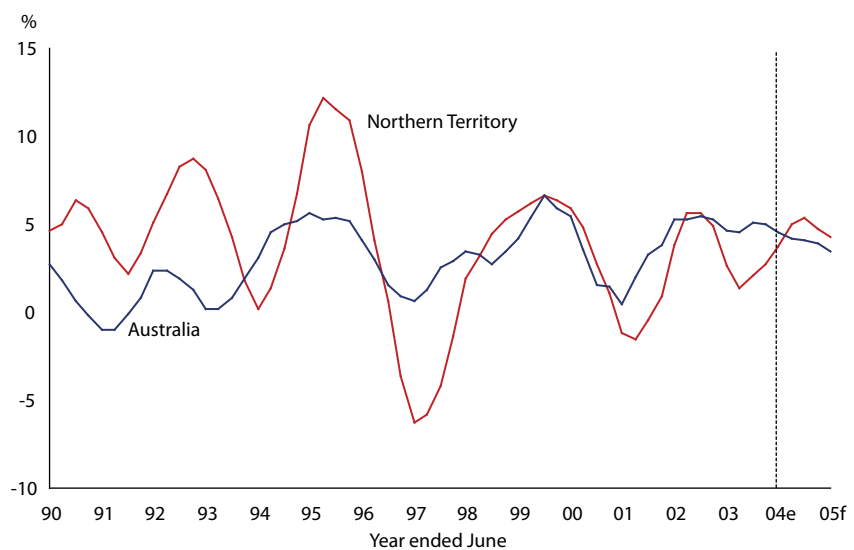


Retail Trade

- Retail and wholesale trade accounted for 7.0 per cent of Northern Territory Gross State Product in 2002-03, and over 15 per cent of employed people in the Territory.
- Compared to the national average, Territory consumers tend to spend more on food relative to other retail categories (in part due to the higher cost of freighting and storing many food lines), while relatively less is spent on recreational goods and clothing and footwear (reflecting differences in climate and lifestyle).
- Following soft growth in 2002-03, Territory real retail turnover is estimated to have grown by 3.8 per cent in 2003-04, boosted by an increase in spending on household goods (such as domestic houseware and hardware, appliances, furniture and the like).
- Territory real retail turnover growth of 4.2 per cent is forecast for 2004-05, supported by a steadily improving population growth rate and a healthy increase in employment (particularly from major projects such as the construction of the liquefied natural gas plant at Wickham Point).

Chart 11: Territory Retail Turnover (moving annual total, annual percentage change)



e: estimate f: forecast
 Source: NT Treasury, ABS Cat. No. 8501.0