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CANBERRA

CATALOGUE NO. 8501.0

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RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), **AUSTRALIA, JULY 1987**

PHONE INQUIRIES • about these statistics—contact Mr Howard Williams on Canberra (062) 52 5631 or any ABS State office.

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ELECTRONIC SERVICES

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- on TELESTATS phone (062) 52 5404.

MAIN FEATURES

TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.). AUSTRALIA

> CHART 1: MONTHLY ESTIMATES. CURRENT PRICES

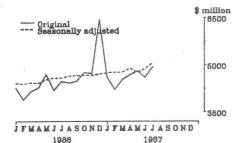


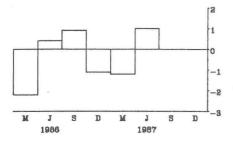
CHART 2: MONTHLY CHANGES, CURRENT PRICES

Trend estimates Percentage change from preceding month



CHART 3: QUARTERLY CHANGES. CONSTANT (AVERAGE 1979-80) PRICES

Seasonally adjusted Percentage change from preceding quarter



This publication includes trend estimates of retail sales, which have been derived by smoothing the series of seasonally adjusted estimates. 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 trend 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 23 of the Explanatory Notes at the end of this publication.

All series in this publication have been seasonally reanalysed using data up to June 1987. This has led to revised seasonally adjusted and trend estimates, particularly relating to the industry and State series for which only 5 years of monthly data exist.

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 July 1987, the estimated value of retail sales in Australia (excluding sales of motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.), in original terms, is \$4,943.8 million (see Chart 1). With the addition of data for July 1987, the trend estimates since April 1987 have been revised upwards to show steady growth of around 0.8% each month since May 1987.

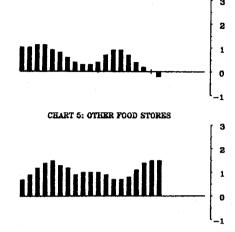
In seasonally adjusted terms, July 1987 shows an increase of 3.6%.

In 1987 there were school holidays predominantly in July (instead of August/September) in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. In Queensland and Western Australia the school holidays were predominantly in July rather than June or June/July. However, it is not clear to what extent the seasonality of monthly retail sales has been affected by the changed timing of school holidays.

TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), TREND ESTIMATES, MONTHLY CHANGES

CURRENT PRICES, SELECTED INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA Percentage change from preceding month

CHART 4: GROCERS, CONFECTIONERS, TOBACCONISTS



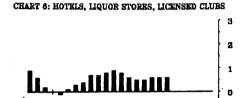


CHART 7: CLOTHING AND FABRICS STORES

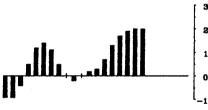


CHART 8: DEPARTMENT STORES

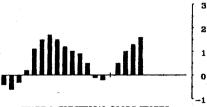
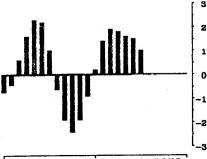


CHART 9: ELECTRICAL GOODS STORES



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INDUSTRY ESTIMATES (see Charts 4 to 9)

With the addition of figures for July 1987 and following the seasonal reanalysis of the series, the trend estimates of retail sales for the industries Other food; Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs; Clothing and fabrics stores; Department stores; Footwear stores; Furniture stores; Floor covering stores and Other have been revised substantially upwards for recent months. The remaining industries show little change or have been revised downwards slightly.

For Grocers, confectioners and tobacconists, which account for about 32% of total retail sales, the trend estimates show monthly movement becoming negative (-0.2%) after gradually slackening from a 0.9% growth rate in January 1987 (see Chart 4).

Other food stores (excluding butchers), which account for about 7% of total retail sales, show monthly growth of 1.5% in July 1987 increasing from a low of 0.7% in January 1987 (see Chart 5). The growth rates from April have been revised upwards.

For Hotels, liquor stores and licensed clubs (11% of total retail sales), the trend estimates show monthly growth of 0.6% in July 1987. Monthly growth rates are now estimated at between 0.5% to 0.6% since February 1987 (see Chart 6).

The growth rate in the trend estimates for Clothing and fabrics stores (9% of total retail sales), was 2.0% in July 1987 rising from a growth rate of virtually nil in October 1986. The growth rates for recent months have been substantially revised upwards (see Chart 7).

For Department stores (11% of total retail sales), the growth rate in July 1987 was 1.6%. This is a significant revision to the no growth situation indicated last month. Department stores are trading at 9.6% above their trend estimates of July 1986 (see Chart 8).

The trend estimates for Electrical goods stores (5% of total retail sales), are growing at 1.0% but decreasing in successive months from 1.9% in March 1987 (see Chart 9).

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

With the inclusion of figures for July 1987 and following the seasonal reanalysis of the series, the growth in trend estimates of retail sales in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia have each been revised upwards.

New South Wales (36% of total retail sales) trend estimates show a monthly growth rate of 0.7% in July 1987 after growth rates of 0.9% for the preceding 3 months (see Chart 10).

Victoria (27% of total retail sales) monthly trend estimates show a growth rate of 1.0% in July 1987 while the monthly growth rates for May and June 1987 have been revised upwards substantially to 1.0% (see Chart 11).

For Queensland (16% of total retail sales), the monthly growth rate of the trend estimates after dropping to 0.1% in March and April 1987, has been increasing (see chart 12). The July 1987 growth rate is 0.6%.

The trend estimates for South Australia (8% of total retail sales), after the inclusion of the July monthly estimates now show steady growth of 0.5% to 0.6% a month since February 1987 (see Chart 13).

For Western Australia (9% of total retail sales), the growth rate of the trend estimates of retail sales has fallen from 1.0% or over during the period October 1986 to January 1987, down to 0.6% in June 1987 and 0.4% in July 1987 (see Chart 14).

For Tasmania (3% of total retail sales), growth rates in the trend estimates are again declining after peaking at 1.4% in April and May 1987. The July 1987 growth rate is 0.8% (see Chart 15).

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

	Ori	ginal	Seasonall	y adjusted		Trend estir	mates
Month	\$ m	% change from preceding month	\$ <i>m</i>	% change from preceding month	\$ m	% change from preceding month	% change from corresponding month of previous year
Monin	J ///		Ψ //τ		- J ///	monin	previous year
1986			r	г	r		
May	4,706.5	9.8	4,541.8	2.6	4,517.9	0.9	10.5
June	4,196.8	-10.8	4,585.8	1.0	4,562.8	1.0	10.3
July	4,478.8	6.7	4,594.3	0.2	4,603.6	0.9	10.0
August	4,433.7	-1.0	4,648.2	1.2	4,635.3	0.7	г9.4
September	4,486.1	1.2	4,667.0	0.4	4,658.6	0.5	r8.8
October	4,761.8	6.1	4,675.5	0.2	4,676.0	0.4	8.2
November	4,732.7	-0.6	4,673.0	-0.1	4,695.5	0.4	7.8
December	6,440.2	36.1	4,713.1	0.9	4,719.7	0.5	7.7
1987—			r	г	r	r	r
January	4,609.4	-28.4	4,755.4	0.9	4,743.1	0.5	7.8
February	4,232.3	-8.2	4,779.0	0.5	4,768.2	0.5	7.9
March	4,538.6	7.2	4,776.1	-0.1	4,797.8	0.6	8.0
April	4,694.0	3.4	4,899.7	2.6	4,831.9	0.7	7.9
May	4,816.9	2.6	4,769.5	-2.7	4,870.3	0.8	7.8
June	4,605.9	-4.4	4,885.5	2.4	4,911.0	0.8	7.6
July	4,943.8	7.3	5,061.1	3.6	4,949.7	0.8	7.5
Standard error(b) of—							
July 1987	30.7						
Change: July 1987	22.4	0.5					
from June 1987	23.4	0.5					

⁽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)

		Original			Seasonally adju	ısted
Quarter	\$ <i>m</i>	% change from preceding quarter	% change from corresponding quarter of previous year	Sm	% change from preceding quarter	% change from corresponding quarter of previous year
1986—						
June quarter	8,204.3	4.9	1.3	8,410.3	. 0.4	1.0
September quarter	8,166.3	-0.5	0.5	8,486.7	0.9	0.2
December quarter	9,453.7	15.8	-2.3	8,389.5	-1.1	-2.0
1987—						
March quarter	7,781.4	-17.7	-0.5	8,286.5	-1.2	-1.0
June quarter	8,134.0	4.5	-0.9	8,365.3	1.0	-0.5

⁽a) Excluding Northern Territory.

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

											. ,					
Month	Grocers, confect- ioners, tobacc- onists E	Butchers	General stores	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment stores	Foot- wear stores	Domestic hardware I stores, jewellers	Electrical goods H	Furniture c	Floor coverings stores (Chemists	News- agents	Other	Total
						ORI	ORIGINAL									
7007						\$ 1	million			٠.						
May June Tily	1,471.2 1,379.7	157.6	45.7 34.6 40.0	285.0	494.6	488.3	577.6 423.1 507.7	93.0 73.0	105.8 98.3 95.0	264.6 234.5 256.3	131.2	51.0 49.7 50.1	179.7	152.7	208.6	4,706.5 4,196.8 4.478.8
August September October	1,439.9 1,429.8 1,521.6	156.2 152.4 158.4	4223 4023 5033 5033 5033 5033 5033 5033 5033 5	297.6 297.0 310.9	506.1 501.7 538.1	390.3 400.6 438.0	506.9 506.9 511.4	80.6 83.8 83.8	104.6 104.6 129.9	234.2 234.2 36.5	125.3 132.9 132.1	48.7 48.2 53.6	183.6 183.0 198.4	151.2 152.7 161.0	222.2 229.3 247.1	4,433.7 4,486.1 4,761.8
November December	1,482.2 1,722.7	151.7 180.1	41.3 76.0	310.0 349.5	540.2 696.1	438.2 648.8	540.9 1,059.4	77.3 102.8	142.9 256.3	231.4 342.5	127.7 143.0	54.3 52.8	189.0 241.5	161.9 221.4	243.6 347.5	4,732.7 6,440.2
1987— January February	1,527.6 1,426.8	144.9	36.5 34.2	336.0 303.9	571.5 515.6	371.1 334.8	472.5 391.3	81.7 65.6	117.0	220.0 205.2	114.6 104.2	41.3 48.0	190.1	165.0	219.7	4,609.4
March April May	1,501.0 1,532.0 1,527.9	147.0 151.8 156.9	37.5 42.6 42.6	310.3 311.5 313.0	536.6 533.3 518.7	397.9 449.7 486.2	463.0 517.3 550.4	83.0 82.8 92.8 7.8	113.3 109.0 115.3	220.9 227.0 253.3	113.4 100.0 110.2	55.1 55.5 55.5	182.6 188.8 200.4	170.3 169.7 175.8	217.3 223.9 217.9	4,538.6 4,694.0 6,816.9
July	1,4/3.9	162.1	38.6 42.5	339.3	538.6	440.1 490.7	557.0	88.2	109.3	261.7	124.3	65.3	201.8	183.7	235.0	4,003.9 4,943.8
Standard error of— Level(b) Change(c)	14.4	7.2	1.2	11.3	11.2	8.4 7.2	0.0	3.0	4.5	6.1 4.5	7.3	3.8	7.6	7.5	8.9 7.5	30.7
						TREND	TREND ESTIMATES	ES								
							million									
1986—r May June Iriy	1,444.3	154.2	444 	289.1 292.9 296.3	516.6 517.0 518.4	415.9 421.6 426.1	497.9 505.6 514.0	75.5	118.7	246.3 251.6 254 1	124.1	48.8 49.3 7	178.5 180.5	155.1	216.6 222.5 227.9	4,517.9
August September October	1,470.6 1,474.4 478.4	155.3 154.5 154.5	444 2224 2281	299.1 302.0	520.7 524.1 528.0	428.5 428.5 428.5	521.9 528.4 533.6	80.2 80.5 9.6 9.7 9.7 9.7 9.7	123.0	252.5 247.6	124.4	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	185.0 187.1	158.1 159.7 161.4	231.8 233.4 237.7	4,638.3 4,658.6 4,658.6
November December	1,485.1	152.9 152.9 152.5	43.1 42.9	307.9 310.8	532.2 536.9	427.6 428.4	538.2 540.9	81.6 81.7	125.4 126.0	237.2 235.0	122.8 121.2	48.7 49.9	190.3 191.3	163.3 165.5	231.1 229.4	4,695.5
<i>1987—r</i> January	1,510.4	152.7	42.5	313.0	541.0	429.7	540.3	81.6	126.2	235.5	118.8	51.4	192.7	168.2	228.6	4,743.1
February March	1,524.3	153.4	42.7 42.0	315.1	\$47.3 \$47.3	432.8 438.3	539.1 539.2	81.8 4.2.	126.2	238.8 243.3	116.3	53.0 54.5	194.4 196.6	171.3	229.3	4,768.2
April May Inne	2.142.1 2.44.0 3.44.0 3.44.0	157.2	4 4 4 8. 4 4 8. 8. 0	325.9 325.9	553.0 553.0 556.4	454.3 454.3 45.7	241.9 247.4 24.4	82.0 82.0 83.0	128.9	251.8 251.8 555.8	112.8		200.8 200.6 200.6	181.7	2332 23322 23323	4,831.9 4,870.3
July	1,540.5	159.3	42.2	335.9	559.6	472.5		2.2	130.9	258.1	113.8	60.3	202.7	187.1	246.5	4,949.7
						For footnotes	es see end of table.	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

					Hotel.											
Month	Grocers, confect- ioners, tobacc- onists	s, t- s, :- is Butchers	General	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment stores	Foot- h wear stores	Domestic hardware Estores, jewellers	Electrical goods F stores	Furniture co	Floor coverings stores C	Chemists	News- agents		Other
	-				TREND	ND ESTIMATES		continued							ĺ	
- >001					% ch	change from	preceding	month							1	
May May June July August September October November	0.00.00.00 0.00.00.00 0.00.00.00	28646447 000000000000000000000000000000000	7.00 0.1.1.00 0.00 7.1.1.00 0.00 0.00	25.00.000	0.000000 1.1.6.4.7.7.800	11-1-00000 14-1-00000	1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.	0.4424.0000 0.4424.004.01	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0	22.10-12.10 6.9.4.9.9.9	0.000000000000000000000000000000000000	2777.8	0.7.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0	000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 00		2001-0000 000000000000000000000000000000
1987—r January February March April May June June	00000000 00000000000000000000000000000	0.000000000000000000000000000000000000	0.00000 0.00000 0.00000	00.7 00.8 0.8 1.1 1.5 1.5	0000000 80000000	00.7 1.3 2.0 2.0 2.0	- 6000 - 10000 - 10000	00000 -444664	0000000 2000000 6000000	0.1.1	2.2.0 -1.7.1 -1.0 -4.0 -6.4	22.27.7.20 2.27.7.42.0	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	2.22. 5.8.0.1. 6.8.0.1.		0.3 0.3 1.6 1.6 1.5 1.5 1.5
7001				% ch	ange from	correspon	ding month	ı of previo	ous year							
May May June July August September October November December	11111111111111111111111111111111111111	25.283.368 2.262.283.368 2.262.283.368	%7.24.4.4.2.1. %7.24.4.4.1.0.2.1	22.24.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2	8.3 6.6 6.3 8.8 8.8 8.8	8887.644.22.2 2.2.2.1.44.02.2	6.4.8.9.6.6.88 6.1.6.8.6.6.7.1.88	2.6.0.4.0.0 2.6.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.	13.8 13.8 12.7 12.1 11.6 10.6	6.8 6.8 6.8 1.1 1.2 1.3	12.6 9.8 7.3 5.0 3.1 1.7 0.9	44.E.1.000.23.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00	23.0 23.0 23.0 23.0 23.0 23.0 23.0 23.0	E. C.		25.9 27.0 27.2 24.4 21.8 19.3
1987—r January February March April May June	9888 988 988 1.53	0.847.61.5 6.00.1 6.00.1 7.40.	6.00 6.00 7.11 7.10	13.8 13.0 13.0 13.0	888 897 897 897 897 897 897 897 897 897	7.52 7.24 7.69 9.90 9.90	88995 8665 8666 867 867 867 867 868	8 999 998 947 859	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0	0.22.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.	44.1 6.2 6.2 6.3 6.4 6.3 6.3	10.1 13.7 15.9 17.1 18.0 22.6	12.6 12.3 12.3 12.4 11.9 10.9	12.1 13.0 15.6 17.2 18.5 19.3		14.9 13.4 10.5 8.2

(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)
			ORI	GINAL				
1004			\$ r	nillion				
1986— May June July August September October November December	1,665.2 1,477.2 1,600.4 1,568.1 1,598.7 1,689.5 1,705.4 2,346.2	1,266.0 1,110.2 1,191.5 1,180.6 1,179.2 1,278.6 1,269.0 1,717.9	745.6 692.7 718.4 722.5 733.1 770.3 749.6 1,015.9	406.8 357.7 373.9 368.6 374.1 389.0 386.5 513.2	415.4 374.4 392.6 395.4 399.9 428.1 417.6 565.1	122.6 108.6 117.3 116.7 118.3 122.7 122.8 172.6	84.9 76.0 84.7 81.8 82.7 83.6 81.7	4,706.5 4,196.8 4,478.8 4,433.7 4,486.1 4,761.8 4,732.7 6,440.2
1987— January February March April May June July	1,625.9 1,494.4 1,604.6 1,672.9 1,718.2 1,657.6 1,759.8	1,223.5 1,140.8 1,232.5 1,261.3 1,289.9 1,219.6 1,312.0	767.8 674.3 722.7 725.1 744.1 721.0 801.4	376.8 342.5 371.2 392.2 398.9 377.1 405.9	424.2 393.5 405.2 429.0 449.6 421.5 444.7	116.5 112.5 118.7 127.6 128.1 125.1 128.7	74.6 74.3 83.8 86.0 88.3 84.0 91.2	4,609.4 4,232.3 4,538.6 4,694.0 4,816.9 4,605.9 4,943.8
Standard error of— Level(b) Change(c)	19.7 13.7	17.3 13.9	12.2 8.3	7.6 7.7	5.9 5.4	1.9 2.3	2.6 1.1	30.7 23.4
			TREND	ESTIMATES				
1986—r May June July August September October November December	1,596.1 1,618.6 1,638.3 1,651.8 1,660.1 1,666.0 1,672.5 1,680.0	1,209.5 1,225.4 1,237.5 1,245.6 1,250.1 1,252.3 1,254.8 1,258.5	733.7 736.4 738.5 740.7 743.9 748.6 754.8 761.0	383.4 384.0 384.2 384.1 384.3 384.6 385.4 387.0	403.7 404.6 406.0 408.5 412.3 416.8 421.4 425.7	118.3 119.4 120.7 121.8 122.6 122.8 122.7 122.8	80.6 81.9 82.9 83.3 83.0 82.5 82.3	4,517.9 4,562.8 4,603.6 4,635.3 4,658.6 4,676.0 4,695.5 4,719.7
1987—r January February March April May June July	1,688.3 1,699.2 1,712.7 1,727.4 1,742.7 1,757.6 1,770.7	1,262.4 1,267.9 1,275.8 1,286.2 1,298.8 1,312.3 1,325.8	764.6 765.8 766.3 767.1 769.3 772.8 777.1	388.6 390.5 392.5 394.6 396.9 399.3 401.8	429.8 433.8 437.6 441.3 444.7 447.5 449.4	123.5 124.9 126.6 128.4 130.0 131.3 132.4	83.8 85.2 86.4 87.2 87.7 88.0 88.2	4,743.1 4,768.2 4,797.8 4,831.9 4,870.3 4,911.0 4,949.7
1004			% change from	preceding month				
1986—r May June July August September October November December	1.2 1.4 1.2 0.8 0.5 0.4 0.4	1.5 1.3 1.0 0.7 0.4 0.2 0.2	0.5 0.4 0.3 0.3 0.4 0.6 0.8	0.3 0.2 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.1 0.2	0.1 0.2 0.3 0.6 0.9 1.1 1.1	0.6 0.9 1.1 0.9 0.7 0.2 -0.1	1.5 1.6 1.2 0.5 -0.4 -0.6 -0.2	0.9 1.0 0.9 0.7 0.5 0.4 0.4
1987—r January February March April May June July	0.5 0.6 0.8 0.9 0.9 0.9	0.3 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.0	0.5 0.2 0.1 0.1 0.3 0.5	0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.6 0.6	1.0 0.9 0.9 0.8 0.8 0.6	0.6 1.1 1.4 1.4 1.2 1.0 0.8	1.2 1.7 1.4 0.9 0.6 0.3 0.2	0.5 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.8
1986—г		% cha	nge from correspon	ding month of pre	evious year			
May June July August September October November December	9.7 9.9 9.4 8.6 7.9 7.5 7.7	12.4 12.6 12.3 11.9 11.2 10.7 10.3 10.1	11.6 10.8 10.0 9.2 8.5 7.9 7.5 7.4	8.1 7.4 6.5 5.5 4.6 3.8 3.3 3.1	10.3 9.1 8.2 7.9 7.9 8.2 8.4 8.5	4.4 5.2 6.0 6.4 6.3 5.8 5.0 4.5	9.5 9.5 9.7 9.7 9.1 8.1 7.3 7.3	10.5 10.3 10.0 9.4 8.2 7.8 7.7
1987—r January February March April May June July (a) Excluding Northern 1	8.2 8.8 9.4 9.6 9.2 8.6 8.1	9.7 9.2 8.6 7.9 7.4 7.1 7.1	6.9 6.2 5.5 5.1 4.9 4.9 5.2	3.0 3.0 3.1 3.2 3.5 4.0 4.6	8.5 8.6 8.9 9.5 10.2 10.6 10.7	5.0 6.4 7.9 9.2 9.9 10.0 9.7 5 of Explanatory N	7.7 9.0 9.8 9.8 8.8 7.4 6.4	7.8 7.9 8.0 7.9 7.8 7.6 7.5 andard error of

(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.

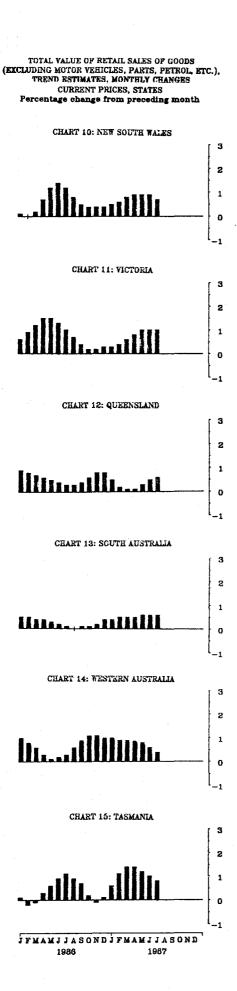


TABLE 5. TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), MONTHLY ESTIMATES, BY INDUSTRY, STATES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (\$ million)

Month	Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	Butchers	General stores	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment stores	Foot- wear stores	Domestic hardware stores, jewellers	Electrical goods Furniture coverings stores stores	urniture c	Floor coverings stores	Chemists	News- agents	Other	Total
						NEW SOL	NEW SOUTH WALES	ES								
1986— May June July August September October November December	445.4 424.2 457.6 451.4 451.4 463.7 533.6	69.5 70.6 70.6 68.9 68.7 68.7 78.7 78.1	200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200	115.0 108.8 108.8 113.2 117.1 120.9	176.6 166.0 168.9 183.3 181.6 200.8 198.4 257.0	180.8 147.8 147.5 136.2 144.7 160.5 159.1	245.8 175.9 215.7 183.1 210.6 234.8 447.9	33.1 28.9 28.9 29.7 33.4 39.5 39.5	38.2 38.2 33.2 37.4 49.9 55.0 103.4	72.4 66.1 81.2 76.7 74.8 70.2 73.9	4.25.4 4.35.6 3.95.5 3.95.5 4.3.5 6.3.1 1.00	13.9 15.0 15.0 15.0 17.5 17.8 17.8	75.8 77.1 77.1 76.0 78.5 78.5 93.8	63.0 86.1 64.6 65.5 65.5 92.3	79.7 69.6 81.8 86.6 85.6 93.2 130.8	1,665.2 1,477.2 1,600.4 1,568.1 1,598.7 1,689.5 1,705.4 2,346.2
1987— January February March April May June July	471.4 434.9 457.1 466.3 469.6 452.1	62.0 62.0 64.6 69.5 69.5 73.3	8.9 9.6 9.6 9.6 9.6 9.6	122.0 112.7 114.8 115.3 116.2 126.2	208.3 188.5 197.5 202.1 193.6 185.5	135.4 118.3 140.8 166.3 166.7 175.4	197.2 165.7 195.1 208.0 219.9 231.3	30.5 23.5 30.9 30.3 31.3 31.5	44 44 44 44 44 44 44 44 44 44 44 44 44	66.8 68.2.2 72.2.2 79.6 79.6 79.6	39.3 39.3 36.1 37.6 44.4	10.1 12.3 15.5 20.3 18.9 18.8 22.9	81.6 75.2 76.1 79.0 83.4 83.4 84.0	60.7 73.3 71.4 69.9 73.4 68.6	87.9 78.7 87.9 89.0 83.5 90.6 6.5	1,625.9 1,494.4 1,604.6 1,672.9 1,718.2 1,759.8
Standard error of— Level(a) Change(b)	7.1	5.3	0.8	7.1	7.9	4.8 1.1	0.0	1.6	2.8	3.6	5.9 5.6	3.5	5.6 2.8	5.7 2.6	5.7	19.7
						For footnote	For footnotes see end of table	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)

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Month	Grocers, confect- ioners, tobacc-	Butchers	General stores	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment stores	Foot- wear stores	Domestic hardware I stores, jewellers	Electrical goods I stores	Furniture c	Floor coverings stores	Chemists	News- agents	Other	Total
						VIC	VICTORIA									
1986— May June July August Cottober November December	426.9 396.9 407.1 400.2 441.2 485.6 485.6	444 4444 7456 7456 750 750 750 750 750 750 750 750 750 750	13.1 9.3 10.3 10.3 10.3 20.6	63.2 60.3 68.3 74.4 75.0 80.0 85.0	109.1 101.7 101.7 108.0 106.6 111.7 121.2 155.3	152.8 121.4 132.1 123.4 121.1 133.2 134.3	118.0 85.6 108.9 93.2 102.9 106.2 224.3	24.1 23.3 20.3 20.8 20.8 20.8	33.1 30.3 32.4 33.6 44.7 44.7 74.7	89.8 75.3 77.6 82.4 82.4 69.0 74.0 71.5	39.54 39.54 39.57 39.3 40.0 40.0	15.2 15.2 15.0 17.3 17.3	2.00 2.00 1.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 3.00 3.00 3.00 3.00 3	36.7 31.8 31.8 31.8 32.1 36.3 5.7 7.1	55.0 46.4 57.6 62.6 68.4 71.6 71.1	1,266.0 1,110.2 1,191.5 1,180.6 1,179.2 1,278.6 1,717.9
1987— January February March April May June	432.5 407.8 431.4 424.5 405.4 431.1	2444 4210 4465 465 465 465 465 465 465 465 465 46	8.7. 8.7. 8.1. 11.3. 10.5.	87.0 81.6 86.4 87.6 88.7 88.7	127.3 117.2 119.5 115.8 114.5 109.0	114.4 107.2 131.1 142.1 147.6 137.8	97.2 80.8 99.9 113.9 120.8 111.6	22.22.22.22.22.22.22.22.22.22.22.22.22.	39.8.9 38.9.9 38.2.1 38.2.1 36.0 36.0 36.0	64.0 65.0 76.2 77.3 78.3 1.8	35.4 29.8 31.5 33.7 37.4	87.784444 86.784444 86.7848 86	43.3 44.4 44.3 4.3 4.3 4.3 4.3 6.3 6.3 6.3 6.3 6.3 6.3 6.3 6.3 6.3 6	39.0 37.3 35.8 36.3 36.7 36.7	55.0 54.8 60.6 63.1 67.7	1,223.5 1,140.8 1,232.5 1,261.3 1,289.9 1,312.0
Standard error of— Level(a) Change(b)	8.3	3.5	0.0	7.1	3.6	5.3	0.0	2.2	2.3	3.3	33.8	2.0	3.7	2.7	5.5 4.6	17.3
						QUEE	QUEENSLAND									
1986— May June July August September October November	256.8 250.7 253.4 257.0 257.5 299.6	22222222222222222222222222222222222222	6.9 6.9 6.5 7.5 7.5 8.4 8.4	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	97.4 93.6 99.7 102.5 100.7 101.5 128.7	52.3 52.3 52.3 56.4 56.4 8.8 8.8 8.8	69.9 55.1 66.1 73.2 69.0 151.1	15.1 10.2 10.5 10.5 11.6 13.4	15.5 17.3 17.3 18.6 18.6 18.6 18.6 18.6	45.04 39.04 39.04 39.05 30.05	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	C 8 8 4 4 6 C 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	252.2 28.2 28.2 3.3 3.3 3.3 3.3 3.3 3.3 3.3 3.3 3.3 3	26.9 27.3 28.9 28.9 28.9	22222 22222 22222 2332 2332 2332 2332	745.6 692.7 718.4 722.5 733.1 770.3 749.6 1,015.9
1987— January February March April May June	250.9 250.9 265.15 264.6 258.12 273.12	19.1 19.2 19.8 19.8 20.2 20.2 20.2	, 00, 1, 1, 1, 8, 6, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,	61.2 53.1 63.1 48.9 66.0 59.2	103.0 90.9 97.6 97.5 96.7 94.1 101.5	47.6 43.1 53.9 55.9 70.4	88.9 50.9 69.9 75.1 75.7 7.2	12.7 8.9 8.9 9.8 11.9 11.0	8.4.2 8.4.8 8.4.8 8.4.8 8.4.8	38.7.3 37.0 37.0 38.2 38.5 42.3	15.2 10.9 10.9 10.9 10.9 10.9 10.9	8.00 7.00 7.00 7.00 7.00 7.00 7.00	30.2 27.4 20.2 30.2 31.7 31.7	36.5 29.5 30.0 30.0 30.2 30.2 30.2	30 255 4.65 4.65 4.65 5.65 5.65 5.65 5.65 5.	767.8 674.3 722.7 725.1 744.1 721.0
Standard error of— Level(a) Change(b)	7.0	3.0	0.0	4.2 3.4	3.6	3.9 3.0	0.0	1.2	2.2	2.7	1.3	1.7	3.0	3.0	2.7	12.2 8.3
						For footnotes	see end	of table.								

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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)

							(mount)									
Month	Grocers, confect- ioners, tobacc- onists	Butchers	General	Other food stores	Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	Clothing and fabrics stores	Depart- ment stores	Foot- wear stores	Domestic hardware 1 stores, jewellers	Electrical goods I stores	Furniture c	Floor coverings stores	Chemists	News- agents	Other	Total
						зоитн ⊿	AUSTRALI	Y.								
1986— May June July August September October November December	135.0 123.8 131.0 128.3 128.3 138.8 131.8 156.8	10.3 9.3 9.3 9.0 9.0 8.4	4.4.6.0 4.4.6.0 6.0 6.0 6.0 0.0 0.0	222 222.6 222.6 23.7 23.8 23.8 20.0	39.1 37.5 40.2 39.9 42.1 57.2	35.0 27.4 27.1 28.0 30.4 44.0	66.9 8.5.5 8.9 8.9 8.9 8.9	7.85.00 7.85.00 7.85.00 7.25 7.25 7.25 7.25 7.25 7.25 7.25 7.25	8.8 8.8 8.8 8.6 8.7 7.0 8.7 1.0 1.0	21.4 19.1 19.1 20.4 20.1 18.6 17.3 25.2	15.5 10.8 10.6 10.5 10.7 11.1	448484448 04684496	422.23 2.23 2.23 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35 2.35	8.80.90 40.00.00 6.00.00	14.6 13.5 15.3 15.3 17.7	406.8 357.7 373.9 368.6 374.1 389.0 513.2
1987— January February March April May June June	132.6 124.8 131.4 143.9 147.2 147.2	10.0 8.9 9.3 8.8 8.9 8.9	2.44.2.0.2.4.4.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0	28.56 23.50 23.73 26.66 26.66	43.9 40.1 43.3 44.14 41.4 41.7	25.3 22.3 22.3 31.2 31.2 32.1 32.1	47.4 40.0 46.1 52.9 57.6 57.1	6.82 6.62 6.63 6.63 6.63 6.63 6.63 6.63 6.6	0000000 0274278	18.7 18.1 18.1 18.9 18.9 21.7 23.7	7.01 10.5 10.5 10.0 10.0 10.0 10.0 10.0	444442. 461.821.8	44.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.9.7.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5	00000000000000000000000000000000000000	17.2 14.8 14.8 15.9 15.9 15.8	376.8 342.5 371.2 392.2 398.9 377.1
Standard error of— Level(a) Change(b)	5.2	0.6	0.8	2.1	2.2	0.7		0.3	0.8	1.6	0.9	0.5	1.2	0.7	1.9	7.6
						WESTERN	AUSTRALIA	LIA								
1986— May June July August September October November December	141.3 131.6 135.8 135.8 140.2 140.2 168.8	00000000000000000000000000000000000000	2.0 2.0 2.2.7 2.4.4 8.8	22.22 25.1 26.53 26.53 26.53 26.53	200 488 500 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 6	38.6 38.6 38.6 37.3 37.3 0.0 0.0 0.0	48.833.3 3.5.04.4 4.04.9 6.04.4 6.04.4 7.04.	9.57 7.75 9.75 9.75 9.75 9.75 9.75 9.75	6.3 7.5 7.5 10.7 18.1	26.1 27.7 27.7 27.9 20.0	9.0 7.9 9.1 12.3 11.1 11.1	0,0,0,0,4,4,4 4,40,86,0,0	13.9 13.2 13.2 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5	1020 1020 1020 1032 1032 1032 1032 1032	18.8 17.4 16.4 17.0 18.2 19.0 27.5	415.4 374.4 392.6 395.4 428.1 417.6 565.1
1987 January February March April May June July	147.4 142.9 142.9 157.0 157.0 153.0	5.2 5.2 5.0 6.0 6.0 6.2	%% 7.5.5 7.0.9 7.0.0 7.0	28.6 27.1 27.5 26.9 27.0 28.3	67.9 58.4 52.5 51.1 53.1 53.1	33.22 37.22 37.22 37.23 38.13 5.13 5.13	39.1 31.9 36.5 47.2 37.2 44.0	0.28.86.7.0 0.7.8.8.2.0.2.0.2.0.2.0.2.0.2.0.2.0.2.0.2.0	7.7.9.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7.7	22.0 20.1 26.3 26.3 26.3 26.3 26.3	9.3 7.9 8.6 10.0 10.0 11.7	4.4.8.8.9.2. 8.8.8.9.2. 6.8.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.	7.88.3.4.4.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6	15.0 15.1 16.0 16.3 16.3	18.17.1.17.1.18.86.89.99.99.	424.2 393.5 405.2 429.0 449.6 441.5
Standard error of— Level(a) Change(b)	2.8	1.2	0.0	1.7	2.9	4:21	0.0	0.5	0.0 0.9	1.0	0.8 0.6	0.8 0.6	0.0 0.0	1.9 1.7	1.7	5.9
						For footnotes	es see end of table	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)

23 84.9 76.0 84.7 81.8 83.6 83.6 09.5 Total 22.6 08.6 08.6 17.3 18.7 12.8 72.8 72.8 16.5 112.5 12.7 28.1 28.1 28.1 28.1 Other n.p. News-agents 4.8.8.4.4.4.8. 4.8.6.9.9.6.4. 4.644444 0.74200104 0.7 Electrical rivor goods Furniture coverings stores stores Chemists 86.66.44.68 4644445 28-6550 0.5 447.67.00 0.7 -0-00000 3323350 445%96666 2.0 6.5.5.0 0.3 Domestic
Foot- hardware Ek.
wear stores. 0.7 97.7.86.0028 22.02.03.9 **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY** 222222 0.2 200000 32222223 Depart-ment 12.3 12.3 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 0.0 stores TASMANIA Clothing fabrics stores 4.0 -6.00 -7.00 0.0 Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs 0.6 Other food stores 6.2 6.2 6.7 7.1 7.1 n.p. General stores 0.7 46644468 -88--696 06-060 Butchers Grocers, confect-ioners, tobacc-onists 22222233 82222233 8223663 6336 242.7 442.1 50.5 50.5 50.5 42.44.0 42.7.44.0 45.5.4 0.8 Standard error of— Level(a) Change(b) May June July August September October November July August September October November December 1987— January February March April Month

2.6 (b) The standard error of the change of the latest month from the preceding month—see paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory n.p. 0.3 0.0 0.0 0.7 0.7 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.7 (a) The standard error of the estimate for the latest month—see paragraphs 10 to 15 of Explanatory Notes. Notes. 0.3 0.3 n.p. 0.7 Standard error of-Level(a) Change(b)

74.6 74.3 88.3 88.3 91.2

0.0.4.6.6.6.4 0.0.4.8.8.80

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2.52.1.98 2.92.1.98 2.93.1.9

25.8 26.0 27.2 27.4 27.6

1987— January February March April

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.

- 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
- 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:

Industry	ASIC Class(es)
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, 4 844, 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 \$4,943.8 million for the total value of retail sales in July 1987 has a standard error of about \$30.7 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 \$4,913.1 million to \$4,974.5 million, and nineteen chances in twenty that the figure would be within \$4,882.4 million to \$5,005.2 million.
 - (b) The estimated change of +\$337.9 million (+7.3 per cent) in the total value of retail sales between June 1987 and July 1987 has a standard error of about \$23.4 million (0.5 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 +\$314.5 million to +\$361.3 million (+6.8 per cent to +7.8 per cent) and nineteen chances in twenty that the change would be within +\$291.1 million to +\$384.7 million (+6.3 per cent to +8.3 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, trend 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 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.
- 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.

Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates

- 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 seasonally adjusted data have been revised in this publication following the annual re-analysis of the series.
- 18. 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 of retail sales have been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the seasonally adjusted series.
- 19. 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. There will also be revisions as a result of revisions to the original estimates and periodic reviews of seasonal and trading day factors.
- 20. This publication includes monthly estimates of trend 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 reestimates of trend included in this publication are not expected to be subject to the same degree of revision.
- 21. The seasonal adjustment of each industry series and each State series has been done independently and so, for any one month, the estimates of trend for industries and States may not add to the estimates of trend of total retail sales for Australia.
- 22. Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates of retail sales by industries in each State are not included because the series are not yet long enough to allow reliable adjustment.
- 23. Users may wish to refer to the ABS Information Papers A Guide to Smoothing Time Series Estimates of 'Trend' (1316.0) and Time Series Decomposition An Overview (1317.0) for more detailed information on smoothing of seasonally adjusted time series data.

Estimates at constant prices

- 24. 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.
- 25. 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.
- 26. 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).
- 27. 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

- 28. 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).
- 29. 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
- 30. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Electronic services

- 31. 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.

IAN CASTLES Australian Statistician