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Territory retail trade continues three month decline - ABS

Today’s ABS figures show that retail trade across the Northern Territory has failed to recover from its three month decline and is further evidence that the Martin Labor Government has failed to capitalise on what should be a record period of growth for the Territory, CLP Leader Terry Mills said today.

ABS figures reveal that after a drop of 1.1% in October the Territory recorded no growth for November in retail trade.

“Retail spending is a reflection of the economic health of Territory families and the last three months show that it hasn’t been good,” Mr Mills said.

“The ABS figures prove that Territory families are continuing to spend less on food, clothing, soft goods and household items.

“Alarmingly these areas have been in decline over the last three to five months and follow claims from many sectors of a sluggish Christmas period.

“These figures make a lie of the Martin Government’s claims that the Territory economy has turned the corner.

“The truth is many Territorians are still doing it tough, we are still losing wage earners from the Territory at an unacceptable rate, and this Government seems bereft of ideas. The best it can offer is the campaign it is about to launch telling Territorians they should be spending more in the Territory – despite these figures showing they haven’t got more to spend.”