

SUMMARY

During the month of September 2020, retail turnover in **nominal** (current) prices:

- fell by 2.9% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (fell by 1.1% nationally).

In addition to the monthly release of nominal retail turnover data, the ABS has this month also released **chain volume** retail turnover data for the September quarter 2020. Chain volume ('real') data removes the effect of price movements, and therefore provides a measure of the volume of retail trade.

During the September quarter 2020, **real** retail turnover:

- rose by 6.8% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (rose by 6.5% nationally).

Note: The ABS has suspended the retail trend series since February 2020. It will be reinstated when more certainty emerges in the underlying trend in retail.

FURTHER ANALYSIS

Nominal retail turnover (monthly)

During September 2020, seasonally adjusted nominal retail turnover in South Australia fell 2.9%, following a fall of 0.9% in the previous month. Seasonally adjusted nominal retail turnover fell 1.1% nationally during September.

South Australia recorded the largest fall in the month (down 2.9%), followed by Tasmania (down 2.0%), Western Australia (down 1.7%), Queensland (down 1.2%), New South Wales (down 0.9%) and Victoria (down 0.4%)—see Table 1.

Compared to a year earlier, retail turnover was 8.5% higher in South Australia and 5.6% higher nationally.

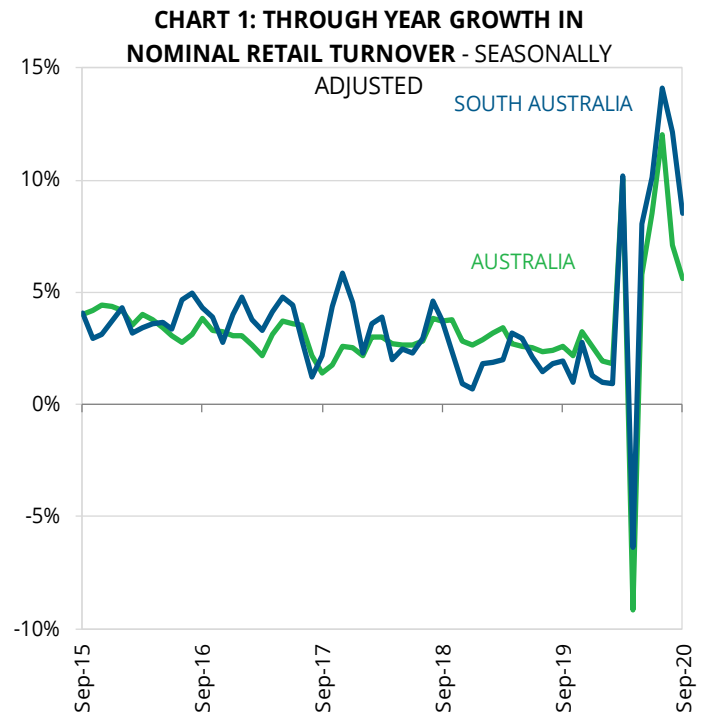


TABLE 1: Nominal Retail Turnover – Seasonally Adjusted

	Sep 20 (\$m)	Sep 20 v Aug 20 (% change)	Sep 20 v Sep 19 (% change)
NSW	9,603.0	-0.9	9.5
VIC	6,438.6	-0.4	-10.7
QLD	6,283.7	-1.2	13.1
SA	1,952.8	-2.9	8.5
WA	3,357.3	-1.7	14.9
TAS	641.7	-2.0	14.1
AUS	29,157.5	-1.1	5.6

Through the year to September 2020, increases in South Australian retail turnover were recorded for household goods retailing (up 20%), department stores retailing (up 18%), clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing (up 17%), food retailing (up 8.4%) and 'other' retailing* (up 0.9%). Turnover in the year to September declined for cafes, restaurants and take-away food services (down 5.0%)—see Chart 2.

*'Other' retailing includes: pharmacy and cosmetics, newspapers and books, stationery, flowers, toys and games, sport and camping equipment and entertainment media retailing.

Real retail turnover (quarterly)

The 6.8% rise in South Australian seasonally adjusted real retail turnover in the September quarter followed a fall of 0.5% in the previous quarter. Nationally, real retail turnover rose by 6.5% in the quarter.

Compared with a year earlier, seasonally adjusted real retail turnover was 7.0% higher in South Australia and 4.2% higher nationally—see Chart 3 and Table 2.

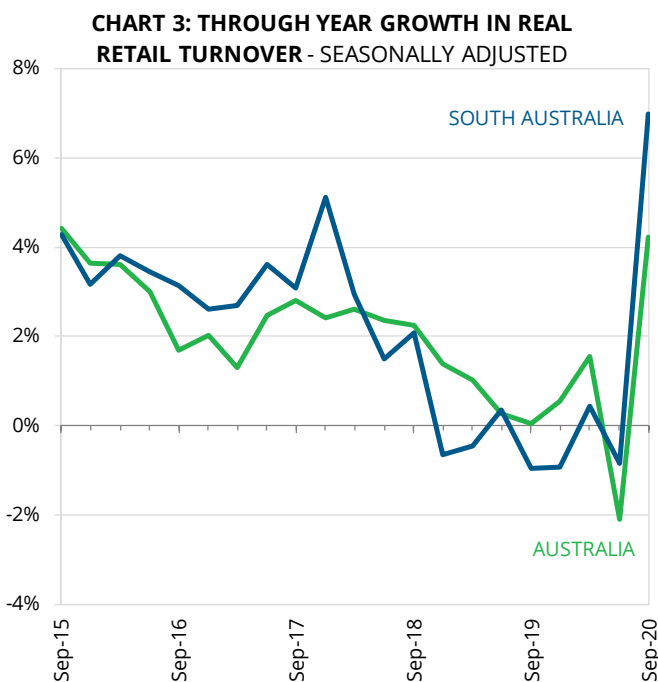
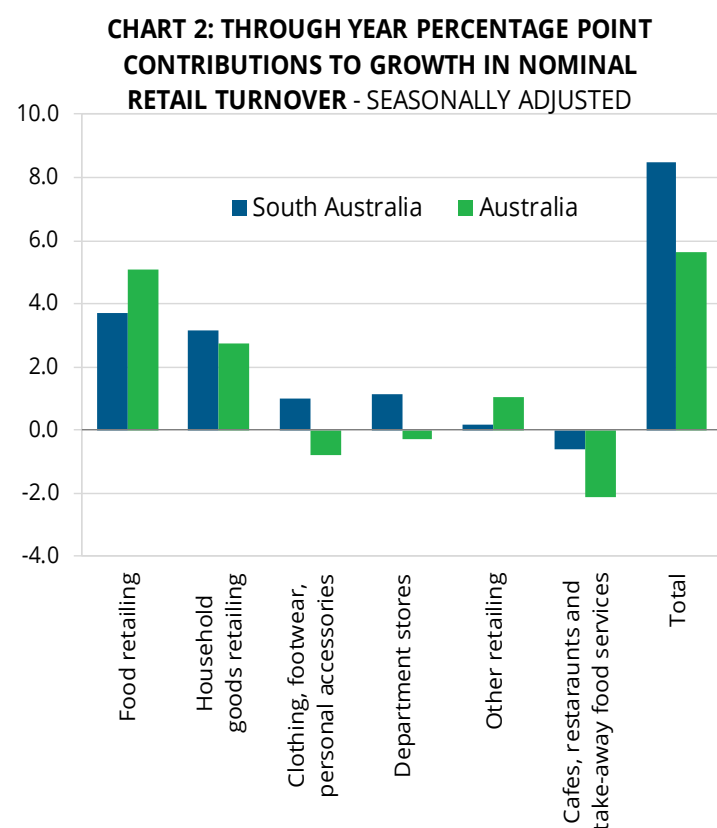


TABLE 2: Real Retail Turnover (seas. Adj.) #

	Sep qtr 20 (\$m)	Sep qtr 20 v Jun qtr 20 (% change)	Sep qtr 20 v Sep qtr 19 (% change)
NSW	27,764.1	11.6	7.1
VIC	19,199.6	-4.2	-9.8
QLD	18,161.3	8.9	11.0
SA	5,648.6	6.8	7.0
WA	9,685.0	10.2	12.8
TAS	1,853.7	10.8	12.6
AUS	84,808.6	6.5	4.2

Reference year for chain volume measures is 2018-19

Next release of [this ABS data](#) (formerly cat. no. 8501.0) is 4 December 2020.