

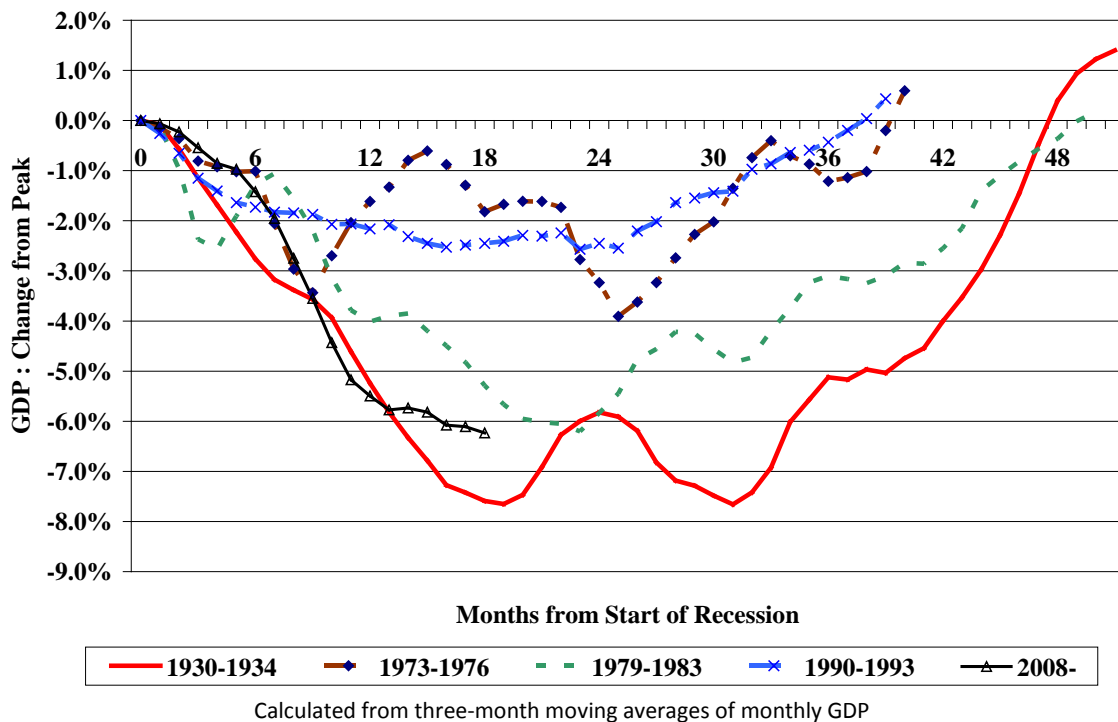
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH
ESTIMATES OF MONTHLY GDP

ECONOMY REMAINS WEAK

EMBARGO 15.00 5th November 2009

Our monthly estimates of GDP suggest that output fell by 0.4 per cent in the three months ending in October, following on from a similar decline in the three months ending in September. The buoyancy of industrial production in September is good news, but a rise between May and July petered out with renewed weakness in August. The profile of the economy suggests that the current depression is probably slightly worse than the experience of the early 1980s but not as bad as that of the early 1930s.

Figure 1: The Profile of the Depression: Months from the Start of the Depression



Our track record in producing early estimates of GDP suggests that our projection for the most recent three-month period has a standard error of 0.1-0.2% point when compared to the first estimate produced by the Office for National Statistics. This comparison can be made only for complete calendar quarters. Outside calendar quarters the figures are less reliable than this and they are also likely to be less accurate in the current disturbed economic circumstances.

A paper describing the methodology used to produce the data was published in the February 2005 volume of the *Economic Journal*. From April until October 2006 our estimates were computed using the Index of Services published by ONS. However this monthly series shows considerable volatility which has caused us some problems in estimating GDP. From our November 2006 press release we have therefore reverted to using a model of private services output based on indicator variables. This means that, while all our figures for calendar quarters are fully coherent with ONS data, our estimates of monthly private service output are not. The series can be thought of as indicating the underlying value of the ONS series.

The figures for the profile of the economy in 1930-1934 have been revised after Dr Solomou of Cambridge University kindly pointed out some extra data we could take into account. As a consequence the 1930s recession now appears deeper than we had previously thought.

For more information please telephone James Mitchell on 020 7654 1926.

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Table 1: Summary Table of Quarterly Growth Rates
2003=100

	Monthly Data		3 months ending in month shown		Quarterly Growth % per quarter	
	Industry	GDP	Industry	GDP	Industry	GDP
Jan-08	100.4	106.8	100.5	106.4	0.2%	0.4%
Feb-08	100.6	107.3	100.5	106.8	0.1%	0.7%
Mar-08	100.0	106.9	100.3	107.0	-0.3%	0.7%
Apr-08	99.9	107.2	100.2	107.1	-0.3%	0.7%
May-08	99.1	107.1	99.7	107.1	-0.8%	0.2%
Jun-08	98.1	106.4	99.0	106.9	-1.3%	-0.1%
Jul-08	97.1	106.2	98.1	106.6	-2.1%	-0.5%
Aug-08	96.7	106.1	97.3	106.2	-2.4%	-0.8%
Sep-08	96.9	106.0	96.9	106.1	-2.2%	-0.7%
Oct-08	94.5	104.8	96.0	105.6	-2.1%	-0.9%
Nov-08	92.4	104.4	94.6	105.0	-2.8%	-1.1%
Dec-08	90.7	103.5	92.5	104.2	-4.5%	-1.8%
Jan-09	88.3	102.2	90.5	103.3	-5.8%	-2.2%
Feb-09	87.7	101.5	88.9	102.4	-6.0%	-2.5%
Mar-09	87.5	101.1	87.8	101.6	-5.1%	-2.5%
Apr-09	87.6	101.1	87.6	101.3	-3.2%	-2.0%
May-09	87.1	100.7	87.4	101.0	-1.7%	-1.4%
Jun-09	87.6	101.2	87.4	101.0	-0.5%	-0.6%
Jul-09	87.9	100.9	87.5	100.9	-0.1%	-0.3%
Aug-09	85.6	99.8	87.0	100.6	-0.4%	-0.3%
Sep-09	86.9	101.1	86.8	100.6	-0.7%	-0.4%
Oct-09	87.5	100.5	86.7	100.5	-1.0%	-0.4%

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Table 2: Output by Sector (2003=100)

	Industry	Agriculture	Construction	Private Services	Public Services	GDP(B)	GDP
Jan-08	100.4	94.8	105.6	111.4	102.9	107.2	106.8
Feb-08	100.6	94.8	105.9	112.1	103.4	107.7	107.3
Mar-08	100.0	95.4	105.9	111.7	103.2	107.3	106.9
Apr-08	99.9	96.6	105.7	112.1	103.8	107.7	107.2
May-08	99.1	97.3	105.4	112.5	103.0	107.5	107.1
Jun-08	98.1	97.5	105.1	111.4	102.9	106.7	106.4
Jul-08	97.1	97.2	104.7	110.9	103.7	106.5	106.2
Aug-08	96.7	96.7	103.9	110.7	103.6	106.3	106.1
Sep-08	96.9	96.2	102.7	110.4	103.7	106.1	106.0
Oct-08	94.5	95.6	101.1	109.1	103.4	104.9	104.8
Nov-08	92.4	95.1	99.0	109.5	102.9	104.5	104.4
Dec-08	90.7	94.9	96.4	108.6	102.7	103.6	103.5
Jan-09	88.3	94.9	93.4	107.2	102.9	102.3	102.2
Feb-09	87.7	94.5	91.6	106.5	102.4	101.7	101.5
Mar-09	87.5	93.7	90.9	105.6	102.5	101.1	101.1
Apr-09	87.6	92.6	91.3	105.7	102.4	101.2	101.1
May-09	87.1	91.6	91.4	105.1	102.2	100.7	100.7
Jun-09	87.6	90.9	91.1	105.8	102.6	101.4	101.2
Jul-09	87.9	90.5	90.5	105.1	102.5	101.3	100.9
Aug-09	85.6	90.1	90.1	104.1	102.4	100.4	99.8
Sep-09	86.9	90.0	89.9	106.2	102.3	101.8	101.1
Oct-09	87.5	90.0	89.9	104.6	102.2	101.2	100.5

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Table 3: Output in Quarter Ending in Month Shown (2003=100)

	Industry	Agriculture	Construction	Private Services	Public Services	GDP(B)	GDP
Jan-08	100.5	95.4	105.2	110.8	102.5	106.8	106.4
Feb-08	100.5	95.0	105.6	111.5	103.0	107.2	106.8
Mar-08	100.3	95.0	105.8	111.8	103.2	107.4	107.0
Apr-08	100.2	95.6	105.8	112.0	103.5	107.6	107.1
May-08	99.7	96.4	105.7	112.1	103.3	107.5	107.1
Jun-08	99.0	97.1	105.4	112.0	103.2	107.3	106.9
Jul-08	98.1	97.3	105.1	111.6	103.2	106.9	106.6
Aug-08	97.3	97.1	104.6	111.0	103.4	106.5	106.2
Sep-08	96.9	96.7	103.8	110.7	103.7	106.3	106.1
Oct-08	96.0	96.2	102.6	110.1	103.6	105.8	105.6
Nov-08	94.6	95.6	100.9	109.7	103.3	105.2	105.0
Dec-08	92.5	95.2	98.8	109.1	103.0	104.3	104.2
Jan-09	90.5	95.0	96.3	108.4	102.8	103.4	103.3
Feb-09	88.9	94.8	93.8	107.4	102.7	102.5	102.4
Mar-09	87.8	94.4	92.0	106.4	102.6	101.7	101.6
Apr-09	87.6	93.6	91.3	105.9	102.4	101.3	101.3
May-09	87.4	92.6	91.2	105.5	102.4	101.0	101.0
Jun-09	87.4	91.7	91.3	105.5	102.4	101.1	101.0
Jul-09	87.5	91.0	91.0	105.3	102.4	101.2	100.9
Aug-09	87.0	90.5	90.6	105.0	102.5	101.1	100.6
Sep-09	86.8	90.2	90.2	105.1	102.4	101.2	100.6
Oct-09	86.7	90.0	90.0	105.0	102.3	101.1	100.5

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Table 4: Growth in Quarter Ending in Month Shown over Previous Quarter (% at annual Rate)

	Industry	Agriculture	Construction	Private Services	Public Services	GDP(B)	GDP
Jan-08	0.9%	0.9%	3.6%	1.7%	2.8%	2.1%	1.7%
Feb-08	0.3%	-1.7%	4.1%	4.0%	3.8%	3.3%	2.8%
Mar-08	-1.1%	-2.5%	3.9%	4.4%	3.6%	3.0%	2.7%
Apr-08	-1.2%	0.9%	2.4%	4.2%	3.7%	2.9%	2.6%
May-08	-3.1%	5.8%	0.4%	2.2%	1.4%	1.1%	0.9%
Jun-08	-5.1%	9.1%	-1.5%	0.7%	0.0%	-0.4%	-0.4%
Jul-08	-8.0%	7.4%	-2.7%	-1.5%	-1.1%	-2.4%	-2.2%
Aug-08	-9.2%	3.0%	-4.0%	-3.8%	0.4%	-3.7%	-3.1%
Sep-08	-8.3%	-1.6%	-5.9%	-4.6%	2.0%	-3.7%	-3.0%
Oct-08	-8.2%	-4.6%	-9.2%	-5.3%	1.5%	-4.2%	-3.5%
Nov-08	-10.6%	-6.0%	-13.4%	-4.7%	-0.3%	-4.9%	-4.4%
Dec-08	-16.8%	-6.1%	-17.9%	-5.6%	-2.7%	-7.3%	-7.0%
Jan-09	-21.2%	-4.8%	-22.5%	-5.7%	-2.8%	-8.5%	-8.4%
Feb-09	-22.0%	-3.4%	-25.3%	-7.9%	-2.5%	-9.7%	-9.7%
Mar-09	-18.8%	-3.3%	-24.8%	-9.5%	-1.5%	-9.6%	-9.6%
Apr-09	-12.1%	-5.7%	-19.0%	-9.0%	-1.6%	-7.9%	-7.8%
May-09	-6.6%	-8.8%	-10.5%	-7.1%	-1.3%	-5.7%	-5.5%
Jun-09	-1.8%	-11.0%	-3.0%	-3.3%	-0.8%	-2.3%	-2.3%
Jul-09	-0.3%	-10.7%	-1.2%	-2.3%	0.0%	-0.7%	-1.4%
Aug-09	-1.7%	-8.9%	-2.7%	-1.8%	0.5%	0.2%	-1.3%
Sep-09	-2.9%	-6.4%	-4.7%	-1.5%	0.0%	0.4%	-1.6%
Oct-09	-3.9%	-4.1%	-4.4%	-1.2%	-0.6%	0.0%	-1.8%

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