



RETAIL SALES OF GOODS (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.), AUSTRALIA SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1985

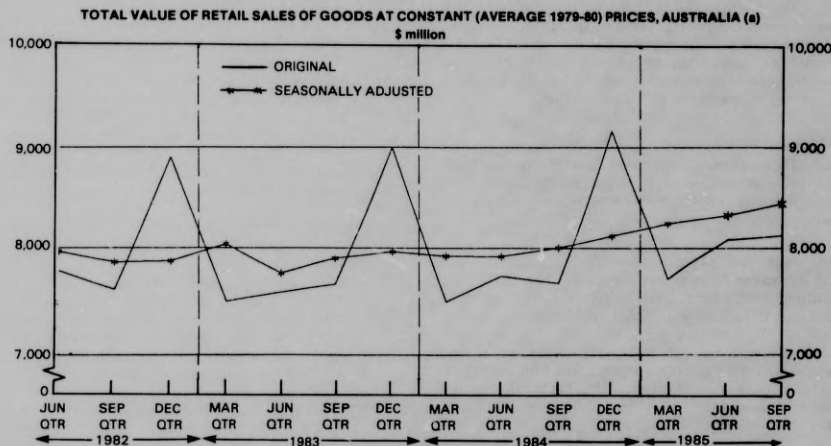
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MAIN FEATURES



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication presents quarterly estimates of the value of retail sales of goods (excluding motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.) by commodity group for each State, the Australian Capital Territory and Australia (excluding Northern Territory). In addition, some estimates are presented in constant price and seasonally adjusted terms.

2. The quarterly estimates of retail sales complement the monthly estimates published in *Retail Sales of Goods (excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc.) Australia* (8501.0). The monthly estimates since April 1982, and quarterly estimates since June quarter 1982, have been compiled from data collected from a random sample of establishments within the survey scope, as defined in paragraphs 5 to 7. In the quarterly surveys, the larger establishments provide a commodity dissection of their retail sales. For the smaller establishments a commodity dissection is estimated.

3. The monthly and quarterly estimates are based on the results of the 1979-80 retail census. Comparisons of estimates in this series, and those from the previous series (based on 1973-74 retail census results), are facilitated by the inclusion of estimates for June quarter 1982 on each basis in previous issues of this publication.

Scope and coverage

4. The comparability of the value of sales derived from the survey with estimates for earlier periods is affected by the differences in scope between the current and previous surveys.

5. In the current series, all establishments included in the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification*, 1978 Edition (ASIC) subdivision 48 except motor establishments (ASIC classes 4861-4868), bread and milk vendors (4878-4879), footwear repairers (4846) and electrical appliance repairers n.e.c. (4857) are included in the scope of the survey. The following establishments are also included: cafes and restaurants (9231), hotels, etc. (mainly drinking places) (9232), licensed clubs (9241-9243) and hairdressers (9351-9352).

6. In addition to those establishments described in paragraph 5, the previous survey included licensed hotels and motels predominantly engaged in providing accommodation. These businesses, now classified to ASIC Class 9233, are excluded from the current survey. It is not possible to reliably estimate their contribution to the results of the previous survey.

7. The scope of the current survey includes establishments in all States and the Australian Capital Territory, but excludes those in the Northern Territory. The former survey excluded establishments in both the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

Definitions

8. Retail sales are principally sales to the final consumer of new and used goods for personal and household purposes. Sales of building materials, builders' hardware and supplies such as tools of trade, paint etc., commercial refrigerators, business machines, tr

(j) *Electrical goods*—includes radios, radiograms, record players, tape recorders, television sets (including antennae) and accessories, domestic refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, stoves, clothes dryers, dishwashers, air conditioners, heating appliances, other household appliances and accessories such as vacuum cleaners, floor polishers, sewing machines, electric shavers, hair dryers, electric blankets, electric kitchen appliances, irons, pocket calculators, musical instruments, phonograph records, sheet music, etc. Excludes commercial refrigerators and freezers, and installation charges.

(k) *Cosmetics*—includes perfumes, toilet preparations, etc.

(l) *Medicines, etc.*—includes prescription and patent medicines, therapeutic appliances and amounts received under pharmaceutical benefits schemes.

(m) *Newspapers, books and stationery*—includes periodicals, greeting cards, devotional and religious goods, artists' requisites.

(n) *Other goods*—includes cigarettes and other tobacco products, sporting goods, bicycles, toys, travel goods, briefcases, shopping bags, photographic equipment and supplies, camping equipment, antiques, secondhand goods, disposal goods, seeds, cut flowers, shrubs, trees and other nursery stocks, etc.

10. These commodity groups are similar in content to the commodity groups for which details were published from the previous survey. However, the following differences should be noted for comparison purposes:

- (a) sales of confectionery, previously included with 'other food', are now included with 'groceries'
- (b) bottled liquified petroleum gas previously included with 'electrical goods' is now excluded
- (c) separate data are now provided for 'furniture' and 'floor coverings', and for 'cosmetics' and 'medicines, etc.'

11. Estimates of the value of retail sales, classified by industry, are set out in Table 8. For statistical purposes, an industry is composed of business units of some specific type, mainly engaged in a particular range of activities. For the purpose of the retail survey, the basic unit is, in general, a unit covering all the operations carried on under the ownership of an enterprise (business) at a single physical location (e.g. an individual retail store). This unit is called an establishment. Each individual establishment is classified to an industry on the basis of its predominant activity. While a retail establishment may sell a range of commodities, it is classified to only one industry. Thus the estimates of the value of retail sales for an industry cover all the retail sales of all establishments included in the industry, irrespective of the mix of commodities sold by those establishments. Commodity estimates, on the other hand, cover all sales of each commodity by all establishments within the scope of the collection, irrespective of the industry to which those establishments are classified.

Contents

20. Seasonal adjustment of the series based on the 1979-80 retail census results has been carried out using factors derived from the previous series, on the assumption that seasonal and other calendar influences would have similar effects on both series. Seasonal adjustment of Australian Capital Territory estimates (dating from June quarter 1982) will not be possible until four to five years' data are available.

21. Seasonally adjusted estimates of total retail sales for each State and Australia have been derived by aggregating seasonally adjusted estimates for commodities. However, seasonal adjustment of State commodity estimates has been carried out independently of the corresponding Australian estimates. For this reason, it is not valid to derive seasonally adjusted estimates for the Australian Capital Territory by subtracting the sum of State estimates from the Australian total.

22. Details of the seasonal adjustment methods used, together with selected measures of variability for these series, are given in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, Australia* (1308.0).

Estimates at constant prices

23. A series of the value of retail sales of goods 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 corresponding series at current prices.

24. The series are measures 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.

25. Constant price estimates from March quarter 1976, published in previous issues of this publication, have been based on average 1974-75 prices. Quarter to quarter percentage movements at 1979-80 prices may differ from corresponding movements at 1974-75 prices, mainly because of differences in price relativities for the two years.

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. The methods used to seasonally adjust constant price series are similar to those used to adjust the current price series.

Reliability of estimates

28. As the estimates are based on information obtained from a sample survey of establishments, the estimates of level and movement 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.

Retail Sales of Goods (excluding Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, etc), Australia (8501.0)—issued monthly

Census of Retail Establishments and Selected Service Establishments, year ended 30 June 1980—

Details of Operations by Industry Class, Australia (8622.0)

Census of Accommodation Establishments by Industry Class, Australia (8624.0)

Commodity Sales and Service Takings, Australia (8625.0)

Industry and Commodity Details by Size, Australia (8626.0)

33. 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

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

W. McLENNAN
Acting Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS BY COMMODITY GROUPS AT CURRENT AND CONSTANT PRICES, ORIGINAL: AUSTRALIA(a)
(\$ million)

Period	Groceries	Fresh meat	Other food	Beer, wine and spirits	Clothing and drapery	Footwear	Hardware, china and glassware	Electrical goods	Furniture	Floor coverings	Cosmetics	Medicines etc.	Newspapers, books and stationery	Other goods	Total
CURRENT PRICES															
Year—															
1982-83	8,871.1	2,302.3	4,054.6	5,199.1	5,670.7	914.7	1,779.9	3,008.3	1,340.7	539.5	990.6	949.3	1,600.7	3,317.5	40,539.1
1983-84	9,851.6	2,369.9	4,273.5	5,499.7	6,019.5	1,025.2	2,011.7	3,296.5	1,386.2	552.4	1,057.9	1,061.9	1,796.4	3,593.8	43,796.1
1984-85	10,554.0	2,385.9	4,717.3	5,883.0	6,416.4	1,121.8	2,144.1	3,452.5	1,529.4	608.9	1,177.4	1,107.2	2,037.7	3,892.4	47,028.0
1984—															
June qtr	2,455.8	576.8	1,092.5	1,324.8	1,550.4	292.1	449.5	785.0	331.2	129.9	252.5	262.1	433.7	853.2	10,789.5
September qtr	2,469.0	569.6	1,116.7	1,350.8											

TABLE 2. VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS BY COMMODITY GROUPS AT CURRENT AND CONSTANT PRICES, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: AUSTRALIA(a)(x)

(\$ million)													
Quarter	Groceries	Fresh meat	Other food	Beer, wine and spirits	Clothing and drapery	Footwear	Hardware, china and glassware	Electrical goods	Furniture and floor coverings	Cosmetics, medicines etc.	Newspapers, books and stationery	Other goods	Total
CURRENT PRICES													
1984—													
June	2,498.4	576.9	1,116.2	1,400.8	1,487.7	268.7	516.0	820.4	473.8	537.7	469.1	918.7	11,084.4
September	2,549.0	569.8	1,161.2	1,427.8	1,518.5	279.7	527.7	836.6	516.2	549.0	487.4	935.6	11,358.5
December	2,574.2	591.0	1,180.9	1,454.2	1,595.0	289.5	531.9	856.9	527.2	571.3	503.7	962.4	11,638.2
1985—													
March	2,693.2	615.0	1,188.3	1,500.0	1,634.2	278.1	534.6	862.2	533.9	585.9	517.5	987.6	11,930.5
June	2,767.4	617.5	1,196.7	1,515.1	1,679.9	276.7	556.6	905.7	567.6	584.7	534.2	1,018.7	1

TABLE 3. VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS AT CURRENT AND CONSTANT PRICES,
ORIGINAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(\$ million)

Period	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Australian Capital Territory	Australia(a)
ORIGINAL								
Current Prices								
Year—								
1982-83	14,482.9	10,896.7	6,430.7	3,512.3	3,505.6	1,030.5	680.5	40,539.1
1983-84	15,502.0	11,848.7	6,868.3	3,840.0	3,809.3	1,154.6	773.1	43,796.1
1984-85	16,656.5	12,419.7	7,570.5	4,065.6	4,192.2	1,296.0	827.5	47,028.0
1984—								
June qtr	3,805.4	2,931.8	1,686.4	933.8	943.2	292.3	196.5	10,789.5
September qtr	3,826.6	2,831.8	1,799.1	931.3	965.7	292.2	192.8	10,839.4
December qtr	4,700.7	3,465.2	2,087.9	1,117.3	1,162.7	361.2	228.3	13,123.3
1985—								
March qtr	3,919.4	2,986.1	1,790.4	969.7	1,003.1	312.3	188.1	11,169.2
June qtr	4,209.8	3,136.6	1,893.1	1,047.3	1,060			

TABLE 4. VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS BY COMMODITY GROUPS AT CURRENT PRICES: STATES AND THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
(\$ million)

Quarter	Groceries	Fresh meat	Other food	Beer, wine and spirits	Clothing and drapers	Footwear	Hardware, china and glassware	Electrical goods	Furniture	Floor coverings	Cosmetics	Medicines, etc	Newspapers, books and stationery	Other goods	Total
NEW SOUTH WALES															
1984—															
June	778.7	199.2	400.2	506.1	560.1	108.3	158.7	257.3	120.2	44.8	102.5	114.6	161.5	293.2	3,805.4
September	791.7	195.3	410.2	505.2	523.9	100.1	160.9	260.2	136.9	55.5	106.1	116.2	169.3	295.1	3,826.6
December	882.7	217.3	459.4	600.2	696.3	115.8	269.0	345.2	154.4	62.2	138.4	126.9	221.9	411.1	4,700.7
1985—															
March	822.8	202.7	429.3	539.1	498.6	88.8	169.2	263.9	127.3	51.0	114.6	119.3	193.5	299.4	3,919.4
June	849.5	214.7	430.3	514.4	656.7	111.2	175.2	2							

TABLE 4. VALUE OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS BY COMMODITY GROUPS AT CURRENT PRICES: STATES AND THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—continued
(\$ million)

Quarter	Groceries	Fresh meat	Other food	Beer, wine and spirits	Clothing and drapery	Footwear	Hardware, china and glassware	Electrical goods	Furniture	Floor coverings	Cosmetics	Medicines, etc	Newspapers, books and stationery	Other goods	Total
WESTERN AUSTRALIA															
1984—															
June	238.7	47.5	94.7	116.1	121.4	24.6	41.4	73.6	29.3	9.6	19.9	20.9	33.1	72.4	943.2
September	241.4	47.4	106.6	118.1	120.8	22.2	45.7	72.6	29.0	9.7	20.2	19.5	35.4	77.1	965.7
December	266.7	47.3	109.0	143.7	153.9	26.5	65.8	98.7	33.3	14.0	26.4	22.4	46.1	108.9	1,162.7
1985—															
March	246.4	42.0	113.4	144.9	109.1	22.0	42.7	83.3	30.3	11.0	19.9	20.0	38.1	80.1	1,003.1
June	256.2	46.5	113.2	136.8	142.9	26.8	40.5	87.3	31.6	12.7	21.0	19.8	39.6		

TABLE 6. STANDARD ERRORS OF LEVEL(a) OF RETAIL SALES OF GOODS BY COMMODITY GROUPS—CURRENT QUARTER

	Groceries	Fresh meat	Other food	Beer, wine and spirits	Clothing and drapery	Footwear	Hardware, china and glassware	Electrical goods	Furniture	Floor coverings	Cosmetics	Medicines, etc	Newspapers, books and stationery	Other goods	Total
							\$ million								
Australia(b)	22.9	17.9	22.5	26.9	18.7	7.2	7.9	14.5	13.0	9.8	5.4	8.9	13.8	26.2	73.0
New South Wales	16.0	11.2	14.5	14.8	12.2	4.6	4.7	10.3	9.7	7.6	3.0	5.1	15.2	46.8	15.2
Victoria	11.8	11.5	11.3	9.8	10.9	5.0	4.4	7.3	6.1	4.6	3.7	5.6	12.6	38.4	18.6
Queensland	9.5	6.4	9.2	18.4	7.2	2.3	3.2	4.6	4.4	2.1	1.9	3.6	5.6	8.6	33.5
South Australia	1.6	1.7	5.2	5.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	2.7	2.9	2.0	1.2	2.3	3.8	3.8	14.5
Western Australia	3.7	4.0	7.1	5.5	4.9	1.1	1.1	4.2	3.3	1.8	0.9	1.9	2.9	4.1	16.6
Tasmania	1.6	0.8	1.6	2.0	0.8	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.3	4.5