

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
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RETAIL SALES OF GOODS : AUSTRALIA
SEPTEMBER QUARTER, 1956.

Estimates of the total value of goods sold by retail in Australia during the quarter ended 30th September, 1956 have been derived from returns of a representative sample of retail traders and are summarized in this Bulletin with comparisons for previous periods. The statistics herein relate to the value only of retail sales. To assess the movement in the volume of retail sales made, it is necessary to allow for variations in prices.

Because of the seasonal nature of retail trade, sales made in one quarter should not be compared with those in the previous quarter without making allowances for seasonal influences. Consequently, where percentage increases are shown in this Bulletin (Tables 1, 3, 7 and 9) quarterly figures of retail sales are compared with those of the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

The returns used in these estimates for September quarter, 1956 cover approximately 40 per cent. of all retail sales in Australia. The estimated totals for Australia have been calculated by methods appropriate to a stratified sample.

Since the publication of the previous statement in this series, some minor amendments have been made to the figures for quarters subsequent to June, 1954, on the basis of more complete information obtained in respect of businesses which have commenced trading since the 1952-53 Retail Census.

The figures relate to retail sales of goods (as distinct from services, repairs, accommodation, entertainments, meals, etc.) by establishments which normally sell goods by retail to the general public from shops, rooms, kiosks and yards. Hotels, garages and service stations are also included in respect of goods sold, but establishments such as clubs and guest houses are entirely excluded. Goods sold from farms direct (e.g. milk and eggs) are also excluded. The tables relate to rather more than 90 per cent. of consumer retail expenditure on goods, but include also some producer expenditure made by retail, mainly in respect of motor vehicles, petrol, etc.

More detailed descriptions of the types of retail establishments covered and of the commodity groupings are contained in Bulletins issued in connexion with the Censuses of Retail Establishments, 1948-49 and 1952-53.

The tables herein contain particulars of retail sales of goods from the year 1948-49 to the quarter ended 30th September, 1956. Figures for the years 1948-49 and 1952-53 are based on the results of censuses taken in respect of these years, whereas other figures are estimates made by means of sample surveys. All figures shown are on the same basis as those obtained from the 1952-53 census and are comparable throughout.

Particulars throughout this Bulletin exclude the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory, for which total retail sales shown at the Census of Retail Establishments for the year ended 30th June, 1953 were £5.7 million and £3.6 million respectively.

TABLE 1 : VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES PARTS, PETROL, ETC.) : AUSTRALIA (a) - SEPTEMBER QUARTER, 1950 TO SEPTEMBER QUARTER, 1956.
(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)

Total Sales and Increase over Corresponding Quarter of Previous Year

Quarter ended -	Retail Sales (A)	Quarter ended -	Retail Sales (B)	Increase (B-A)	
				Amount	Per Cent.
	£ mill.		£ mill.	£ mill.	
30th September, 1950	302.4	30th September, 1951	378.5	74.1	24.3
31st December, 1950	353.0	31st December, 1951	437.3	84.3	23.9
31st March, 1951	340.0	31st March, 1952	392.2	52.2	15.4
30th June, 1951	373.4	30th June, 1952	407.6	34.2	9.2
30th September, 1951	378.5	30th September, 1952	397.5	19.0	5.0
31st December, 1951	437.3	31st December, 1952	465.8	28.5	6.5
31st March, 1952	392.2	31st March, 1953	405.7	13.5	3.4
30th June, 1952	407.6	30th June, 1953	433.1	25.5	6.3
30th September, 1952	397.5	30th September, 1953(b)	432.4	34.9	8.8
31st December, 1952	465.8	31st December, 1953 (b)	510.8	45.0	9.7
31st March, 1953	405.7	31st March, 1954 (b)	432.8	27.1	6.7
30th June, 1953	433.1	30th June, 1954 (b)	464.8	31.7	7.3
30th September, 1953(b)	432.4	30th September, 1954(b)	470.8	38.4	8.9
31st December, 1953(b)	510.8	31st December, 1954(b)	553.9	43.1	8.4
31st March, 1954 (b)	432.8	31st March, 1955 (b)	478.4	45.6	10.5
30th June, 1954 (b)	464.8	30th June, 1955 (b)	512.1	47.3	10.2
30th September, 1954(b)	470.8	30th September, 1955(b)	514.0	43.2	9.2
31st December, 1954 (b)	553.9	31st December, 1955 (b)	596.5	42.6	7.7
31st March, 1955 (b)	478.4	31st March, 1956 (b)	512.2	33.8	7.1
30th June, 1955 (b)	512.1	30th June, 1956 (b)	540.5	28.4	5.5
30th September, 1955 (b)	514.0	30th September, 1956 (b)	539.4	25.4	4.9

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(b) Figures subsequent to June quarter, 1953 are subject to revision.

TABLE 2 : VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS BY COMMODITY GROUPS
(EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.) : AUSTRALIA (a)
(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)
(£ million)

Commodity Group	Year ended 30th June -							
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954(b)	1955(b)	1956(b)
Groceries ..	143.4	161.1	186.1	232.9	261.5	275.1	305.9	334.7
Butchers' Meat ..	65.3	75.4	92.3	118.7	127.8	133.9	146.7	159.3
Other Food (c) ..	116.6	131.7	155.5	187.8	206.8	223.7	245.8	270.1
Total Food and Groceries	325.3	368.2	433.9	539.4	596.1	632.7	698.4	764.1
Beer, Wine and Spirits	95.3	105.0	123.2	153.9	173.0	186.7	202.1	219.1
Clothing, Drapery, Piece-goods and Footwear	237.8	263.8	328.5	351.6	355.1	387.6	421.5	438.9
Hardware, China and Glassware (d) ..	55.7	66.4	91.2	109.6	113.8	124.7	142.5	153.3
Electrical Goods and Radios ..	33.8	43.3	64.7	77.5	75.8	91.2	99.6	105.3
Furniture and Floor Coverings ..	46.4	54.5	76.9	76.1	72.8	81.0	86.5	91.3
Other Goods (e) ..	167.9	204.2	252.4	307.5	315.5	336.9	364.6	391.2
Total (Excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.)	962.2	1,105.4	1,370.8	1,615.6	1,702.1	1,840.8	2,015.2	2,163.2

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (b) Subject to revision.

(c) Includes Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Confectionery, Soft Drinks, Ice Cream, Cakes, Pastry, Cooked Provisions, Fish, etc. but excludes some delivered Milk and Bread. (d) Excludes Basic Building Materials (e.g. Timber, Roofing Tiles, Bricks, etc.). (e) Includes Tobacco, Cigarettes, etc., Newspapers, Books and Stationery, Chemists' Goods, Grain and Produce, Jewellery, Office Equipment, etc.

TABLE 3. - VALUE OF RETAIL SALES BY COMMODITY GROUPS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES,
PARTS, PETROL, ETC.): AUSTRALIA (a)
(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)

COMMODITY GROUP	VALUE OF RETAIL SALES (' million)						PERCENTAGE INCREASE					
	1951	1952	1953 (b)	1954 (b)	1955 (b)	1956 (b)	1951 to 1952	1952 to 1953	1953 to 1954	1954 to 1955	1955 to 1956	
MARCH QUARTER												
Groceries	46.2	58.2	63.2	65.6	74.2	83.2	26.0	8.6	3.8	13.1	12.1	
Butchers' Meat	23.2	30.1	31.2	32.7	36.0	39.5	29.7	3.7	4.8	10.1	9.7	
Other Food (c)	40.6	48.4	51.8	56.0	61.8	69.4	19.2	7.0	8.1	10.4	12.3	
Total Food and Groceries:	110.0	136.7	146.2	154.3	172.0	192.1	24.3	6.9	5.5	11.5	11.7	
Beer, Wine and Spirits	32.4	41.3	44.9	48.3	53.4	56.9	27.5	8.7	7.6	10.6	6.6	
Clothing, Drapery and Footwear	78.0	77.9	76.5	82.7	90.0	92.8	-0.1	-1.8	8.1	8.8	3.1	
Hardware, China & Glassware (d)	22.1	26.7	27.2	28.7	33.6	35.7	20.8	1.9	5.5	17.1	6.3	
Electrical Goods and Radios	16.6	18.2	18.4	22.1	23.8	24.6	9.6	1.1	20.1	7.7	3.4	
Furniture and Floor Coverings	19.4	17.2	17.5	18.1	19.2	20.3	-11.3	1.7	3.4	6.1	5.7	
Other Goods (e)	61.5	74.2	75.0	78.6	86.4	89.8	20.7	1.1	4.8	9.9	3.9	
Total (excl. Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.):	340.0	392.2	405.7	432.8	478.4	512.2	15.4	3.4	6.7	10.5	7.1	
JUNE QUARTER												
Groceries	49.9	61.6	66.6	68.7	78.7	84.3	23.4	8.1	3.2	14.6	7.1	
Butchers' Meat	26.5	31.2	32.7	34.0	38.1	41.9	17.7	4.8	4.0	12.1	10.0	
Other Food (c)	40.3	47.3	52.2	56.2	61.7	66.6	17.4	10.4	7.7	9.8	7.9	
Total Food and Groceries:	116.7	140.1	151.5	158.9	178.5	192.8	20.1	8.1	4.9	12.3	8.0	
Beer, Wine and Spirits	31.5	38.6	42.0	44.6	49.7	54.1	22.5	8.8	6.2	11.4	8.9	
Clothing, Drapery and Footwear	92.7	92.6	97.7	105.5	114.2	116.5	-0.1	5.5	8.0	8.2	2.0	
Hardware, China & Glassware (d)	26.4	27.1	29.3	31.5	35.4	37.7	2.7	8.1	7.5	12.4	6.5	
Electrical Goods and Radios	17.5	16.6	18.0	21.0	22.1	23.1	-5.1	8.4	16.7	5.2	4.5	
Furniture and Floor Coverings	21.5	17.7	18.2	20.5	21.1	22.1	-17.7	2.8	12.6	2.9	4.7	
Other Goods (e)	67.1	74.9	76.4	82.8	91.1	94.2	11.6	2.0	8.4	10.0	3.4	
Total (excl. Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.):	373.4	407.6	433.1	464.8	512.1	540.5	9.2	6.3	7.3	10.2	5.5	
SEPTEMBER QUARTER												
Groceries	53.2	62.8	67.9	72.3	81.1	88.0	18.0	8.1	6.5	12.2	8.5	
Butchers' Meat	27.9	31.8	33.4	36.0	38.5	42.6	14.0	5.0	7.8	6.9	10.6	
Other Food (c)	43.2	48.6	53.0	58.2	63.9	68.3	12.5	9.1	9.8	9.8	6.9	
Total Food and Groceries:	124.3	143.2	154.3	166.5	183.5	198.9	15.2	7.8	7.9	10.2	8.4	
Beer, Wine and Spirits	32.3	38.7	41.9	45.4	49.2	53.5	19.8	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.7	
Clothing, Drapery and Footwear	83.4	80.3	88.0	97.3	103.7	103.9	-3.7	9.6	10.6	6.6	0.2	
Hardware, China & Glassware (d)	26.2	26.4	29.6	34.3	37.7	37.4	0.8	12.1	15.9	9.9	-0.8	
Electrical Goods and Radios	20.5	16.9	20.1	23.2	25.1	25.3	-17.6	18.9	15.4	8.2	0.8	
Furniture and Floor Coverings	20.7	17.3	19.6	21.8	23.2	23.6	-16.4	13.3	11.2	6.4	1.7	
Other Goods (e)	71.1	74.7	78.9	82.3	91.6	96.8	5.1	5.6	4.3	11.3	5.7	
Total (excl. Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.):	378.5	397.5	432.4	470.8	514.0	539.4	5.0	8.8	8.9	9.2	4.9	
DECEMBER QUARTER												
Groceries	59.9	68.9	72.9	80.7	86.1		15.0	5.8	10.7	6.7		
Butcher's Meat	29.5	32.1	33.8	36.6	39.4		8.8	5.3	8.3	7.7		
Other Food (c)	48.9	54.2	58.5	64.1	70.2		10.8	7.9	9.6	9.5		
Total Food and Groceries:	138.3	155.2	165.2	181.4	195.7		12.2	6.4	9.8	7.9		
Beer, Wine and Spirits	41.7	47.4	51.9	53.6	58.9		13.7	9.5	3.3	9.9		
Clothing, Drapery and Footwear	97.7	100.6	111.4	120.0	125.9		3.0	10.7	7.7	4.9		
Hardware, China & Glassware (d)	29.6	30.9	34.9	39.2	42.2		4.4	12.9	12.3	7.7		
Electrical Goods and Radios	22.2	22.5	28.0	30.5	32.5		1.4	24.4	8.9	6.6		
Furniture and Floor Coverings	20.5	19.8	22.8	24.4	25.7		-3.4	15.2	7.0	5.3		
Other Goods (e)	87.3	89.4	96.6	104.8	115.6		2.4	8.1	8.5	10.3		
Total (excl. Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.):	437.3	465.8	510.8	553.9	596.5		6.5	9.7	8.4	7.7		

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (b) Figures subsequent to June quarter, 1953 are subject to revision.

(c) Includes Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Confectionery, Soft Drinks, Ice Cream, Cakes, Pastry, Cooked Provisions, Fish, etc., but excludes some delivered Milk and Bread. (d) Excludes Basic Building materials (e.g. Timber, Roofing Tiles, Bricks, etc.).

(e) Includes Tobacco, Cigarettes, etc., Newspapers, Books and Stationery, Chemists' Goods, Grain and Produce, Jewellery, Office Equipment, etc.

NOTE: Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

TABLE 4 - VALUE OF RETAIL SALES IN COMMODITY GROUPS : STATES
QUARTERS ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1955, 30TH JUNE, 1956 AND 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1956
 (£ million)

Quarter ended	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	AUSTRALIA (a)
<u>Groceries</u>							
30th September, 1955	31.8	21.5	12.5	6.3	6.4	2.6	81.1
30th June, 1956	33.3	21.5	13.2	6.5	6.8	3.0	84.3
30th September, 1956	35.1	22.5	14.0	6.7	6.8	2.9	88.0
<u>Butchers' Meat</u>							
30th September, 1955	15.3	11.1	5.0	3.3	2.5	1.3	38.5
30th June, 1956	16.9	12.2	5.4	3.4	2.6	1.4	41.9
30th September, 1956	16.8	12.5	5.5	3.6	2.7	1.5	42.6
<u>Other Food (b)</u>							
30th September, 1955	25.2	18.7	8.1	5.7	4.4	1.8	63.9
30th June, 1956	26.4	19.7	8.4	5.9	4.4	1.8	66.6
30th September, 1956	27.0	20.2	8.6	6.1	4.5	1.9	68.3
<u>Total Food and Groceries</u>							
30th September, 1955	72.3	51.3	25.6	15.3	13.3	5.7	183.5
30th June, 1956	76.6	53.4	27.0	15.8	13.8	6.2	192.8
30th September, 1956	78.9	55.2	28.1	16.4	14.0	6.3	198.9
<u>Beer, Wine and Spirits</u>							
30th September, 1955	20.4	13.3	6.7	4.0	3.3	1.5	49.2
30th June, 1956	23.3	13.6	7.5	4.4	3.5	1.8	54.1
30th September, 1956	22.5	14.0	7.1	4.5	3.6	1.8	53.5
<u>Clothing, Drapery, Piece Goods, and Footwear</u>							
30th September, 1955	41.2	28.7	13.4	10.4	6.7	3.3	103.7
30th June, 1956	45.4	33.3	15.3	11.4	7.2	3.9	116.5
30th September, 1956	40.7	29.1	13.9	10.2	6.5	3.5	103.9
<u>Hardware, China and Glassware (c)</u>							
30th September, 1955	16.0	9.7	5.3	2.9	2.7	1.1	37.7
30th June, 1956	16.1	9.4	5.4	2.9	2.8	1.1	37.7
30th September, 1956	15.6	9.9	5.4	2.8	2.6	1.1	37.4
<u>Electrical Goods and Radios</u>							
30th September, 1955	9.2	7.2	4.0	2.2	1.8	0.7	25.1
30th June, 1956	8.7	6.6	3.6	1.9	1.5	0.8	23.1
30th September, 1956	9.6	7.2	4.0	2.2	1.6	0.7	25.3
<u>Furniture and Floor Coverings</u>							
30th September, 1955	8.4	7.3	2.6	2.5	1.6	0.8	23.2
30th June, 1956	8.3	6.9	2.4	2.3	1.4	0.8	22.1
30th September, 1956	8.8	7.2	2.8	2.5	1.5	0.8	23.6
<u>Other Goods (d)</u>							
30th September, 1955	35.4	27.3	12.5	6.6	6.9	2.9	91.6
30th June, 1956	36.8	27.6	12.9	7.2	7.0	2.7	94.2
30th September, 1956	38.6	27.6	13.8	7.5	6.7	2.6	96.8
<u>Total (excl. Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.)</u>							
30th September, 1955	202.9	144.8	70.1	43.9	36.3	16.0	514.0
30th June, 1956	215.2	150.8	74.1	45.9	37.2	17.3	540.5
30th September, 1956	214.7	150.2	75.1	46.1	36.5	16.8	539.4
<u>Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.</u>							
30th September, 1955	62.6	41.2	24.0	16.9	13.7	4.9	163.3
30th June, 1956	60.1	42.3	23.6	15.5	12.3	4.8	158.6
30th September, 1956	58.9	42.8	24.9	16.0	12.3	5.3	160.2

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(b) Includes Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Confectionery, Soft Drinks, Ice Cream, Cakes, Pastry, Cooked Provisions, Fish, etc., but excludes some delivered Milk and Bread.

(c) Excludes Basic Building Materials (e.g. Timber, Roofing Tiles, Bricks, etc.).

(d) Includes Tobacco, Cigarettes, etc., Newspapers, Books and Stationery, Chemists' Goods, Grain and Produce, Jewellery, Office Equipment, etc.

TABLE 5 : VALUE OF RETAIL SALES (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.)

PROPORTION OF SALES IN EACH COMMODITY GROUP TO TOTAL SALES, AUSTRALIA (a)

(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)

(Per cent.)

Commodity Group	Year ended -							
	30th June, 1949	30th June, 1950	30th June, 1951	30th June, 1952	30th June, 1953	30th June, 1954 (b)	30th June, 1955 (b)	30th June, 1956 (b)
Groceries	14.9	14.6	13.6	14.4	15.4	14.9	15.2	15.5
Butchers' Meat	6.8	6.8	6.7	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.3	7.3
Other Food (c)	12.1	11.9	11.4	11.6	12.1	12.2	12.2	12.5
Total Food and Groceries:	33.8	33.3	31.7	33.4	35.0	34.4	34.7	35.3
Beer, Wine and Spirits	9.9	9.5	9.0	9.5	10.2	10.1	10.0	10.1
Clothing, Drapery, Piece Goods and Footwear	24.7	23.9	24.0	21.8	20.9	21.0	20.9	20.3
Hardware, China and Glassware (d)	5.8	6.0	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.1
Electrical Goods and Radios	3.5	3.9	4.7	4.8	4.4	5.0	4.9	4.9
Furniture and Floor Coverings	4.8	4.9	5.6	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.2
Other Goods (e)	17.5	18.5	18.4	19.0	18.5	18.3	18.1	18.1
TOTAL:	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note:- For footnotes see Table 6 below.

TABLE 6 : VALUE OF RETAIL SALES (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.)

PROPORTION OF SALES IN EACH COMMODITY GROUP TO TOTAL SALES, AUSTRALIA (a)

(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)

(Per cent.)

Commodity Group	Quarter ended -									
	30th June, 1954 (b)	30th Sept., 1954 (b)	31st Dec., 1954 (b)	31st March, 1955 (b)	30th June, 1955 (b)	30th Sept., 1955 (b)	31st Dec., 1955 (b)	31st March, 1956 (a)	30th June, 1956 (b)	30th Sept., 1956 (b)
Groceries	14.8	15.4	14.6	15.5	15.4	15.8	14.4	16.2	15.6	16.3
Butchers' Meat	7.3	7.6	6.6	7.5	7.4	7.5	6.6	7.7	7.8	7.9
Other Food (c)	12.1	12.4	11.5	12.9	12.1	12.4	11.8	13.6	12.3	12.7
Total Food and Groceries:	34.2	35.4	32.7	35.9	34.9	35.7	32.8	37.5	35.7	36.9
Beer, Wine and Spirits	9.6	9.6	9.7	11.2	9.7	9.6	9.9	11.1	10.0	9.9
Clothing, Drapery, Piece Goods and Footwear	22.7	20.7	21.7	18.8	22.3	20.2	21.1	18.1	21.5	19.3
Hardware, China and Glassware (d)	6.8	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.9	7.3	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9
Electrical Goods and Radios	4.5	4.9	5.5	5.1	4.3	4.9	5.4	4.8	4.3	4.7
Furniture and Floor Coverings	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.4
Other Goods (e)	17.8	17.4	18.2	18.0	17.8	17.8	19.4	17.5	17.4	17.2
TOTAL:	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(b) Figures subsequent to June Quarter, 1953 are subject to revision.

(c) Includes Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Confectionery, Soft Drinks, Ice Cream, Cakes, Pastry, Cooked Provisions, Fish, etc., but excludes some delivered Milk and Bread.

(d) Excludes Basic Building Materials (e.g. Timber, Roofing Tiles, Bricks, etc.).

(e) Includes Tobacco, Cigarettes, etc., Newspapers, Books and Stationery, Chemists' Goods, Grain and Produce, Jewellery, Office Equipment, etc.

TABLE 7 : TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.) AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS CORRESPONDING PERIOD : STATES
(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)

Period	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUSTRALIA (a)
YEARS							
Total Value of Retail Sales (Excl. Motor Vehicles, etc.)	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.
1948-49	388.5	272.0	128.4	79.5	64.7	29.1	962.2
1949-50	442.0	315.3	146.1	91.6	76.3	34.1	1,105.4
1950-51	553.8	389.2	177.9	113.7	94.4	41.8	1,370.8
1951-52	648.5	454.7	210.2	133.8	117.1	51.3	1,615.6
1952-53	674.7	476.3	224.9	143.7	127.3	55.2	1,702.1
1953-54 (b)	728.1	514.6	243.7	155.7	139.8	58.9	1,840.8
1954-55 (b)	799.7	561.8	270.8	172.0	147.0	63.9	2,015.2
1955-56 (b)	856.7	608.6	292.3	184.7	151.7	69.2	2,163.2
Increase over Previous Year	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1948-49	15.7	15.9	16.0	17.6	17.2	15.0	16.0
1949-50	13.8	15.9	13.8	15.2	17.9	17.2	14.9
1950-51	25.3	23.4	21.8	24.1	23.7	22.6	24.0
1951-52	17.1	16.8	18.2	17.7	24.0	22.7	17.9
1952-53	4.0	4.8	7.0	7.4	8.7	7.6	5.4
1953-54 (b)	7.9	8.0	8.4	8.4	9.8	6.7	8.1
1954-55 (b)	9.8	9.2	11.1	10.5	5.2	8.5	9.5
1955-56 (b)	7.1	8.3	7.9	7.4	3.2	8.3	7.3
QUARTERS							
Total Value of Retail Sales (Excl. Motor Vehicles, etc.)	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.
June, 1953	171.0	120.8	57.5	37.1	32.4	14.3	433.1
September, 1953 (b)	170.9	120.4	57.9	36.7	32.7	13.8	432.4
December, 1953 (b)	202.0	143.5	67.0	43.4	38.5	16.4	510.8
March, 1954 (b)	170.8	121.7	56.6	36.6	33.0	14.1	432.8
June, 1954 (b)	184.4	129.0	62.2	39.0	35.6	14.6	464.8
September, 1954 (b)	186.2	128.6	64.6	40.7	35.6	15.0	470.7
December, 1954 (b)	218.6	155.4	75.3	47.0	39.9	17.8	554.0
March, 1955 (b)	188.4	135.7	62.9	40.8	35.3	15.3	478.4
June, 1955 (b)	206.5	142.1	68.0	43.5	36.2	15.8	512.1
September, 1955 (b)	202.9	144.8	70.1	43.9	36.3	16.0	514.0
December, 1955 (b)	236.1	168.7	80.5	50.5	41.6	19.1	596.5
March, 1956 (b)	202.5	144.3	67.6	44.4	36.6	16.8	512.2
June, 1956 (b)	215.2	150.8	74.1	45.9	37.2	17.3	540.5
September, 1956 (b)	214.7	150.2	75.1	46.1	36.5	16.8	539.4
Increase over Corresponding Quarter of Previous Year	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
June, 1954 (b)	7.8	6.8	8.2	5.1	9.9	2.1	7.3
September, 1954 (b)	9.0	6.8	11.6	10.9	8.9	8.7	8.9
December, 1954 (b)	8.2	8.3	12.4	8.3	3.6	8.5	8.5
March, 1955 (b)	10.3	11.5	11.1	11.5	7.0	8.5	10.5
June, 1955 (b)	12.0	10.2	9.3	11.5	1.7	8.2	10.2
September, 1955 (b)	9.0	12.6	8.5	7.9	2.0	6.7	9.2
December, 1955 (b)	8.0	8.6	6.9	7.4	4.3	7.3	7.7
March, 1956 (b)	7.5	6.3	7.5	8.8	3.7	9.8	7.1
June, 1956 (b)	4.2	6.1	9.0	5.5	2.8	9.5	5.5
September, 1956 (b)	5.8	3.7	7.1	5.0	0.6	5.0	4.9

(a) Excludes A.C.T. and Northern Territory.

(b) Figures subsequent to June quarter, 1953 are subject to revision.

**TABLE 8 : TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF NEW AND USED MOTOR VEHICLES,
PARTS, PETROL, ETC. (a) : STATES**
(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)

State	Value of Retail Sales (£'million)						Percentage Increase				
	Year ended -										
	30th June, 1951	30th June, 1952	30th June, 1953	30th June, 1954(b)	30th June, 1955(b)	30th June, 1956(b)	1950-51 to 1951-52	1951-52 to 1952-53	1952-53 to 1953-54	1953-54 to 1954-55	1954-55 to 1955-56
N.S.W.	140.1	152.5	150.0	179.1	210.7	243.5	8.9	- 1.6	19.4	17.6	15.6
Vic.	103.2	117.0	108.1	123.2	148.6	173.2	13.4	- 7.6	14.0	20.6	16.6
Q'ld.	56.0	60.4	62.9	76.0	89.4	92.9	7.9	4.1	20.8	17.6	3.9
S.A.	39.6	51.6	45.3	52.1	60.8	65.1	30.3	-12.2	15.0	16.7	7.1
W.A.	31.5	38.1	37.3	43.5	50.6	56.3	21.0	- 2.1	16.6	16.3	11.3
Tas.	11.6	13.7	13.7	17.2	19.4	19.5	18.1	-	25.5	12.8	0.5
Total	382.0	433.3	417.3	491.1	579.5	650.5	13.4	- 3.7	17.7	18.0	12.3

For footnotes see Table 9 below.

**TABLE 9 : TOTAL VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF NEW AND USED MOTOR VEHICLES,
PARTS, PETROL, ETC. (a) : STATES**
(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)

(Adjusted on a basis comparable with the 1952-53 Retail Census)

State	Value of Retail Sales (£'million)						Percentage Increase					
	1951	1952	1953	1954 (b)	1955 (b)	1956 (b)	1951 to 1952	1952 to 1953	1953 to 1954	1954 to 1955	1955 to 1956	
MARCH QUARTER												
New South Wales	34.4	37.3	37.6	43.8	50.7	58.8	8.4	0.8	16.5	15.8	16.0	
Victoria	25.1	29.4	25.5	30.2	34.0	42.2	17.1	-13.3	18.4	12.6	24.1	
Queensland	13.4	14.2	15.0	17.6	21.0	21.0	6.0	5.6	17.3	19.3	-	
South Australia	9.4	14.1	11.1	12.1	14.4	15.9	50.0	-21.3	9.0	19.0	10.4	
Western Australia	8.1	9.8	9.1	10.0	11.9	14.3	21.0	- 7.1	9.9	19.0	20.2	
Tasmania	2.7	3.7	3.2	3.5	4.6	4.6	37.0	-13.5	9.4	31.4	-	
Total:	93.1	108.5	101.5	117.2	136.6	156.8	16.5	- 6.5	15.5	16.6	14.8	
JUNE QUARTER												
New South Wales	38.6	35.8	38.7	48.7	55.4	60.1	- 7.3	8.1	25.8	13.8	8.5	
Victoria	28.0	27.9	28.6	33.2	40.5	42.3	- 0.4	2.5	16.1	22.0	4.4	
Queensland	15.1	13.7	17.6	20.9	23.3	23.6	- 9.3	28.5	18.8	11.5	1.3	
South Australia	11.2	12.6	12.1	13.8	16.1	15.5	12.5	- 4.0	14.0	16.7	- 3.7	
Western Australia	8.5	10.2	9.8	11.7	13.0	12.3	20.0	- 3.9	19.4	11.1	- 5.4	
Tasmania	3.1	3.3	3.5	4.9	5.3	4.8	6.5	6.1	40.0	8.2	- 9.4	
Total:	104.5	103.5	110.3	133.2	153.6	158.6	- 1.0	6.6	20.8	15.3	3.5	
SEPTEMBER QUARTER												
New South Wales	37.7	34.0	40.5	51.0	62.6	58.9	- 9.8	19.1	25.9	22.7	- 5.9	
Victoria	27.7	25.1	28.2	35.4	41.2	42.8	- 9.4	12.4	25.5	16.4	3.9	
Queensland	16.3	14.0	17.7	22.5	24.0	24.9	-14.1	26.4	27.1	6.7	3.8	
South Australia	12.1	10.1	12.3	14.8	16.9	16.0	-16.5	21.8	20.3	14.2	- 5.3	
Western Australia	8.4	8.8	10.4	13.0	13.7	12.3	4.8	18.2	25.0	5.4	-10.2	
Tasmania	3.4	3.2	4.4	4.4	4.9	5.3	- 5.9	37.5	-	11.4	8.2	
Total:	105.6	95.2	113.5	141.1	163.3	160.2	- 9.8	19.2	24.3	15.7	- 1.9	
DECEMBER QUARTER												
New South Wales	41.7	39.7	46.1	53.6	62.0		- 4.8	16.1	16.3	15.7		
Victoria	32.0	28.9	31.6	38.7	47.5		- 9.7	9.3	22.5	22.7		
Queensland	16.2	16.3	19.8	22.6	24.3		0.6	21.5	14.1	7.5		
South Australia	12.8	12.0	13.9	15.5	16.8		- 6.2	15.8	11.5	8.4		
Western Australia	9.7	9.6	11.4	12.7	16.0		- 1.0	18.8	11.4	26.0		
Tasmania	3.3	3.8	4.4	5.1	5.2		15.2	15.8	15.9	2.0		
Total:	115.7	110.3	127.2	148.2	171.8		- 4.7	15.3	16.5	15.9		

(a) Excludes Farm Machinery and Implements, Earth-moving Equipment, etc., and most sales of Used Motor Vehicles made on a commission basis through auctioneers, etc.

(b) Figures subsequent to June quarter, 1953 are subject to revision.

NOTE: Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

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