

# City Centre Quarterly Insights – March 2023



# Key Data

## SPEND

**82%**

Mar. 23 quarter  
of  
Mar. 19 quarter



**27%**

of spend was  
international  
Mar. 23 quarter



## PEDESTRIAN COUNTS

**+2%**

Mar. 23 quarter  
vs.  
Dec. 22 quarter



**65%**

Mar. 23 quarter  
of  
Mar. 19 quarter



## COMMERCIAL VACANCY

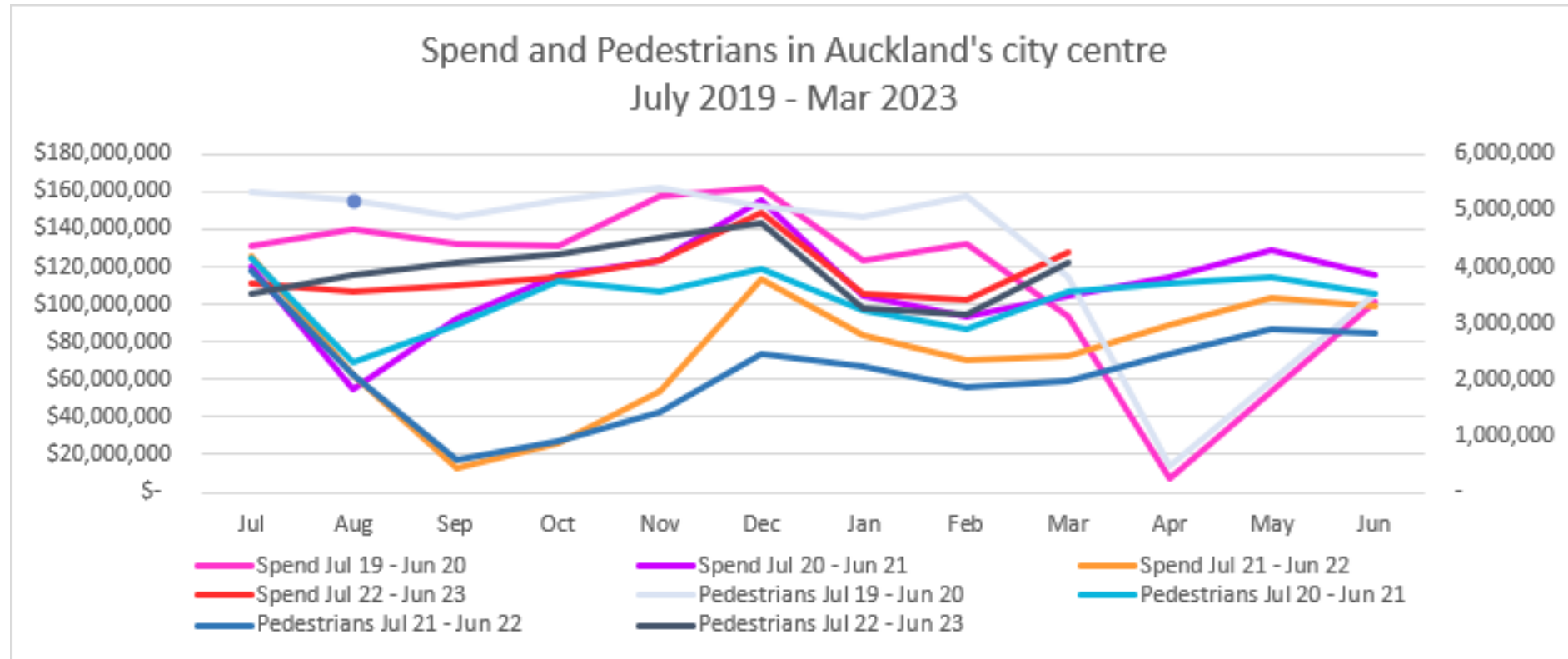
**5.4%**

Prime commercial vacancy  
Dec. 22 quarter



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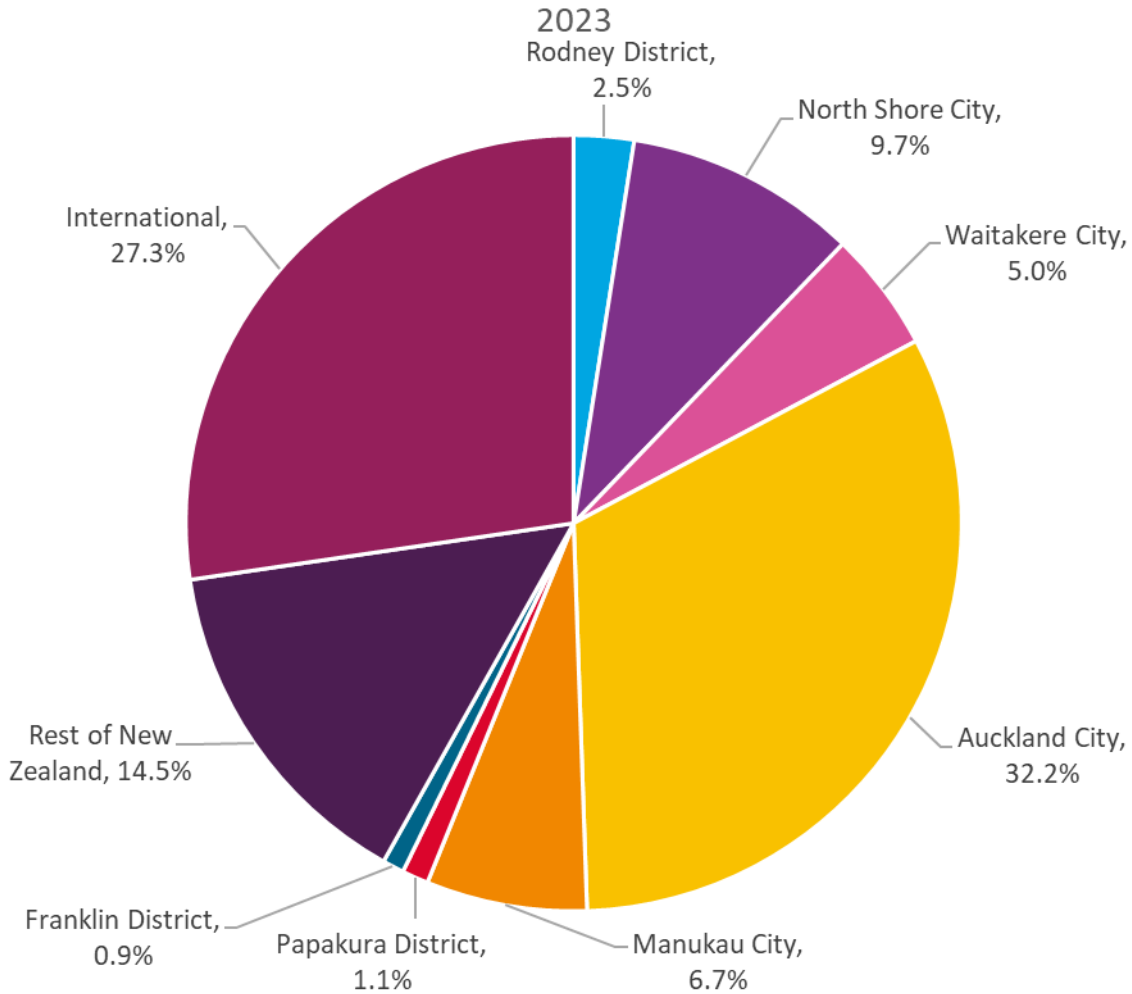
# Foot traffic & Spend



Source: [HOTC Pedestrian Counts](#); Marketview Quarterly Insights.  
Not for reproduction.

# Spend

Origin of spending in Auckland's City Centre March quarter



Source: Marketview. Not for reproduction.

## QUARTERLY SPEND MAR 23

vs. Mar. 22 quarter:

HOTC +47.5%

Competitors +10.5%

vs. Mar. 19

HOTC -18.5%

Competitors +5.8%

Rest of Auckland +14.4%

## QUARTERLY TRANSACTIONS MAR 23

vs. Mar. 22 quarter:

Numbers: +51.1%

Average Value: -2.4%

vs. Mar. 19 quarter:

Numbers: -29.8%

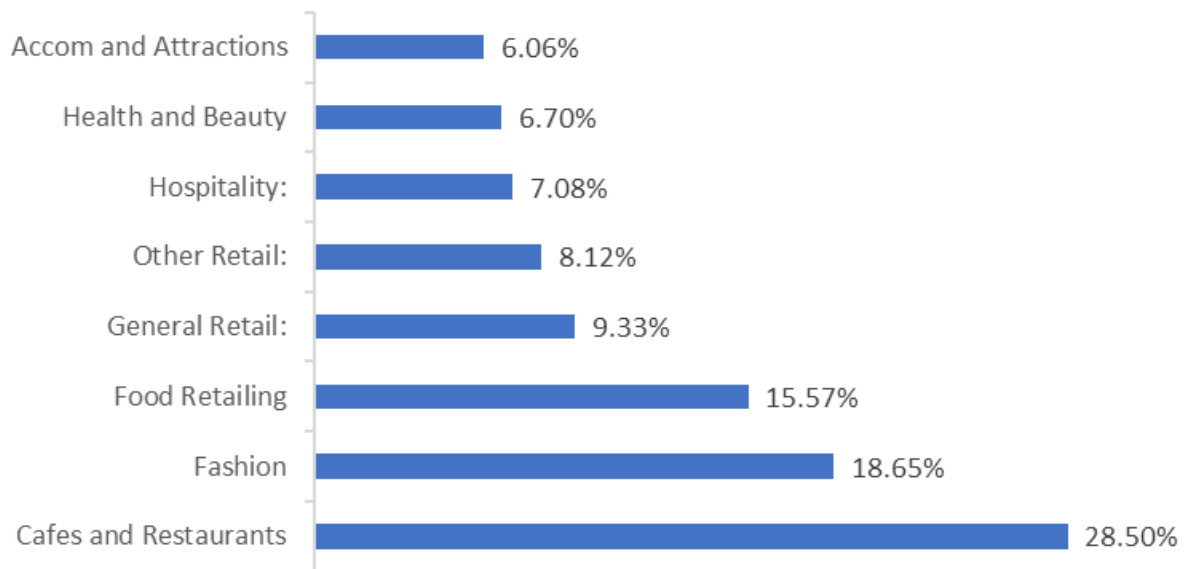
Average Value +22%



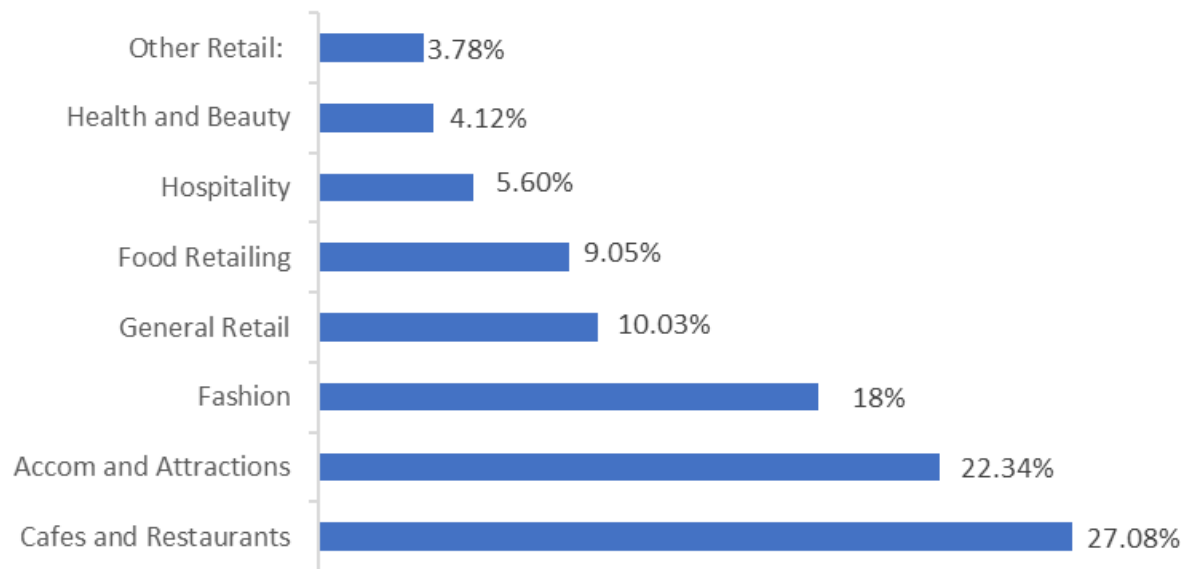
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# What are people spending their money on?

## Domestic Spend by sector



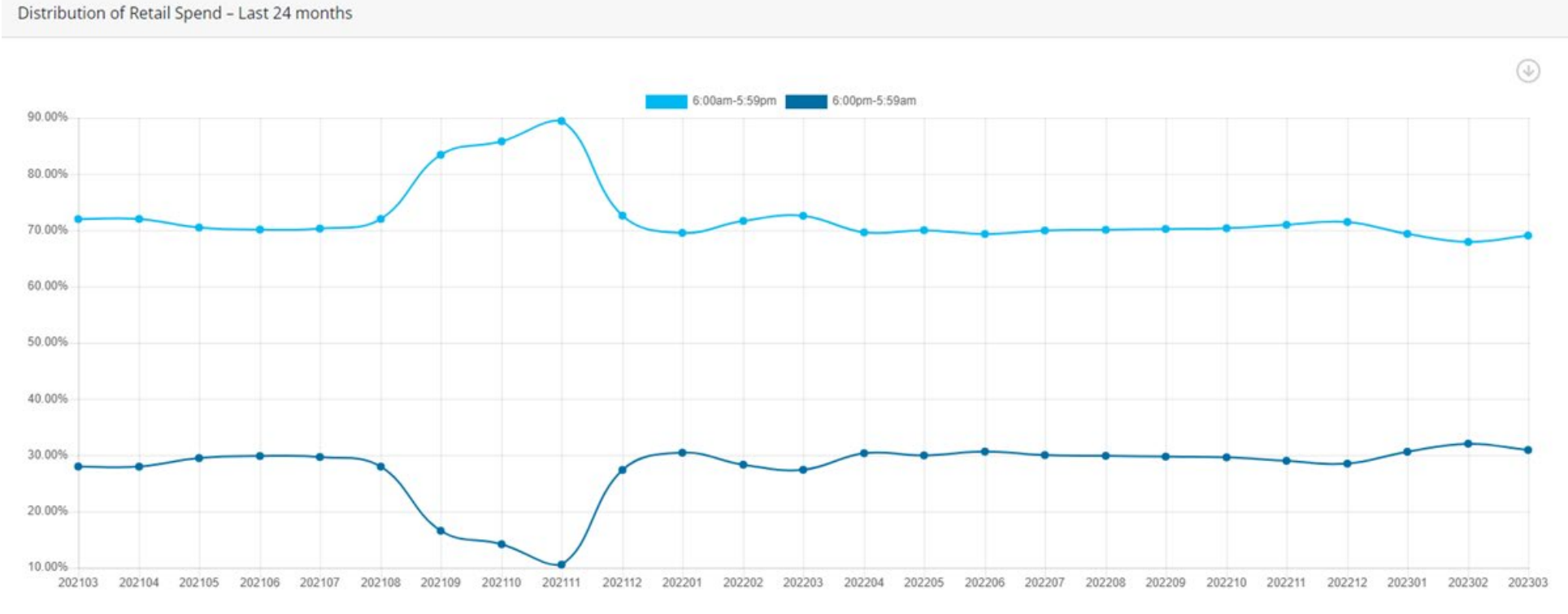
## International Spend by sector



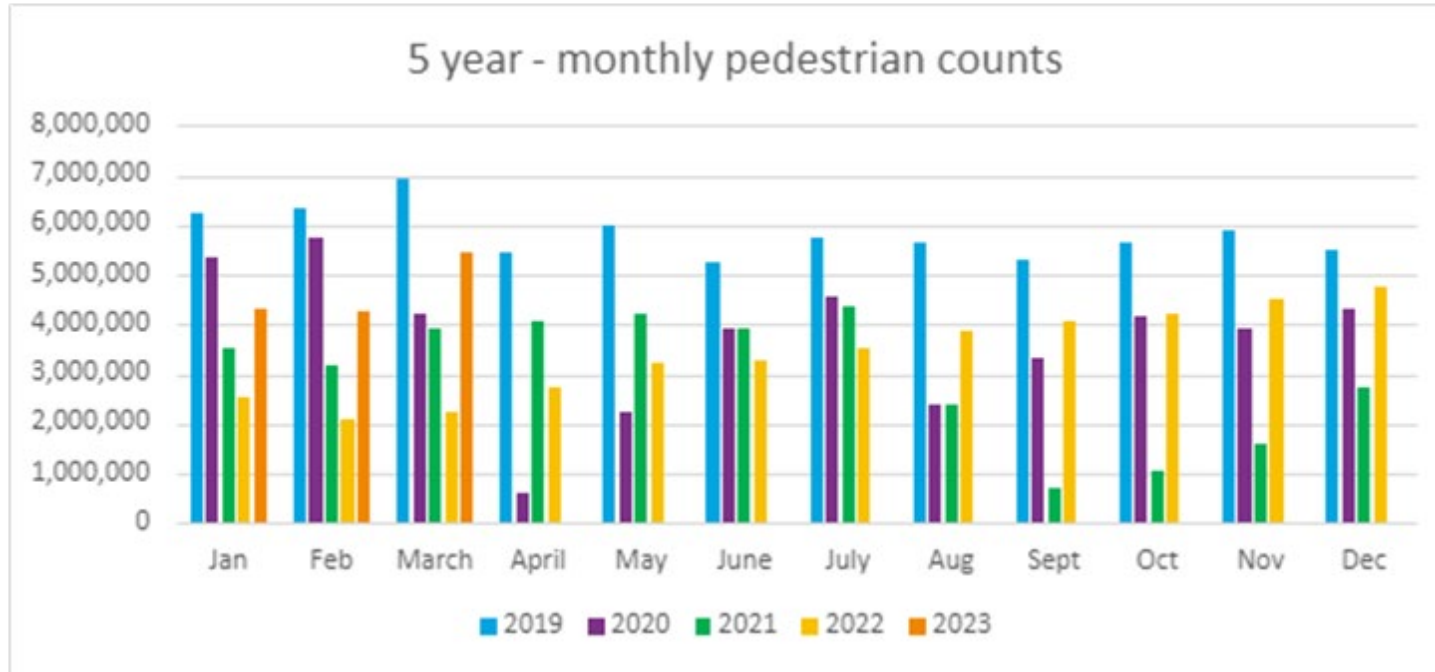
The city centre's dining scene is the top category for both domestic and international spend in the March 2023 quarter, at 28.50% and 27% respectively. This is a shift from the December 2022 quarter, which saw accommodation take the biggest share of international spending.

# Day vs Evening Spend

**Daytime vs. Night-time:**  
31% of spending in the March quarter was made during the night-time (6 pm – 6 am). This result has remained fairly consistent across the last two years, aside from the period of COVID lockdown.



# Pedestrian Counts



## PEDESTRIAN COUNTS

**+2%**

Mar. 23 quarter  
vs.  
Dec. 22 quarter



**65%**

Mar. 23 quarter  
of  
Mar. 19 quarter



The monthly pedestrian count trends show encouraging signs but remain behind the same quarter in 2019, (before COVID). The positive upward trend across the three months in the March quarter is likely to be impacted by the return of cruise ships – 53 ships were docked downtown – and big events held at both local and regional venues, as well as the return of students and workers. Within the quarter, March leapt up +30% on February's results. March is often a busy time in Auckland, with "March madness" signaling the return of university back after the holidays. Friday continues to be the busiest day in the city centre.



# Leasing snapshot

## RETAIL VACANCY

**8.2%** a drop from **8.6%**  
in the Dec. 22 quarter in the Oct. 22 quarter



Over the December quarter (the most recent leasing data available), leasing activity resulted in a drop in Auckland city centre retail vacancy rates from 8.6% to 8.2%. JLL in their latest retail market property snapshot indicated that luxury occupier demand remains strong and the long-term completion of the City Rail Link should support longer-term positivity for the city centre.

## COMMERCIAL VACANCY

**10.8%** a drop from **11.6%** **5.4%**  
All commercial vacancy in the Dec. 22 quarter in the Oct. 22 quarter Prime commercial vacancy Dec. 22 quarter



There's also strong leasing demand for quality Auckland city centre commercial office space, with JLL reporting only 5.4% vacancy for premium tenancies in their commercial property snapshot.

CBRE's latest report about the overall increase in demand for premium office spaces here, it noted: "6-monthly total net absorption in the Auckland CBD office market hasn't been this strong since the second half of 2015".







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