3	7.0	8.1
April	55.4	3.5	12.2	27.9	7.1	14.0	17.6	3.1	3.0	10.1	3.2	1.4	6.7	7.0
May	61.3	4.2	12.3	25.7	7.2	14.7	18.8	3.2	3.3	11.0	3.4	1.5	7.5	8.0
June	56.5	4.1	13.5	26.9	5.9	15.0	16.8	3.0	2.7	10.3	3.4	1.5	6.7	7.1
July	60.9	4.2	13.2	25.0	6.1	17.1	16.9	2.7	3.0	11.7	3.8	1.8	7.6	10.1
August	64.1	4.2	12.9	26.5	5.9	14.0	17.5	2.5	3.0	12.3	3.9	1.7	7.3	9.9
September	57.5	4.9	12.9	22.7	5.9	11.2	16.4	2.5	2.9	9.6	3.3	1.7	7.5	9.0
October	62.5	5.9	13.3	26.0	6.4	12.7	17.9	2.5	3.4	9.5	3.7	1.8	8.7	9.6
November	64.0	5.4	13.4	26.3	6.0	14.8	21.2	2.6	3.9	10.0	4.0	1.7	8.7	10.0
December	71.5	6.2	15.2	34.1	7.4	23.0	34.9	3.7	6.5	15.0	4.6	1.4	11.8	14.8
<i>Standard error (b) of</i>														
Level Change	1.8	2.7	2.0	3.1	0.9	2.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	1.3	0.2	0.2	1.7	2.2
	1.0	1.8	1.3	1.6	0.7	1.4	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.3	1.2	1.4
<i>TREND ESTIMATES(c)</i>														
<i>1991—</i>														
July	61.4	4.4	13.4	27.5	n.p.	15.0	18.9	2.8	3.4	10.7	3.6	1.6	7.3	9.4
August	61.8	4.6	13.4	27.0	n.p.	14.8	18.9	2.8	3.4	10.8	3.6	1.6	7.5	9.8
September	62.0	4.9	13.4	26.6	n.p.	14.5	19.0	2.8	3.4	10.7	3.7	1.6	7.8	10.1
October	62.1	5.1	13.3	26.3	n.p.	14.2	18.9	2.8	3.4	10.6	3.7	1.6	8.2	10.2
November	62.0	5.3	13.3	26.0	n.p.	14.1	18.8	2.8	3.4	10.4	3.7	1.5	8.7	10.4
December	62.2	5.4	13.3	25.7	n.p.	14.1	18.7	2.8	3.4	10.3	3.8	1.4	9.1	10.5
percentage change from preceding month														
July	0.8	4.8	0.0	-2.5	n.p.	-1.3	0.0	-3.4	0.0	0.0	2.9	0.0	1.4	5.6
August	0.7	4.5	0.0	-1.8	n.p.	-1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	2.7	4.3
September	0.3	6.5	0.0	-1.5	n.p.	-2.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	-0.9	0.8	0.0	4.0	3.1
October	0.2	4.1	-0.7	-1.1	n.p.	-2.1	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-0.9	0.0	0.0	5.1	1.0
November	-0.2	3.9	0.0	-1.1	n.p.	-0.7	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-1.9	0.0	-6.3	6.1	2.0
December	0.3	1.9	0.0	-1.2	n.p.	0.0	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-1.0	0.0	-2.7	-6.7	1.0

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES, AT CURRENT PRICES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND ACT (a)—continued

Month	Grocers, confectioners, tobac- conists	Butchers	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Other food stores	Cafes and restau- rants	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment and general Footwear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electri- cal goods stores	Furni- ture stores	Floor- cover- ings stores	Pharma- cies	News- agents	Other stores	Total
ORIGINAL \$million															
1990—															
October	35.1	1.9	6.9	15.1	9.1	9.0	17.9	2.0	3.3	7.9	5.2	1.7	4.4	5.1	7.0
November	36.5	1.8	6.7	15.8	9.5	9.0	20.9	2.0	3.8	7.5	5.3	1.7	4.5	5.4	7.1
December	40.3	1.8	8.0	18.5	9.2	12.4	36.4	2.6	6.4	9.1	5.3	1.7	4.5	6.4	8.5
1991—															
January	36.0	1.6	7.6	13.1	7.8	8.3	16.1	2.1	3.4	6.7	4.3	1.7	3.8	4.4	6.4
February	34.8	1.6	7.9	12.2	8.9	6.9	14.1	1.6	3.2	6.5	4.3	1.5	3.9	4.7	6.2
March	39.5	2.1	9.5	14.7	8.0	8.3	17.4	2.0	3.3	7.1	5.0	1.7	5.3	5.5	6.9
April	37.0	1.9	9.3	13.7	8.1	10.9	19.1	2.4	3.2	7.2	5.3	1.8	4.9	4.6	7.0
May	39.2	2.0	9.2	15.3	8.4	10.3	20.2	2.2	3.4	7.7	5.5	1.7	5.2	4.7	6.6
June	36.3	1.9	9.6	14.7	8.1	9.6	17.6	2.1	4.0	7.9	4.7	1.7	4.5	4.6	6.8
July	39.8	2.0	9.6	14.3	8.5	10.0	20.9	2.1	3.7	8.3	4.4	1.9	5.0	4.8	6.7
August	43.2	2.1	9.9	15.2	8.9	8.5	18.0	1.9	3.8	8.6	4.7	2.0	4.9	5.2	7.8
September	39.3	2.3	7.9	14.8	10.0	8.9	17.4	1.9	4.1	6.7	5.2	1.9	4.6	4.8	8.4
October	41.2	2.3	8.6	15.2	12.3	10.7	21.0	2.2	4.3	7.7	5.7	1.8	4.9	4.8	9.9
November	42.4	2.2	9.0	15.5	12.1	10.4	22.9	1.9	4.8	7.3	4.7	2.0	5.0	5.0	9.0
December	46.6	2.1	9.2	16.8	11.6	15.3	40.7	2.6	8.1	9.5	4.8	2.2	5.5	7.5	9.3
Standard error (b) of	1.5	0.4	1.0	1.5	3.5	1.3	0.0	0.1	0.6	1.1	0.5	0.3	1.5	0.9	5.1
Level Change	1.5	0.2	0.6	0.9	1.9	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.9	3.2
TREND ESTIMATES(c)															
1991—															
July	39.7	2.0	9.4	15.0	n.p.	9.0	20.7	2.2	4.5	7.8	4.9	1.7	4.9	5.0	n.p.
August	40.2	2.1	9.1	14.9	n.p.	9.3	21.0	2.2	4.5	7.8	5.0	1.8	4.7	5.1	144.8
September	40.7	2.1	8.9	14.7	n.p.	9.8	21.2	2.2	4.5	7.7	5.0	1.9	4.7	5.1	n.p.
October	41.2	2.2	8.7	14.6	n.p.	10.5	21.2	2.2	4.4	7.6	4.9	2.0	4.6	5.1	147.6
November	41.5	2.2	8.5	14.4	n.p.	11.1	21.2	2.1	4.3	7.4	4.8	2.0	4.6	5.2	n.p.
December	41.9	2.2	8.4	14.2	n.p.	11.7	21.1	2.1	4.1	7.3	4.7	2.1	4.7	5.3	148.5
Percentage change from preceding month															
1991—															
July	1.3	0.0	-3.1	0.7	n.p.	1.1	1.5	4.8	2.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	-2.0	0.0	n.p.
August	1.3	5.0	-3.2	-0.7	n.p.	3.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	2.0	5.9	-4.1	2.0	2.0	1.1
September	1.2	0.0	-2.2	-1.3	n.p.	5.4	1.0	0.0	0.0	-1.3	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.0	1.2
October	1.2	4.8	-2.2	-0.7	n.p.	7.1	0.0	0.0	-2.2	-1.3	0.0	-2.0	5.3	-2.1	n.p.
November	0.7	0.0	-2.3	-1.4	n.p.	5.7	0.0	-4.5	-2.3	-2.6	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.8
December	1.0	0.0	-1.2	-1.4	n.p.	5.4	-0.5	0.0	-4.7	-1.4	-2.1	5.0	2.2	1.9	n.p.

(a) Excludes motor vehicle dealers, patrol stations, etc.
 (b) The standard error of the estimates for the latest month and of the latest month from the preceding month - see paragraphs 9 to 13 of Explanatory Notes.
 (c) Subject to revision - see from paragraph 21 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 8. TURNOVER OF RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
MONTHLY ESTIMATES AT CURRENT PRICES, NORTHERN TERRITORY (a)

Month	Food stores, liquor stores, and licensed clubs (b)		All other stores		Total	
	\$ million	% change from preceding month	\$ million	% change from preceding month	\$ million	% change from preceding month
<i>1990—</i>						
October	52.9	0.4	27.7	3.7	80.6	1.6
November	50.3	-4.9	27.5	-0.7	77.9	-3.3
December	51.0	1.4	36.3	32.0	87.5	12.3
<i>1991—</i>						
January	45.5	-10.8	21.3	-41.3	67.0	-23.4
February	44.2	-2.9	21.1	-0.9	65.3	-2.5
March	51.1	15.6	23.4	10.9	74.4	13.9
April	48.9	-4.3	23.7	1.3	72.8	-2.2
May	53.5	9.4	26.8	13.1	80.3	10.3
June	53.2	-0.6	27.3	1.9	80.5	0.2
July	58.7	10.3	28.8	5.5	87.3	8.4
August	57.0	-2.9	29.6	2.8	86.7	-0.7
September	54.5	-4.4	26.9	-9.1	81.4	-6.1
October	55.8	2.4	28.1	4.5	84.0	3.2
November	52.8	-5.4	27.6	-1.8	80.3	-4.4
December	53.1	0.6	38.1	38.0	91.0	13.3
<i>Standard error (c) of</i>						
Level	1.7		1.8		2.4	
Change	1.1		1.4		1.7	

(a) Excludes motor vehicle dealers, petrol stations, etc. (b) Includes Grocers, confectioners and tobacconists, Butchers, Other food stores, Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs, Cafes and restaurants. (c) The standard error of the estimates for the latest month and of the latest month from the preceding month - see paragraphs 9 to 13 of Explanatory Notes. NOTE: Series is not long enough to provide sufficient information to allow reliable seasonal adjustment estimates.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication presents monthly retail trade series based on estimates of the value of turnover of retail establishments classified by industry, and by State. These series replace the statistics based on the value of retail sales published up to June 1988.

2. From June 1988 the series in this publication are based on turnover data obtained from a sample of retail establishments. For the period until June 1988 the series have been adjusted to a turnover basis using movements in the previous retail sales series. Linked historical data are available on AUSSTATS, or can be provided by the ABS. More information on the survey methodology and the procedures used to link statistics for the new series with those for months prior to June 1988 are contained in the Information Paper: *Introduction of Improved Monthly Retail Trade Statistics* (8511.0).

Scope and coverage

3. The estimates of turnover are derived from a survey covering all States and the two Territories. It includes in its scope all retail trade establishments classified to ASIC subdivision 48, *except* motor vehicle dealers, service stations, etc (ASIC classes 4861-4868); milk and bread vendors (4878-4879); shoe 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).

4. Retail establishments which do not have employees are excluded from the coverage of the survey.

Definition of turnover

5. Turnover includes retail sales; wholesale sales; takings from repairs, meals and hiring of goods (except for rent, leasing and hiring of land and buildings); and commissions from agency activity (e.g. commissions received from collecting dry cleaning, selling lottery tickets, etc).

Industry detail

6. The names of the industries for which statistics are published in this bulletin align with the titles given in ASIC, except for the following groupings:

Other food stores: ASIC classes 4883, 4885, 4886

Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs: ASIC classes 9232, 4884, 9241, 9242, 9243

Clothing and fabrics stores: ASIC classes 4843, 4844, 4847

Electrical goods stores: ASIC classes 4855, 4856

Other stores: ASIC classes 4892, 4893, 4895, 4896, 4897, 9351, 9352

Constant price statistics

7. To enable analysis of the movement of retail activity in 'real' terms, estimates of retail turnover at constant (average 1984-85) prices are compiled each quarter. Constant price retail turnover series are derived by deflating the original current price series of retail turnover by specially compiled indexes of price change.

Reliability of estimates

8. Retail trade statistics may be subject to error from various sources, which are usually classified as either sample or non-sample error.

Sample error

9. Since retail turnover is estimated from a survey which includes a sampled component, the estimates are subject to sampling error. That is, they may differ from figures that would have resulted if all enterprises with retail establishments were included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error. 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 inscope units had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

10. Standard errors of estimates for the latest month and of estimates of change since the preceding month are shown in the tables. An example of the use of these standard errors is given below:

The *estimated change* of \$2019.6 million (25.1 per cent) in the total value of turnover between December 1991 and November 1991 has a standard error of about \$61.8 million (0.8 per cent). Therefore, there are two chances in three that the change which would have been obtained if all units had been included in the survey would be within the range \$1957.8 million to \$2081.4 million (24.3 per cent to 25.9 per cent) and nineteen chances in twenty that the change would be within \$1896.0 million to \$2143.2 million (23.5 per cent to 26.7 per cent).

11. The standard errors for some industries in some States are relatively high and users are advised to exercise caution in interpreting movements for such series. Some users may wish to combine such industries to obtain an estimate of the combined group which is more accurate than the components. The standard error of level of any such combination of industries may be calculated by squaring the standard error for each of the component industries, adding the squared standard errors together, and taking the square root of that sum. For example, suppose the standard error of level for Industry A is \$1.5 million and the standard error for Industry B is \$2.0 million. Then the standard error for the combination of Industries A and B is $\sqrt{(1.5)^2 + (2.0)^2} = \2.5 million.

12. Standard errors of estimates of change between non-consecutive months are not shown in publication tables.

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. Seasonally adjusted, trend and constant price estimates are also subject to sampling variability. For seasonally adjusted estimates, the standard errors are approximately the same percentage of the estimate as for the unadjusted series. For trend 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.

Non-sample error

14. This category includes a number of possible errors that arise in any type of collection, whether or not sampling of units is undertaken. The most significant of these errors are: misreporting of data items; deficiencies in coverage; non-response; and processing errors. In some cases the presence of these errors would, at least in part, be reflected in the size of the standard error.

15. *Reporting error.* Such error may arise because of poor form design, inability by survey respondents to provide requested data, or simply because of clerical error. Every effort is made to minimise reporting error by the careful design and testing of forms, and by examining inconsistencies both between different respondents and between the reports in successive months for each respondent.

16. Turnover is a relatively simple data item to collect accurately because it corresponds closely to total takings by respondents. While some reporting errors will be random and thus cancel out, others may be consistently in one direction and lead to bias in the results.

17. *Under coverage.* Because of limited sources available to identify enterprises with no employees, only enterprises with employees are included in the new survey. Non-employing units are estimated to account for approximately 6% of total turnover but their significance varies substantially from industry to industry. While the exclusion of such units will therefore lead to consistent underestimation of the level of turnover, their exclusion is considered to have a negligible effect on short term movements in Retail Trade.

18. Some error may also arise because of lags in the identification of new businesses. Studies undertaken by the ABS suggest that these lags also have a negligible impact on short term movements but lead to a small consistent underestimation of the level of turnover each month. An improved method of updating new businesses is currently being implemented. Refer to paragraphs 26 to 29 for more details.

19. *Non-response.* The survey of Retail Trade is a monthly survey conducted to tight timetables so that not all forms are received in time for publication. Extensive telephone follow up is undertaken each month to obtain details for respondents who have not returned forms by the due date. Despite this, it is necessary to impute responses for approximately 1 to 2 per cent of selected units (which are, in the main, small retailers). The consequences of this imputation for data quality are also reflected, in part, in the size of the standard error.

20. *Processing errors.* Such errors may arise at any stage of processing. Editing procedures should detect significant errors at data entry stage, while all processing systems are thoroughly tested. Published tables are produced directly from 'camera-ready' computer output to avoid the possibility of clerical transcription errors at the tabulation stage.

Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates

21. 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.

22. In the seasonal adjustment of the turnover estimates, account has been taken of both normal seasonal factors and 'trading-day' effects (arising from the varying length of each month and the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the month). For total turnover 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.

23. The Australian and State industries trend series have been revised following the annual re-analysis of the seasonal adjustment factors for the Retail turnover series.

24. The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to create trend estimates is a means of reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to the respective seasonally adjusted series. These trend series are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series over time.

25. While this smoothing technique enables estimates of trend 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. To illustrate the effect of the seasonally adjusted results on the trend series movement, if the January seasonally adjusted result shows a +1.0 per cent movement, then the trend movement would be -0.4 per cent for January, and -0.2 per cent for both December and November. A -1.0 per cent movement would return a trend movement of -0.6 per cent for

January, December and November would both be revised downwards by 0.3 percentage points.

Coverage adjustment

26. This survey uses as its sampling frame the ABS's register of businesses which is regularly updated to take account of new businesses and businesses ceasing operation. A major source of information on new businesses is group employer (GE) registrations with the Australian Tax Office. The ABS has developed an improved computerised system which will reduce the delay in new businesses from this source being recorded on the register, while at the same time an analysis has been undertaken to identify businesses which have been omitted from the register in the past. During the time these improvements to the register were being implemented, it was necessary to temporarily suspend updating the register from GE registrations. New GE businesses were represented in the survey results for the period June 1990 to February 1991 by a small allowance (a 'new business provision') which was based on an analysis of the contribution of such units in previous periods and taking current changes to economic conditions into consideration.

27. Following the completion of the improvements to the Business Register and the analysis of previously omitted businesses the series have been revised back to April 1982. Details for prior periods not covered by the March 1991 bulletin are available from the ABS on request. At the Australia level these revisions have increased the estimates of turnover by approximately 4 per cent but have had no appreciable effect on the estimates of changes from previous months or years.

28. It has not yet been possible for the updating procedures of the Business Register to fully achieve the improved timetable. Consequently it has been necessary to continue to apply a small 'new business provision' for the most recent months' observations.

29. For a complete description of the improvements to the ABS' business register and the impacts of these changes on statistical series, users should refer to *Information Paper: Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register - Recent Developments, 1991 (Catalogue no. 8130.0)*. This paper was released on 28 May 1991.

Related publications

30. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, 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

n.p.	not available for publication, but included in totals
ASIC	Australian Standard Industrial Classification

r revised

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician



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