

SUMMARY

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

- fell by 0.7% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (fell by 4.1% 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 December 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 December quarter 2020, **real** retail turnover:

- fell by 2.4% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (rose by 2.5% 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 December 2020, seasonally adjusted nominal retail turnover in South Australia fell 0.7%, following a fall of 0.2% in the previous month. Seasonally adjusted nominal retail turnover fell 4.1% nationally during December.

All states recorded a fall in the month. South Australia recorded the softest fall (down 0.7%), followed by Queensland (down 1.8%), Western Australia (down 2.0%), Tasmania (down 4.6%), New South Wales (down 4.9%) and Victoria (down 6.8%)—see Table 1.

Compared to a year earlier, retail turnover was 9.1% higher in South Australia and 9.6% higher nationally.

CHART 1: MONTHLY NOMINAL RETAIL TURNOVER - \$MILLION, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

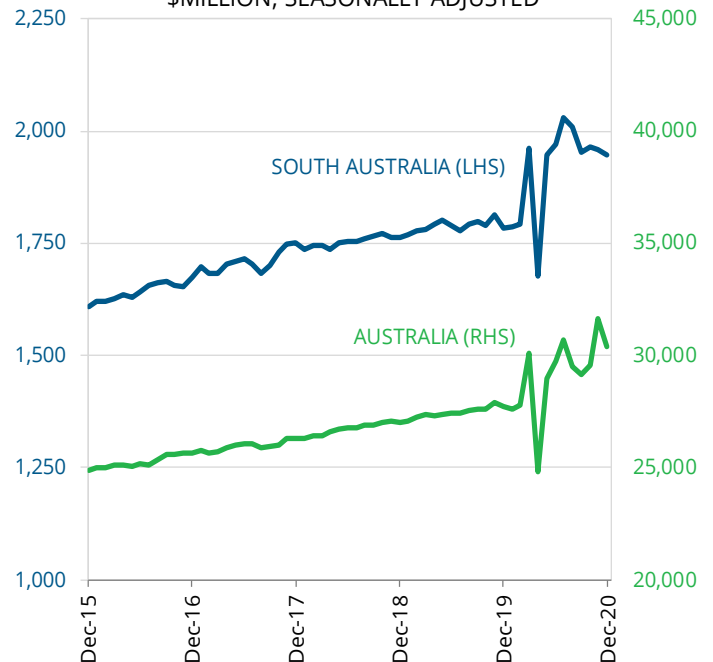


TABLE 1: Nominal Retail Turnover (Seasonally Adjusted)

	Dec 20 (\$m)	Dec 20 v Nov 20 (% change)	Dec 20 v Dec 19 (% change)
NSW	9,406.1	-4.9	8.2
VIC	7,725.0	-6.8	6.1
QLD	6,412.8	-1.8	13.6
SA	1,945.9	-0.7	9.1
WA	3,362.1	-2.0	14.3
TAS	623.7	-4.6	7.6
AUS	30,368.8	-4.1	9.6

Through the year to December 2020, increases in South Australian retail turnover were recorded for household goods retailing (up 25%), clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing (up 18%), 'other' retailing* (up 9.3%), food retailing (up 6.5%) and department stores retailing (up 4.8%). Turnover in the year to December declined for cafes, restaurants and take-away food services (down 4.1%)—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 2.4% fall in South Australian seasonally adjusted real retail turnover in the December quarter followed a rise of 6.8% in the previous quarter. Nationally, real retail turnover rose by 2.5% in the quarter.

Compared with a year earlier, seasonally adjusted real retail turnover was 4.8% higher in South Australia and 6.4% higher nationally—see Chart 3 and Table 2.

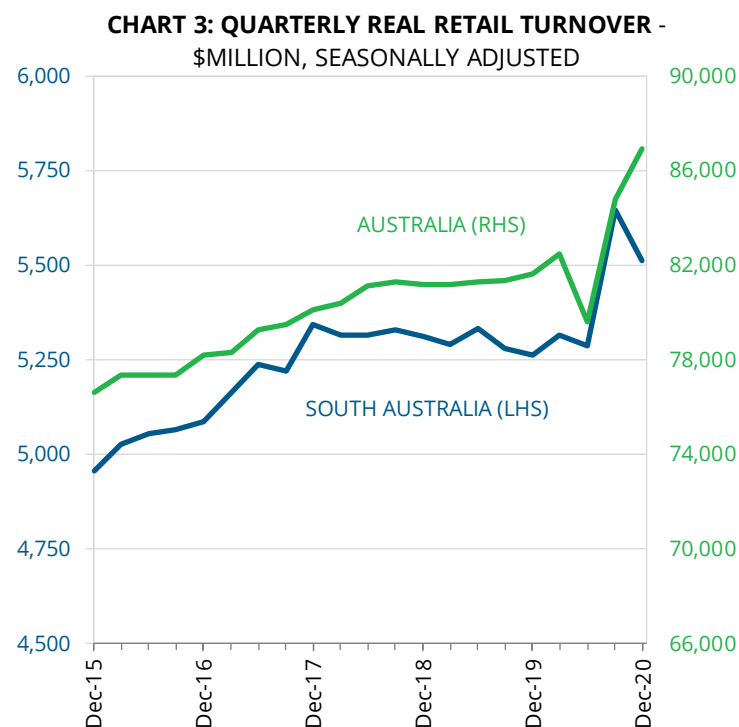
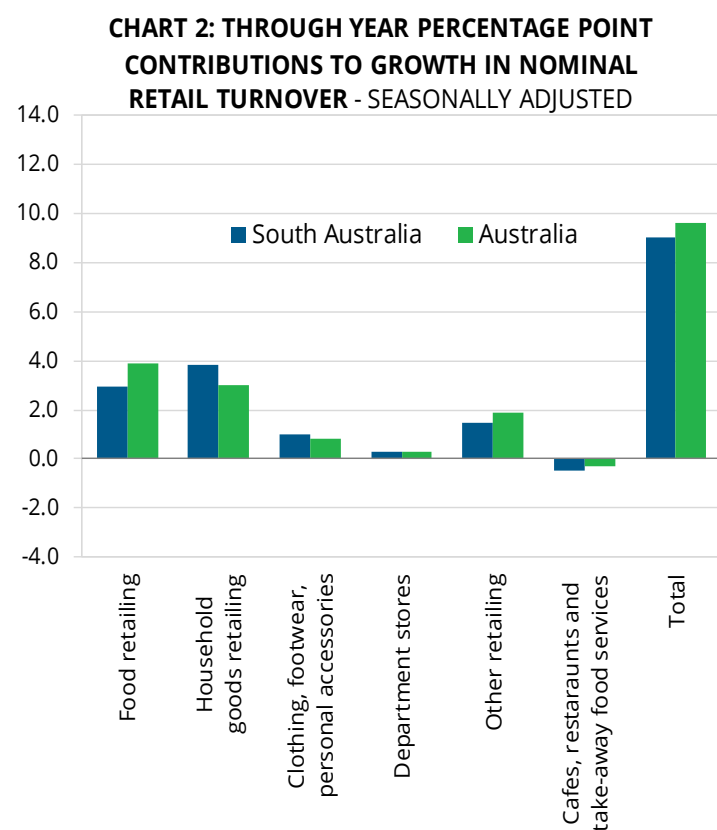


TABLE 2: Real Retail Turnover (Seasonally Adjusted) #

	Dec qtr 20 (\$m)	Dec qtr 20 v Sep qtr 20 (% change)	Dec qtr 20 v Dec qtr 19 (% change)
NSW	27,534.7	-0.8	6.6
VIC	21,664.0	12.8	1.6
QLD	18,265.2	0.6	10.0
SA	5,515.6	-2.4	4.8
WA	9,620.2	-0.7	11.0
TAS	1,807.8	-2.5	6.9
AUS	86,933.2	2.5	6.4

Reference year for chain volume measures is 2018-19

Next release of [this ABS data](#) (formerly cat. no. 8501.0) 4 March 2021.