

RESEARCH NOTE

RETAIL TRADE ESTIMATE* DECREASED BY 1.8 PER CENT IN JUNE 2021 AND INCREASED BY 2.9 PER CENT YEAR-ON-YEAR

Wednesday, August 4 2021 - The latest release (June 2021) of the monthly ABS Retail Trade data indicates that the overall month-on-month (m-o-m) estimate* decreased by 1.8 per cent, down from 0.4 per cent in May 2021. Retail Turnover increased by 2.9 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y), down from 7.7 per cent in the prior corresponding period (pcp) noting the impact during the period of 'retail hibernation' commencing April 2020. * The ABS has temporarily suspended the publication trend data due to volatility.

STATE OF PLAY

The adjacent table summarises the key data in **seasonally adjusted** terms across the six ABS retail categories. The strongest growth was recorded for 'Food' retailing on a m-o-m basis (1.5 per cent). 'Cafes, Restaurants & Takeaway Food' retailing recorded the strongest growth on a y-o-y basis (19.4 per cent). In **seasonally adjusted** terms, Retail Turnover decreased by 1.8 per cent in the month of June, down from 0.4 per cent in May 2021. On a y-o-y basis, Retail Turnover increased by 2.9 per cent, down from 7.7 per cent in the pcp.

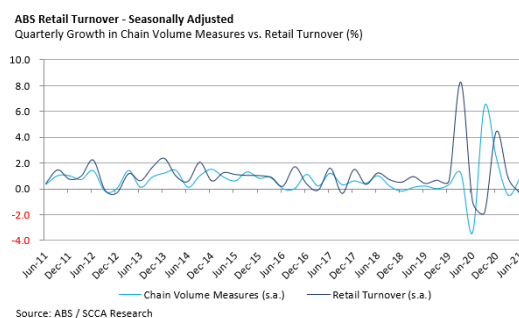
CATEGORIES	\$ billion	m-o-m	last 3 months	y-o-y
Food retailing	\$12.69	↑ 1.5%	↑ 4.1%	↓ -0.5%
Household goods retailing	\$5.49	↓ -1.3%	↓ -0.9%	↓ -3.2%
Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing	\$2.30	↓ -9.5%	↓ -8.5%	↑ 9.6%
Department stores	\$1.57	↓ -7.0%	↓ -13.9%	↓ -0.7%
Other retailing	\$4.63	↓ -1.6%	↑ 0.7%	↑ 6.8%
Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services	\$3.90	↓ -6.0%	↓ -3.2%	↑ 19.4%
Retail Turnover	\$30.59	↓ -1.8%	↓ -0.4%	↑ 2.9%

Source: ABS / SCCA Research

*Seasonally Adjusted

TREND ANALYSIS: CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES

The quarterly chain volume measure estimates the change in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated, reflecting changes in volume. In the quarter to June 2021, Chain Volume Measures increased by 0.8 per cent, up from -0.5 per cent in the pcp. Retail Turnover decreased by 0.4 per cent in the June 2021 quarter, down from 0.8 per cent in the pcp. Chain Volume Measures are tracking slightly ahead of Retail Turnover indicating that volume is the main driver of growth.



STATE BY STATE: BEST AND WORST

Retail turnover varies within the ABS defined six categories and across different jurisdictions. The adjacent map outlines and compares the total and growth of retail trade (y-o-y), and the best and worst retail growth categories. The strongest jurisdictions in **seasonally adjusted** terms were Tasmania (up 15.3 per cent to \$5.9 billion) followed by Western Australia (up 13.7 per cent to \$40.6 billion) and the ACT (up 12.6 per cent to \$7.0 billion). Victoria (up 3.4 per cent to \$89.7 billion) was the 'worst performing' jurisdiction, although still recording strong positive growth, following months of severe restrictions on retail trade. The highest growth across all jurisdictions, with the exception of Victoria, was for 'Clothing, footwear and personal accessory' retailing. Indeed, strong growth for clothing retail averaged 28.6 per cent across six jurisdictions. It is worth noting that just one jurisdiction (Victoria) recorded 'negative growth' for the worst performing category, whilst all others recorded positive growth across all six categories.

