



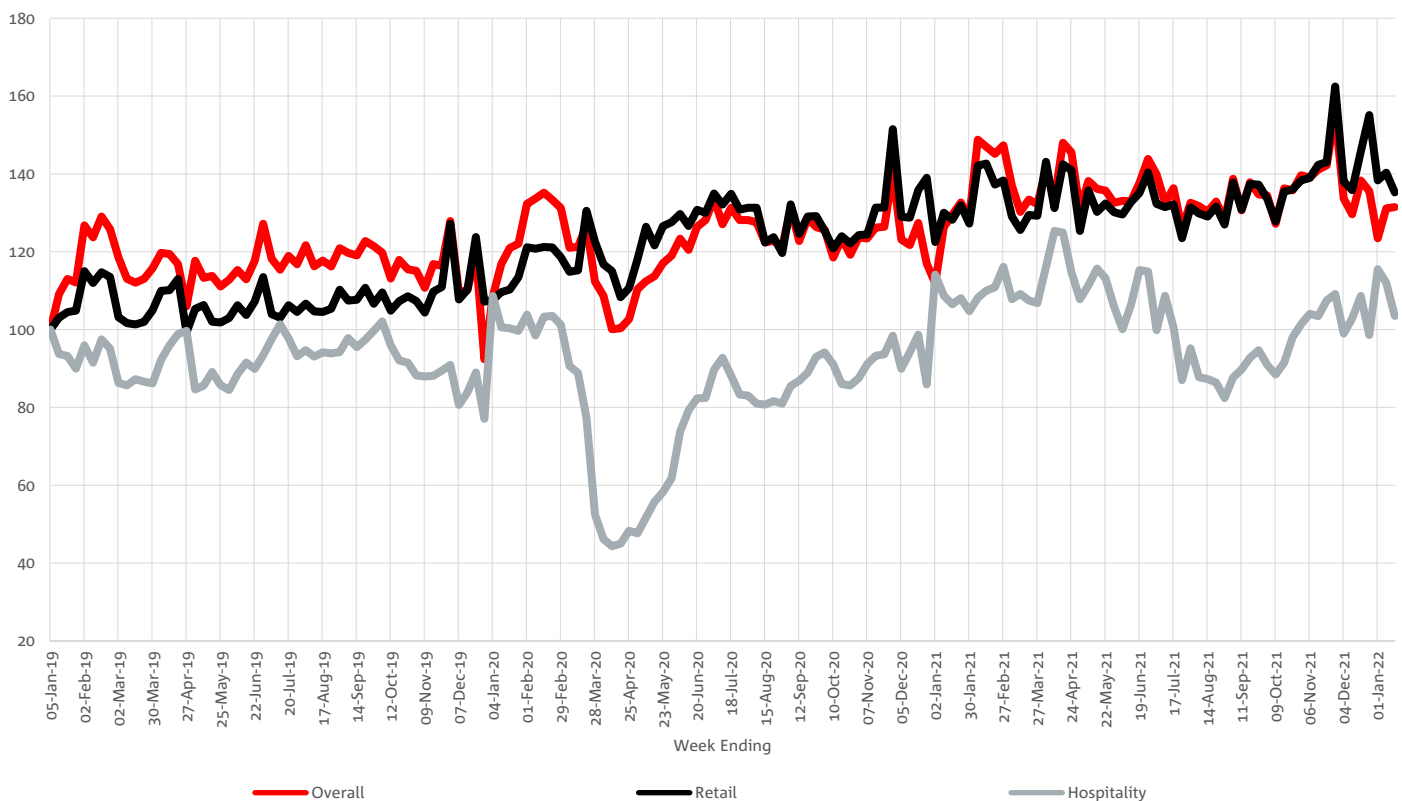
NAB ECONOMICS DATA INSIGHTS

WEEK ENDING 15 JANUARY 2022

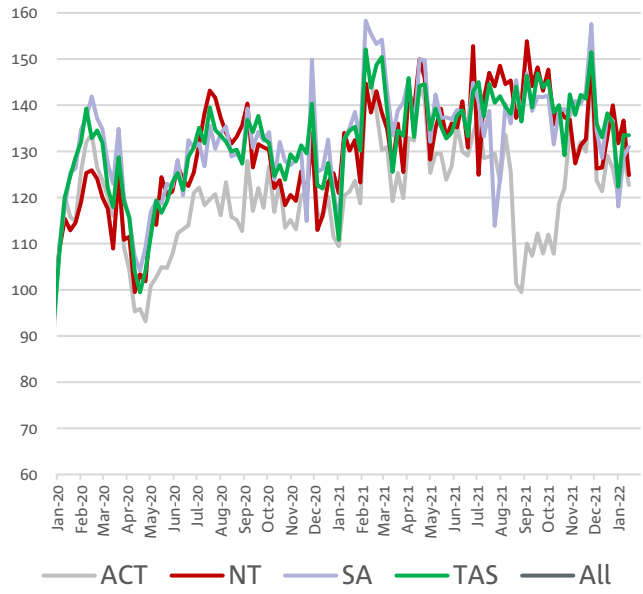
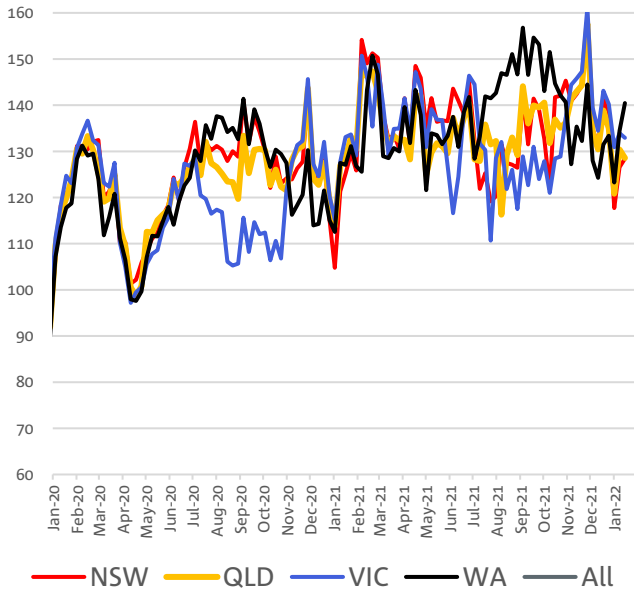
COMMENTS FROM NAB GROUP CHIEF ECONOMIST ALAN OSTER

- During these extraordinary times, NAB has taken the decision to publish aggregated customer data categorised by industry segment with the view to helping provide clarity around which segments of the economy have been most affected by the broader macroeconomic trends at play. NAB takes data privacy very seriously. All customer transaction data has been aggregated and no individual's data is specifically identified or analysed as part of this process. The data used in this report will not be sold or made publicly available, but insights from the data will be shared with the Australian people.
- In our first update for 2022, we had anticipated our latest consumer data would be hit badly by omicron. While spending has softened, it is nowhere near as bad as some have reported and we had feared. While there is weakness in hospitality, and retail has gone sideways, it is not at lockdown levels and can somewhat be attributed to seasonality. That said, there are clear signs of changed consumer behaviour and only Western Australia (which has very few cases) has enjoyed a big post-new year rebound.
- Overall, our consumption series stood at 131.0 for the week ending 15 January 2022, using a 2019 base. This was an improvement from the week prior (130.7), and above its level a year ago (125.9). There are, however, some tentative signs that retail and hospitality spending are moving in different directions. Retail stood at 135.3 last week, a lower than the week prior (140.3) but above the same time in 2021 (130). Hospitality however stood at 103.5, down on the week prior and below the same time in 2021 (108.7).
- There is some uncertainty as to how clear this signal is - using a 4-week moving average gives a better result for hospitality. But given sharply lower movement across capital cities in response to omicron, it seems reasonable to assume that the weakness in hospitality is virus-related. Covid cases are probably peaking in some states, but it is unclear whether this will continue and how consumers will respond in 2022.
- Our inward credits data was weak in the first two weeks of the new year, but showed above average strength in late December 2021. In short, the inward credits data show no clear signals regarding the impact of omicron so far, but will continue to monitor how these trends in 2022.

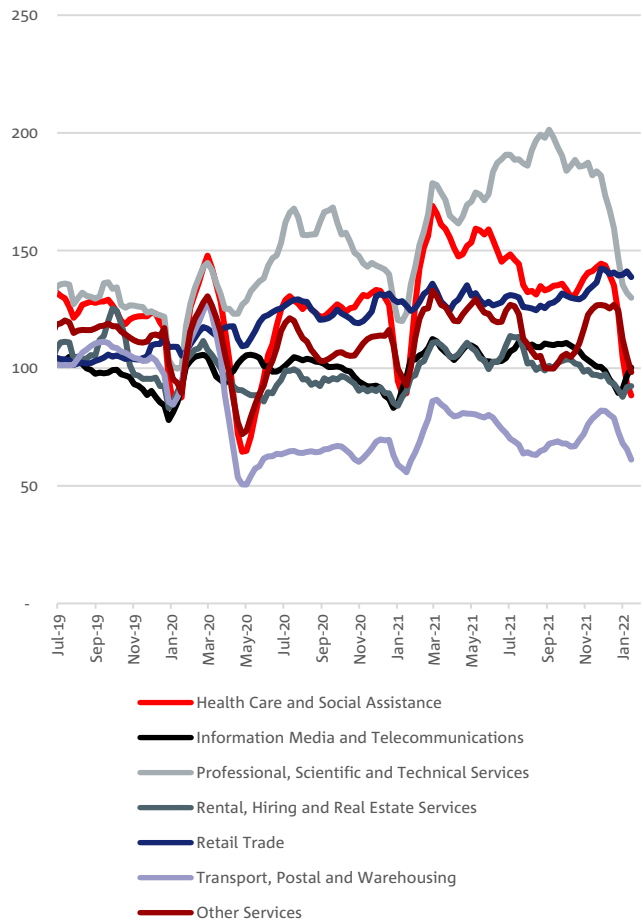
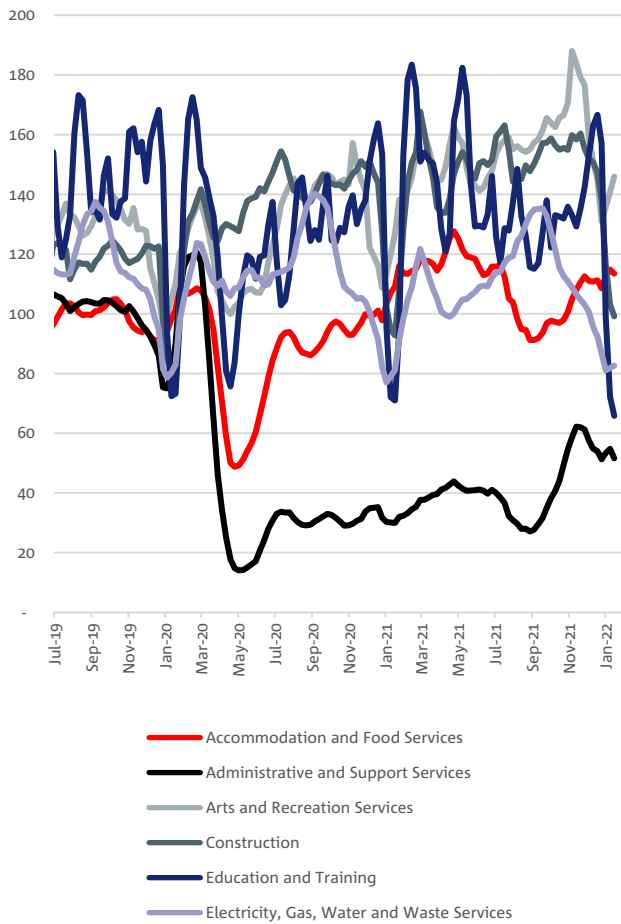
WEEKLY INDEX- JANUARY 2019 BASE, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



CONSUMPTION BY STATE (INDEX, 2019 BASE, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

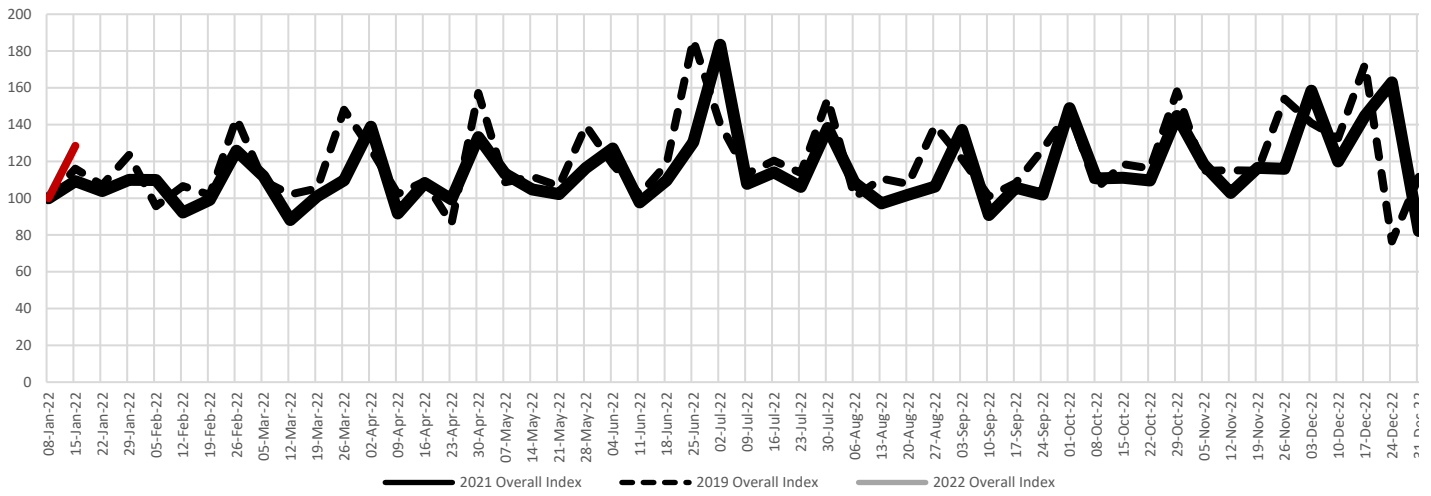


CONSUMPTION BY INDUSTRY (INDEX, 2019 BASE, 4 WK MOVING AVERAGE, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

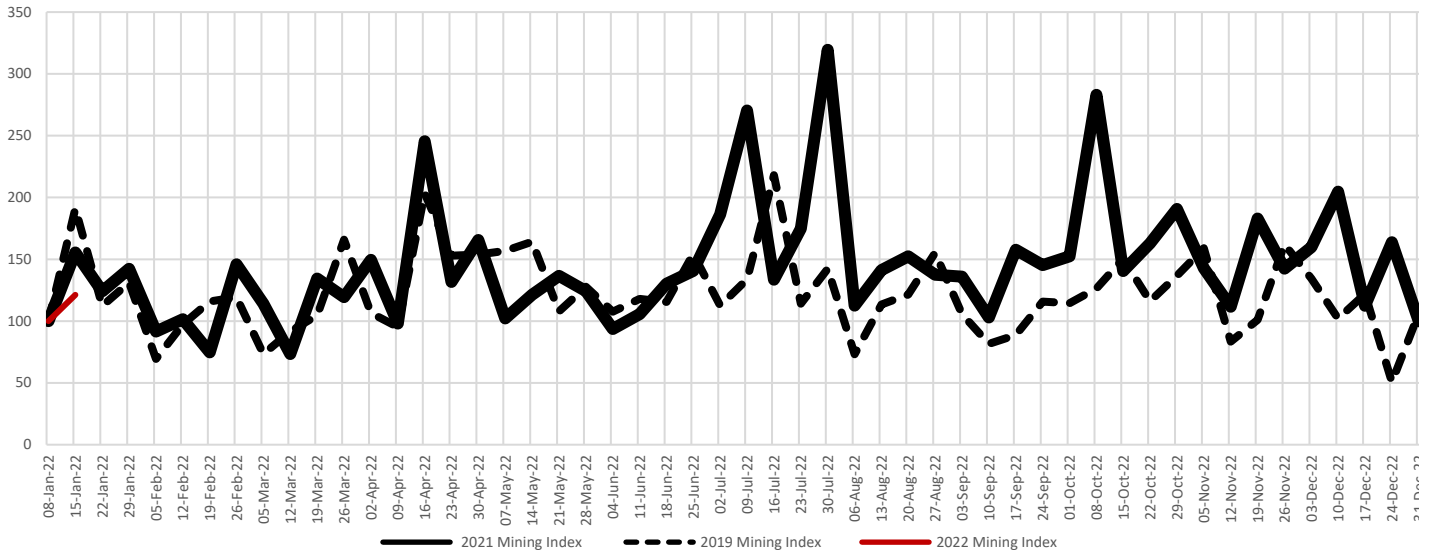


PAYMENT INFLOWS INTO NAB MERCHANTS – BASE RESET ANNUALLY

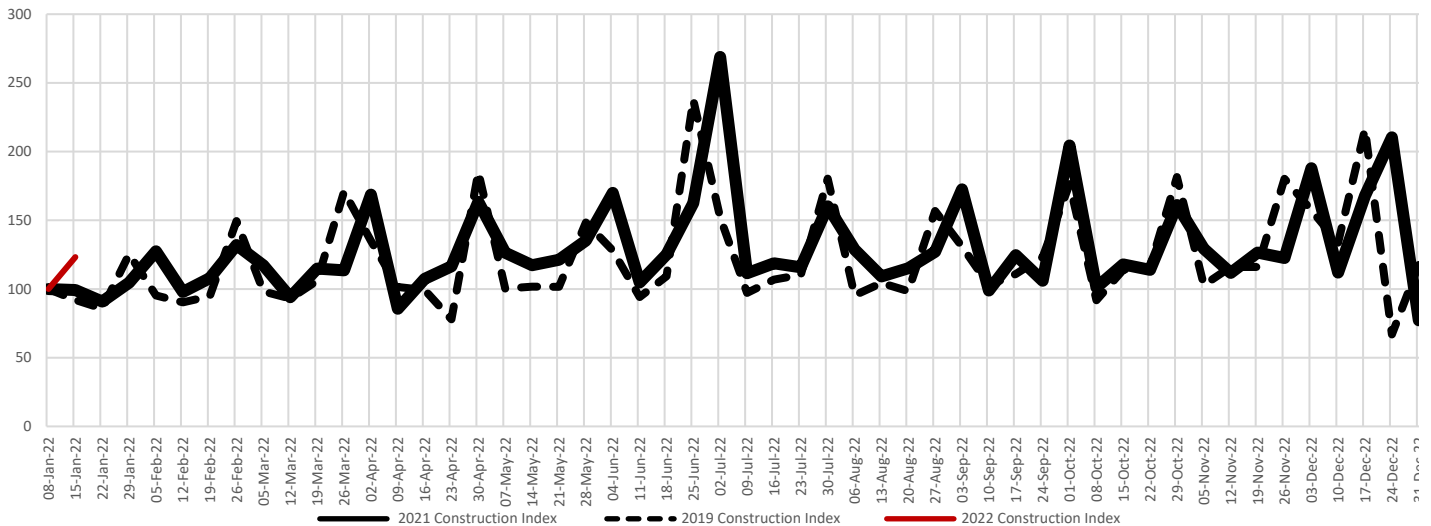
Overall



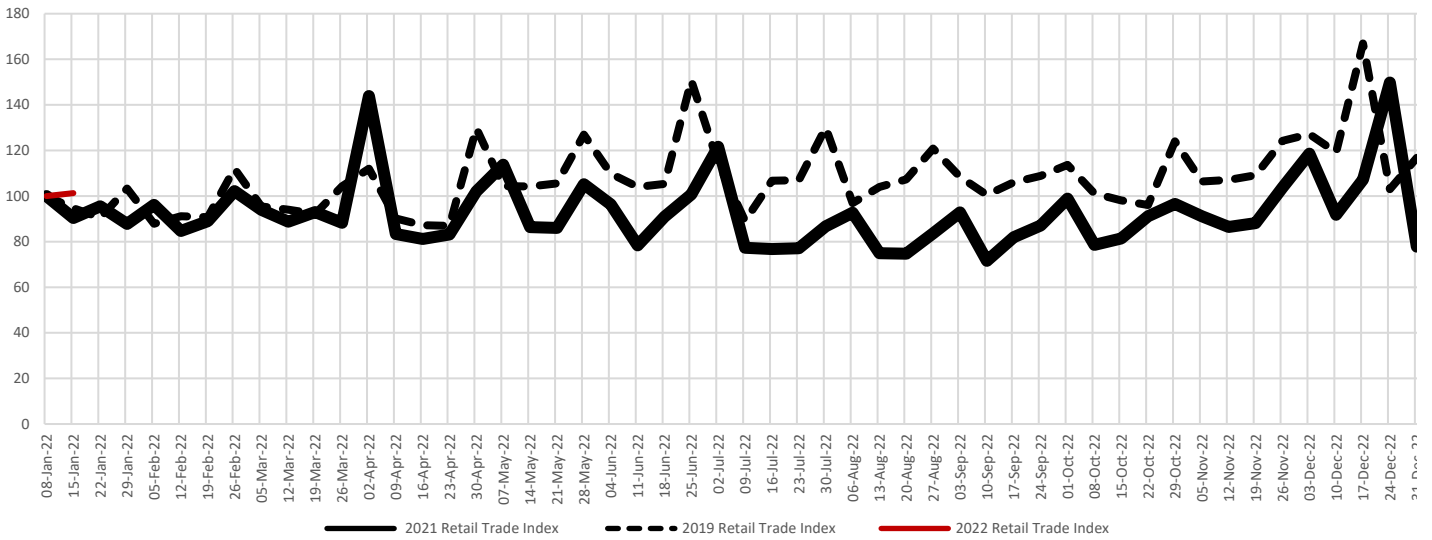
Mining



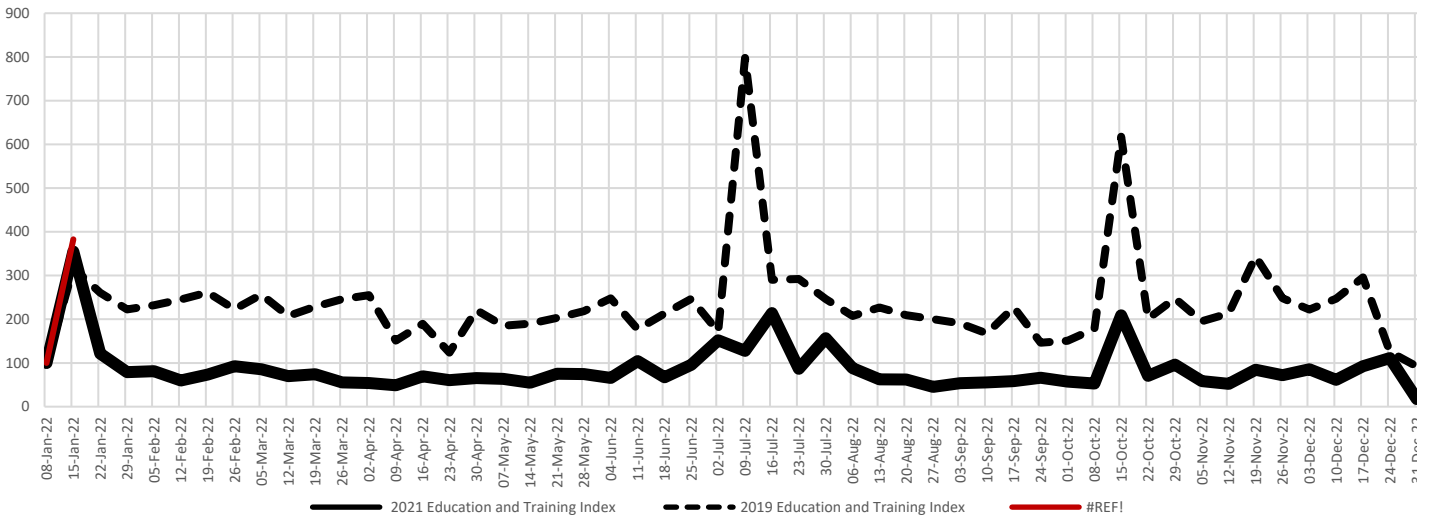
Construction



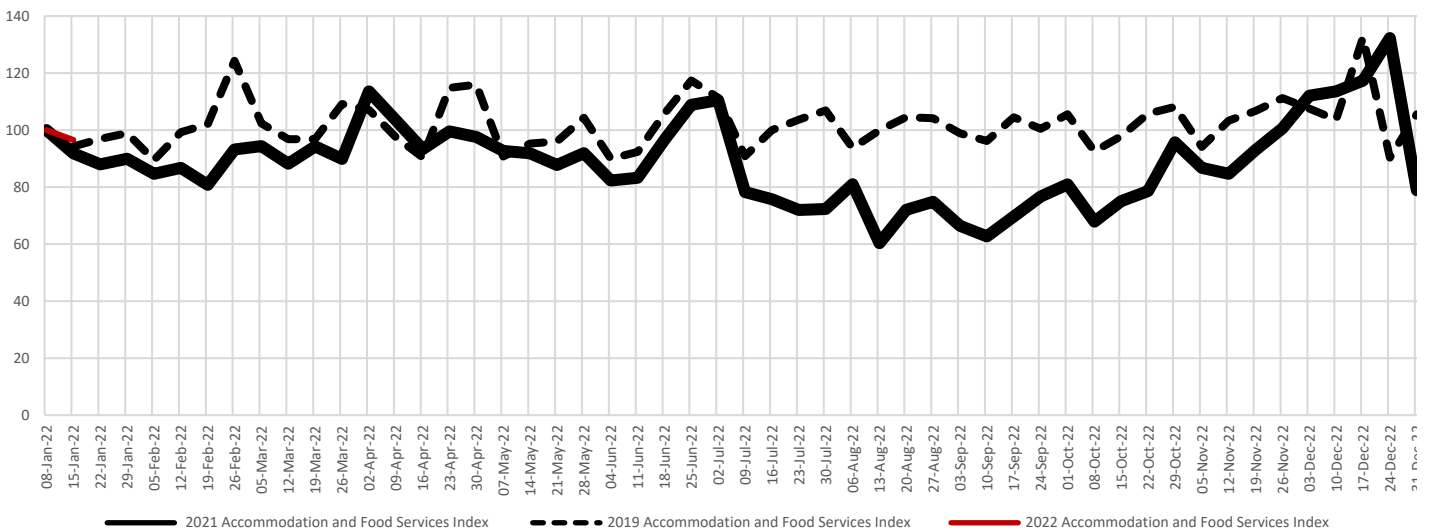
Retail



Education



Hospitality



AUTHORS

Alan Oster

Dean Pearson

Group Chief Economist
Alan.Oster@nab.com.au
+(61 0) 414 444 652

Brien McDonald
Associate Director - Economics
Brien.McDonald@nab.com.au
+(61 0) 455 052 520

Steven Wu
Associate Director - Economics
Steven.A.Wu@nab.com.au
+(61 0) 472 808 952

Head of Behavioural & Industry Economics
Dean.Pearson@nab.com.au
+(61 0) 457 517 342

Robert De Iure
Associate Director - Economics
Robert.De.Iure@nab.com.au
+(61 0) 477 723 769

Phin Ziebell
Associate Director - Economics
Phin.Ziebell@nab.com.au
+(61 0) 475 940 662

Important Notice

This document has been prepared by National Australia Bank Limited ABN 12 004 044 937 AFSL 230686 ("NAB"). Any advice contained in this document has been prepared without taking into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. Before acting on any advice in this document, NAB recommends that you consider whether the advice is appropriate for your circumstances.

NAB recommends that you obtain and consider the relevant Product Disclosure Statement or other disclosure document, before making any decision about a product including whether to acquire or to continue to hold it.

Please click [here](#) to view our disclaimer and terms of use.