



Main Features

Monthly change (trend):

Queensland	↓	0.1%
Australia	—	0.0%

Annual change (trend):

Queensland	↑	1.0%
Australia	↑	3.8%

Commentary

Note: Commentary on monthly figures is based on nominal values throughout and, as such, movements are affected by price and quantity changes.

- The trend estimate of Queensland's retail turnover fell 0.1% in March 2010, the eighth consecutive monthly decrease since July 2009. Australia's trend turnover remained almost unchanged during the month (Figure 1).
- The trend value of Queensland's retail turnover decreased slightly from \$4,074.2 million in February 2010 to \$4,069.2 million in March 2010.
- The decrease in Queensland's nominal retail turnover in March 2010 reflected much lower spending in household goods, as well as in clothing, footwear and personal accessories. This lower spending was partially offset by higher spending on food, cafes, restaurants and takeaway, department stores and other retailing.
- Annually, the trend value of Queensland's retail turnover increased from \$4,029.8 million in March 2009 to \$4,069.2 million in March 2010. This represents a 1.0% rise in Queensland over the year to March 2010, well below the 3.8% growth for Australia.
- Queensland recorded the lowest annual growth in retail trade of all states and territories (1.0%). Western Australia recorded the highest increase (5.8%), followed by the Australian Capital Territory (5.7%) (Figure 2).
- *Food retailing* recorded the largest contribution to retail turnover growth in Queensland in March 2010 (0.09 percentage point). *Household goods retailing* recorded the largest deduction from retail turnover in Queensland in the month (0.25 percentage point) (Figure 3).
- In real terms (which measures the volume of retail turnover, removing the effect of price movements), trend retail trade in Queensland fell 0.4% in March quarter 2010, weakening from a 0.1% decline in the previous quarter. Over the year, real trend retail trade growth in Queensland moderated to 0.7% in March quarter 2010. However, while this remains a

below-average outcome, it is still stronger than the recent low of only 0.2% over the year to December quarter 2008.

Figure 1: Monthly change in retail turnover

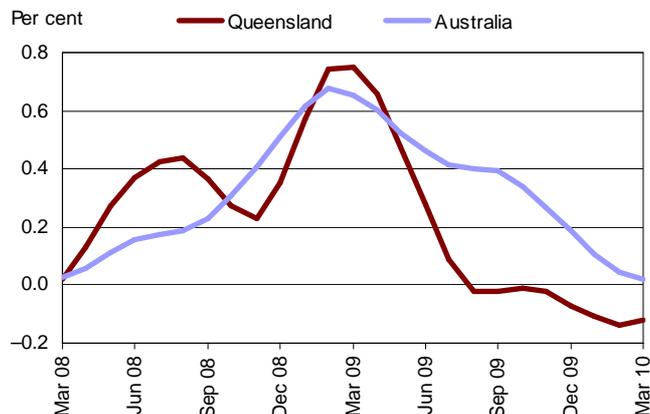


Figure 2: Annual change in retail turnover, March 2010

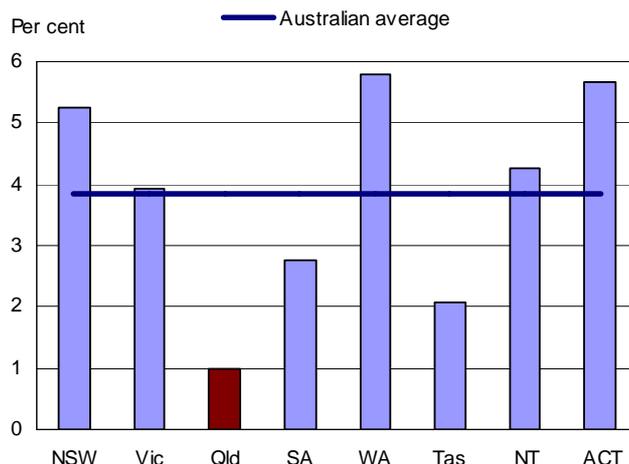


Figure 3: Monthly retail turnover contribution to growth by industry group, March 2010

