

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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RETAIL SALES OF GOODS : AUSTRALIA

SEPTEMBER QUARTER, 1963 (PRELIMINARY) AND MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1963 (PROVISIONAL)

A sample survey of retail establishments in Australia is conducted by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics each quarter. Sample estimates derived from a full response to that Survey, showing for each State retail sales classified by commodity groups, are normally published about three months after the end of each quarter. (As indicated in Statistical Bulletin 310 of 3rd October, 1963, these estimates for September quarter, 1963 will be issued about six weeks later than usual because of the introduction of a new sample). These estimates are subject to revision at a later stage, when more precise information is available relating to trading by new businesses.

2. Preliminary quarterly figures, which are normally published in less detail about seven to eight weeks after the end of each quarter, are compiled on the basis of a large response from the full quarterly sample. The movement over the corresponding quarter of the preceding year which is shown by the preliminary quarterly estimates of total value of retail sales in Australia (excluding motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.) normally differs by less than one per cent. from the corresponding movement shown by the estimates compiled from the full sample and published about three months after the end of the quarter.

3. Preliminary estimates of total value of retail sales in each State (excluding motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.) and total value of retail sales of motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc. in Australia are shown in Table 1 of this Bulletin. Owing to the introduction of the new sample, preliminary estimates of sales in broad commodity groups are not available at this stage.

4. Provisional monthly estimates, which are published about three to four weeks after the end of each month, relate only to the total value of retail sales in Australia (excluding motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.) and are based on monthly returns collected from a sub-sample of the establishments included in the quarterly sample. The sub-sample is designed to provide an estimate lying within a relatively small range above or below the true figure so as to give an early approximate indication of trend. Undue significance should not be attached to very small movements, or to the exact magnitude of any movements, shown by provisional estimates. These estimates are subsequently adjusted in accordance with quarterly estimates when the latter become available.

5. The provisional estimate for October, 1963 is published in Table 2 of this Bulletin. This table also contains figures for earlier months. The provisional figures previously published for the months of July, August and September, 1963 have now been adjusted in accordance with the preliminary estimate for September quarter, 1963.

6. All figures in this Bulletin are on a basis comparable with the 1961-62 Retail Census. Further information relating to the basis of statistics of retail sales of goods is contained in Statistical Bulletin No. 310, June quarter, 1963, issued 3rd October, 1963.

**TABLE 1. - VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE
OVER PREVIOUS CORRESPONDING QUARTER : STATES**

(All figures are on a basis comparable with the 1961-62 Retail Census)

Quarter	Total (excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.)							Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.
	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUST.(a)	AUST. (a)
Total Value of Retail Sales	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.
1960-61:September	244.9	182.3	86.0	54.4	41.0	19.5	628.1	231.9
December	282.5	210.6	95.0	61.8	47.7	22.6	720.2	228.5
March	237.0	177.0	81.5	53.5	41.8	19.5	610.3	181.0
June	245.8	182.0	85.1	55.1	42.7	20.2	630.9	184.8
1961-62:September	247.7	183.2	86.0	54.3	43.2	19.6	634.0	187.6
December	284.1	208.6	94.7	61.7	49.3	22.9	721.3	204.3
March	242.5	178.2	83.2	53.7	43.8	19.7	621.1	199.0
June	257.8	189.4	87.2	56.5	44.1	20.9	655.9	212.2
1962-63:September (b)	253.4	185.8	87.5	56.0	44.8	20.6	648.1	239.1
December (b)	296.4	216.4	99.1	64.8	51.5	24.1	752.3	252.5
March (b)	249.4	182.7	86.6	56.5	44.2	20.2	639.6	231.9
June (b)	262.9	195.2	91.0	59.9	45.9	21.4	676.3	237.9
1963-64:September (b) (c)	262.9	194.6	95.2	60.1	46.3	21.4	680.5	261.6
<u>Percentage Increase over Corresponding Quarter of Previous Year</u>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1960-61:September	7.6	9.3	9.0	8.6	9.0	14.7	8.7	21.4
December	6.2	7.3	5.6	3.0	7.2	9.7	6.3	3.7
March	1.6	5.0	2.0	1.3	3.5	7.1	2.9	-10.6
June	1.4	-0.3	1.6	-1.1	0.9	4.1	0.8	-13.8
1961-62:September	1.1	0.5	0.0	-0.2	5.4	0.5	0.9	-19.1
December	0.6	-0.9	-0.3	-0.2	3.4	1.3	0.2	-10.6
March	2.3	0.7	2.1	0.4	4.8	1.0	1.8	9.9
June	4.9	4.1	2.5	2.5	3.3	3.5	4.0	14.8
1962-63:September (b)	2.3	1.4	1.7	3.1	3.7	5.1	2.2	27.5
December (b)	4.3	3.7	4.6	5.0	4.5	5.2	4.3	23.6
March (b)	2.8	2.5	4.1	5.2	0.9	2.5	3.0	16.5
June (b)	2.0	3.2	4.4	6.0	4.1	2.4	3.1	12.1
1963-64:September (b) (c)	3.7	4.7	8.8	7.3	3.3	3.9	5.0	9.4

(a) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (b) Subject to revision when more precise information is available relating to trading by new businesses. (c) Preliminary estimates (see paragraph 2). NOTE: Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

TABLE 2.-VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.)

MONTHLY ESTIMATES : AUSTRALIA (a) (b)

(All figures are on a basis comparable with the 1961-62 Retail Census)
(£ million)

Month	Total (excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.)		
	1961	1962	1963
January	Not available	210.7	219.6
February		197.8	204.5
March		212.6	215.5
April	202.6	208.9	220.3
May	220.0	232.3	239.1
June	208.3	214.7	216.9
July	207.9	212.0	(c) 227.9
August	210.4	221.6	(c) 231.8
September	215.7	214.5	(c) 220.8
October	215.2	227.2	(d) 239.6
November	223.6	239.7	
December	282.5	285.4	

(a) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (b) Figures from July, 1962 are subject to revision when more precise information is available relating to trading by new businesses. (c) Preliminary estimate (see paragraph 2). (d) Provisional estimate (see paragraph 4).

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 9TH DECEMBER, 1963

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NOTE: Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 41971 Extension 63 or, in each State Capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.