



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH ESTIMATES OF MONTHLY GDP

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RECESSION ACCELERATES

Our latest GDP figures show that output fell by 1.5% in the three months ending in December after a revised estimate of 1.1% for the three months ending in November. While the recession began in May, the rate of recession increased sharply in the Autumn of last year. Since 1955, when quarterly figures were first produced, there have been only five quarters in which output has fallen more sharply, with the lowest figure of -2.6% in 1958.

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.

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.

For more information please telephone Martin Weale on 020 7654 1945.

Contents of Press Release

Table 1, Page 2: Summary Table of Quarterly Growth Rates showing Monthly Data, 3 months ending in that month, and Quarterly Growth (% per quarter). All contain Figures for Industry & GDP.

Table 2, Page 3: Output by Sector (Industry, Agriculture, Construction, Private Services, Public Services, GDP(B) (calculated at prices excluding taxes and subsidies), GDP

Table 3, Page 4: Output in Quarter Ending in Month Shown by sector (as above)

Table 4, Page 5: Growth in Quarter Ending in Month Shown over Previous Quarter (% at annual Rate) by sector (as above)

More...

Table I: 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-07	100.5	109.2	100.4	109.2	-0.3%	0.8%
Feb-07	99.8	109.7	100.1	109.3	-0.5%	0.5%
Mar-07	100.3	110.6	100.2	109.8	-0.1%	0.8%
Apr-07	100.4	110.2	100.2	110.1	-0.2%	0.9%
May-07	101.4	111.0	100.7	110.6	0.6%	1.2%
Jun-07	101.4	111.2	101.1	110.8	0.9%	0.9%
Jul-07	100.9	111.4	101.2	111.2	1.1%	1.0%
Aug-07	101.0	111.8	101.1	111.5	0.4%	0.8%
Sep-07	100.9	111.8	101.0	111.6	-0.1%	0.8%
Oct-07	101.7	112.4	101.2	112.0	0.0%	0.7%
Nov-07	101.2	112.1	101.3	112.1	0.2%	0.5%
Dec-07	101.1	112.4	101.3	112.3	0.4%	0.6%
Jan-08	100.8	112.5	101.0	112.4	-0.2%	0.3%
Feb-08	100.9	112.9	100.9	112.6	-0.3%	0.5%
Mar-08	100.6	112.7	100.8	112.7	-0.6%	0.4%
Apr-08	100.5	112.9	100.7	112.8	-0.4%	0.4%
May-08	99.7	112.8	100.3	112.8	-0.7%	0.2%
Jun-08	99.4	112.3	99.9	112.7	-0.9%	0.0%
Jul-08	99.0	112.2	99.4	112.5	-1.3%	-0.3%
Aug-08	98.3	112.0	98.9	112.2	-1.3%	-0.6%
Sep-08	98.0	111.8	98.4	112.0	-1.4%	-0.6%
Oct-08	96.4	110.9	97.6	111.6	-1.8%	-0.8%
Nov-08	94.2	110.3	96.2	111.0	-2.7%	-1.1%
Dec-08	93.0	109.9	94.5	110.3	-4.0%	-1.5%

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Table 2: Output by Sector (2003=100)

	Industry	Agriculture	Construction	Private Services	Public Services	GDP(B)	GDP
Jan-07	100.5	104.6	106.9	115.7	102.5	109.3	109.2
Feb-07	99.8	103.7	107.0	115.8	105.0	109.8	109.7
Mar-07	100.3	103.4	107.3	117.2	105.4	110.6	110.6
Apr-07	100.4	103.7	108.0	116.9	103.6	110.1	110.2
May-07	101.4	103.6	108.4	117.7	104.3	110.9	111.0
Jun-07	101.4	103.2	108.6	117.8	104.6	111.1	111.2
Jul-07	100.9	102.5	108.6	118.7	104.4	111.4	111.4
Aug-07	101.0	102.3	108.8	119.3	104.9	111.9	111.8
Sep-07	100.9	102.4	109.0	119.2	104.8	111.8	111.8
Oct-07	101.7	103.0	109.4	119.6	105.4	112.3	112.4
Nov-07	101.2	103.3	109.9	119.3	105.3	112.0	112.1
Dec-07	101.1	103.3	110.4	119.9	105.2	112.3	112.4
Jan-08	100.8	103.0	110.9	120.2	105.6	112.5	112.5
Feb-08	100.9	103.0	111.1	120.7	106.0	112.9	112.9
Mar-08	100.6	103.3	111.0	120.4	105.9	112.7	112.7
Apr-08	100.5	103.8	110.6	120.6	106.6	112.9	112.9
May-08	99.7	104.0	110.4	121.3	105.6	112.8	112.8
Jun-08	99.4	104.0	110.2	120.3	105.7	112.3	112.3
Jul-08	99.0	103.7	110.2	119.8	106.5	112.2	112.2
Aug-08	98.3	103.5	110.2	119.6	106.6	112.0	112.0
Sep-08	98.0	103.4	110.2	119.2	106.6	111.8	111.8
Oct-08	96.4	103.4	110.2	118.2	106.6	110.9	110.9
Nov-08	94.2	103.4	110.2	118.0	106.7	110.3	110.3
Dec-08	93.0	103.4	110.2	117.7	106.6	109.9	109.9

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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-07	100.4	106.0	107.1	115.3	103.5	109.2	109.2
Feb-07	100.1	104.8	107.0	115.6	103.8	109.4	109.3
Mar-07	100.2	103.9	107.1	116.3	104.3	109.9	109.8
Apr-07	100.2	103.6	107.4	116.6	104.7	110.2	110.1
May-07	100.7	103.6	107.9	117.2	104.4	110.6	110.6
Jun-07	101.1	103.5	108.3	117.4	104.2	110.7	110.8
Jul-07	101.2	103.1	108.5	118.1	104.5	111.1	111.2
Aug-07	101.1	102.7	108.6	118.6	104.6	111.5	111.5
Sep-07	100.9	102.4	108.8	119.1	104.7	111.7	111.6
Oct-07	101.2	102.6	109.1	119.4	105.0	112.0	112.0
Nov-07	101.3	102.9	109.5	119.4	105.2	112.0	112.1
Dec-07	101.3	103.2	109.9	119.6	105.3	112.2	112.3
Jan-08	101.0	103.2	110.4	119.8	105.4	112.3	112.4
Feb-08	100.9	103.1	110.8	120.2	105.6	112.6	112.6
Mar-08	100.8	103.1	111.0	120.4	105.8	112.7	112.7
Apr-08	100.7	103.3	110.9	120.6	106.1	112.8	112.8
May-08	100.3	103.7	110.7	120.8	106.0	112.8	112.8
Jun-08	99.9	103.9	110.4	120.7	106.0	112.7	112.7
Jul-08	99.4	103.9	110.3	120.4	106.0	112.5	112.5
Aug-08	98.9	103.7	110.2	119.9	106.3	112.2	112.2
Sep-08	98.4	103.5	110.2	119.5	106.6	112.0	112.0
Oct-08	97.6	103.4	110.2	119.0	106.6	111.6	111.6
Nov-08	96.2	103.4	110.2	118.5	106.6	111.0	111.0
Dec-08	94.5	103.4	110.2	117.9	106.6	110.3	110.3

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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-07	-1.3%	-10.1%	3.0%	7.1%	-2.1%	3.3%	3.3%
Feb-07	-2.2%	-12.3%	1.3%	5.6%	-1.9%	2.5%	2.2%
Mar-07	-0.5%	-12.1%	0.4%	5.6%	0.4%	3.3%	3.0%
Apr-07	-0.9%	-8.9%	1.4%	4.6%	4.5%	3.5%	3.5%
May-07	2.3%	-4.7%	3.2%	6.0%	2.7%	4.4%	4.8%
Jun-07	3.5%	-1.5%	4.6%	4.2%	-0.4%	2.9%	3.7%
Jul-07	4.3%	-1.8%	4.1%	5.0%	-0.8%	3.5%	4.0%
Aug-07	1.6%	-3.4%	2.9%	4.7%	0.7%	3.3%	3.3%
Sep-07	-0.5%	-4.2%	1.9%	5.7%	1.9%	3.7%	3.3%
Oct-07	-0.1%	-2.2%	2.1%	4.5%	2.2%	3.1%	2.9%
Nov-07	0.7%	0.9%	3.0%	2.6%	2.1%	2.1%	2.2%
Dec-07	1.6%	3.2%	4.1%	1.8%	2.3%	1.8%	2.2%
Jan-08	-0.7%	2.6%	4.9%	1.4%	1.3%	1.0%	1.2%
Feb-08	-1.3%	0.8%	4.9%	3.0%	1.5%	2.0%	1.8%
Mar-08	-2.2%	-0.4%	4.1%	2.7%	1.9%	1.8%	1.4%
Apr-08	-1.4%	0.5%	1.9%	2.6%	3.0%	2.0%	1.7%
May-08	-2.6%	2.1%	-0.4%	1.7%	1.8%	0.9%	0.7%
Jun-08	-3.5%	3.1%	-2.1%	1.1%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Jul-08	-5.1%	2.1%	-2.3%	-0.4%	-0.7%	-1.3%	-1.3%
Aug-08	-5.3%	0.1%	-1.6%	-2.9%	1.0%	-2.2%	-2.2%
Sep-08	-5.6%	-1.5%	-0.7%	-3.9%	2.3%	-2.5%	-2.5%
Oct-08	-7.1%	-1.8%	-0.2%	-4.7%	2.5%	-3.2%	-3.2%
Nov-08	-10.5%	-1.3%	-0.1%	-4.7%	1.3%	-4.2%	-4.2%
Dec-08	-14.9%	-0.5%	0.0%	-5.2%	0.1%	-5.8%	-5.8%

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