

Introduction

UK Economic Accounts – the quarterly national accounts publication brings together recently published data on national and financial accounts and the balance of payments for the United Kingdom.

Concepts, Sources and Methods

With effect from 24 September 1998 the UK national accounts were converted onto the European System of Accounts 1995 (ESA95). This change results in a number of changes to the terminology and methodology used in presenting and compiling the accounts. A short description of the national accounts is given in the introduction to the 2007 edition of *United Kingdom National Accounts*, the National Statistics *Blue Book*. More detailed information is available in *United Kingdom National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (TSO 1998) and an overview of the move to ESA95 is available in *Introducing the ESA95 in the UK* (TSO 1998). Details of the balance of payments accounts are given in the 2007 edition of the Pink Book. Further information on the financial accounts is in the *Financial Statistics* and the *Financial Statistics Explanatory Handbook*.

Comments

National Statistics are keen to receive comments on this publication. Comments should be sent to:

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Notes on the tables

- 1 Most quarterly data are available seasonally adjusted: those not seasonally adjusted are indicated.
- 2 Rounding may lead to inconsistencies between the sum of constituent parts and the total in some tables.
- 3 "Billion" denotes one thousand million.
- 4 Symbols used:
 - .. not available
 - nil or less than half the final digit shown
- 5 There is no single correct definition of money. Consequently, several definitions of money stocks are used:

M0 the narrowest measure consists of notes and coins on circulation outside the Bank of England and bankers' operational deposits at the Bank.

M2 comprises notes and coin in circulation with the public plus sterling retail deposits held by the UK private sector with UK banks and building societies.

M4 comprises notes and coin in circulation with the public, together with all sterling deposits (including certificates of deposit) held with UK banks and building societies by the rest of the private sector.

Non-financial sector accounts

The UKEA dataset contains data as far back as possible for all series. For the major income and expenditure components of GDP it forms an internally consistent dataset from 1948 annually and 1955 quarterly. For the financial and non-financial sector accounts it forms a consistent dataset from 1987, quarterly and annual.

For the non-financial sector accounts however, historical data had become increasingly inconsistent for periods prior to 1987. This is because, for these accounts, although the series had been retained in the dataset our practice had been not to revise them for classification and methodological changes before 1987.

This did not apply to all non-financial sector accounts series or series derived from those accounts. In particular, key aggregates such as the savings ratio and real household disposable income are fully consistent over the whole period shown.

The pre-1987 historic data has now been reviewed. Where data has been identified as corrupt and therefore no longer of sufficient quality to be useful for making long run comparisons the data has been deleted from the UKEA dataset.

For further information please contact: gdp@ons.gov.uk

Financial sector accounts

Following the transition of building societies' statistical reporting from the FSA to the Bank of England on 1 January 2008, some minor changes to the building societies' contribution to the Sector Accounts have been implemented. The effects of these have been removed from the flows data, and are small in terms of the amounts outstanding.

UK Economic Accounts on the Internet

Complete copies of this publication are available to download free of charge on the following web page:

www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=1904&More=N

Free access to National Statistics data is available online at:

www.statistics.gov.uk

Time Series Data

Access to around 40,000 time series, cross sectional data and metadata from across the Government Statistical Service (GSS), organised by theme and subject. Download many datasets, in whole or in part, or consult directory information for all GSS statistical resources, including censuses, surveys, periodicals and enquiry services. Information is posted as PDF electronic documents, or in XLS and CSV formats, compatible with most spreadsheet packages.

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Quarterly alignment adjustments

To improve the coherence of the quarterly accounts, adjustments are made to quarterly estimates of both the expenditure and income analyses of GDP for 1983 onwards. These adjustments, which sum to zero across each complete year, are attributed to the change in inventories component of GDP analysed by expenditure and to gross operating surplus of companies component analysed by income. These adjustments may be considered as allowing for timing differences in the recording of transactions in different parts of the economy. In addition changes in inventories is a component where accurate quarterly measurement is more difficult. These quarterly adjustments modify the aggregates derived from expenditure or income components so that they better reflect the quarter to quarter paths of the output measure of GDP.

The alignment adjustments included in GDP estimates in this publication are as follows:

		ALIGNMENT ADJUSTMENTS			£ million
		Change in inventories		Gross operating surplus of private non-financial corporations at current prices	
		Current prices	Chained Volume Measure		
		DMUN	DMUM	DMUQ	
1999	Q1	728	804	-797	
	Q2	-306	-338	875	
	Q3	37	38	299	
	Q4	-459	-504	-377	
2000	Q1	-1142	-1243	-299	
	Q2	653	711	797	
	Q3	568	617	-542	
	Q4	-79	-85	44	
2001	Q1	214	226	63	
	Q2	806	855	977	
	Q3	131	137	-1313	
	Q4	-1151	-1218	273	
2002	Q1	93	97	1361	
	Q2	-288	-297	-111	
	Q3	-59	-60	-1026	
	Q4	254	260	-224	
2003	Q1	-1105	-1112	-217	
	Q2	-218	-213	1138	
	Q3	444	448	240	
	Q4	879	877	-1161	
2004	Q1	-578	-592	-2095	
	Q2	-762	-773	-415	
	Q3	220	231	880	
	Q4	1120	1134	1630	
2005	Q1	1385	1389	330	
	Q2	771	766	354	
	Q3	-656	-661	-100	
	Q4	-1500	-1494	-584	
2006	Q1	2724	2665	1107	
	Q2	-392	-394	-1583	
	Q3	-1259	-1228	-43	
	Q4	-1073	-1043	519	
2007	Q1	-1627	-1543	1825	
	Q2	-1213	-1143	1366	
	Q3	1429	1354	-510	
	Q4	1411	1332	-2681	
2008	Q1	-1264	-1171	378	
	Q2	158	147	-1614	
	Q3	1573	1449	627	
	Q4	-467	-425	609	
2009	Q1	-1391	-1278	930	