



An Experimental Statistics Publication for Scotland

ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

GDP Monthly Estimate, Scotland

September 2022

30 November 2022

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) statistics measure the output of the economy in Scotland. These monthly estimates are designated as experimental official statistics, meaning they are still in development but have been released to enable their use at an early stage.

All results are seasonally adjusted and presented in real terms (adjusted to remove inflation), and relate to Scotland's onshore economy (which does not include offshore oil and gas extraction).

Main Findings

- Scotland's onshore GDP is estimated to have fallen by 0.6% in September, after a growth 0.1% in August, and is now 0.1% below the pre-pandemic level in February 2020.
- Output in the services sector, which accounts for around three quarters of the economy, is estimated to have fallen by 0.5% in September. At the broad level, output in consumer facing services fallen by 0.6%, while health, education and public services output grew by 0.5%, and output in all other services fell by 1.0%.
- Overall output in production, construction and agriculture fell by 1.0% compared to the previous month.
- In the three months to September, GDP is estimated to have fallen by 0.2% compared to the previous three month period. This is a slowdown in growth after output remained flat (0.0% growth) in 2022 Quarter 2 (April to June). Further information on quarterly GDP can be found in the [Quarterly First Estimate for 2022 Quarter 3](#).

Revisions

Estimates in this release remain consistent with the GDP Quarterly First Estimate for 2022 Quarter 3 published on 30 November, and there are no revisions to quarterly growth rates (3 month on 3 month growth at March, June, September, December) relative to the August GDP release. The monthly path within each quarter is open for revision throughout time, but results are constrained to the previous estimates at the quarterly level.

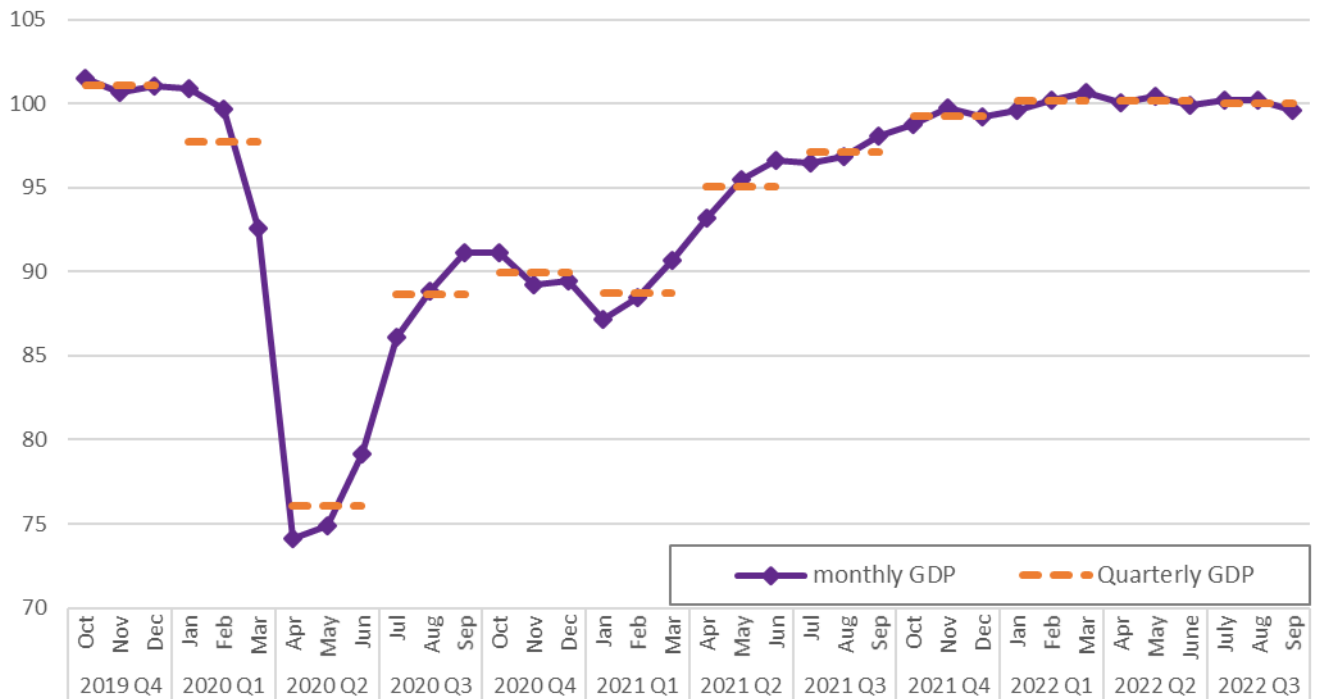


Quarterly and monthly results

Monthly GDP is much more volatile than quarterly GDP. Scotland’s onshore GDP is estimated to have fallen by 0.6% in September, after a revised positive growth of 0.1% in August. GDP is now 0.1% below the pre-pandemic level in February 2020.

Monthly and quarterly GDP, October 2019 to September 2022

Chained volume measure, 2018 =100



Notes: (1) Users are advised to be mindful that the axis on this chart does not start at zero.

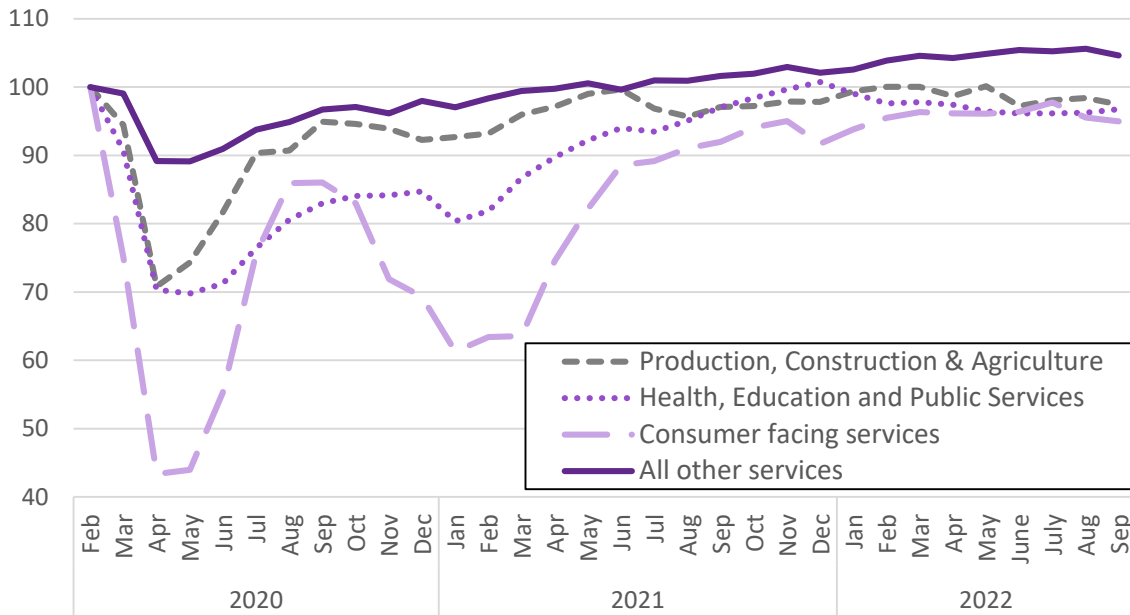
The Office for National Statistics noted some common themes reported by businesses in survey responses for the UK September Monthly GDP statistics, although they note that it is difficult to quantify these effects. Some businesses reported challenging conditions, with the price of energy and the price of fuel continuing to be cited as particular difficulties. Others reported an impact on their turnover following industrial action with strikes being carried out across various sectors. Many businesses also reported currency exchange as an issue that affected them, with a weaker pound making it less affordable to import inputs. Finally, many businesses reported that the additional bank holiday led to a drop in their turnover because there were fewer trading days in the month.

For the three months to September, GDP is estimated to have fallen by 0.2% compared to the previous three month period. This is a slight slowdown in growth after output remained flat (0.0% growth) between 2022 Quarter 1 and 2022 Quarter 2.

Industry Results

Monthly GDP by broad industry groups, February 2020 to September 2022

Chained volume measure, Feb 2020 =100



Notes:

- (1) Consumer facing services include SIC groups 45, 47, 49.1, 55, 56, 75, 79, 92-97
- (2) Users are advised to be mindful that the axis on this chart does not start at zero.

Total output in the services sector, which accounts for around three quarters of the economy, is estimated to have fallen by 0.5% in September.

Within services, at the broad level, output in consumer facing services fell by 0.6%. Output in health, education and public services grew by 0.5% in September. Output across all other services fell by 1.0% in total, with decreases led by a 3.7% fall in Other Services output.

Overall output in production, construction and agriculture fell by 1.0% compared to the previous month. This includes growth of 2.2% in the water and waste management industry.

Within production, manufacturing output fell by 3.3% in September, with increased levels of output in three of the five subsectors. Manufacturing continues to be quite volatile from month to month, with output remaining below the level seen in 2019.

Construction output is estimated to have grown by 0.3% in September, after increasing by 0.2% in August.

An Experimental Statistics Publication for Scotland

Experimental statistics are a subset of newly developed or innovative official statistics undergoing evaluation. They are published to involve users and stakeholders in the assessment of their suitability and quality at an early stage. The Office for Statistics Regulation publishes guidance on experimental statistics [here](#).

The Scottish Government is developing these estimates on an ongoing basis, and is grateful to the ONS, BEIS, and other departments and businesses which have assisted in the identification or delivery of earlier data sources which enable the timely production of monthly GDP. We welcome any feedback on the development of these statistics, using the contact details below.

Correspondence and enquiries

For enquiries about this publication, please contact:

Carrie Graham,

National Accounts Unit,

Office of the Chief Economic Adviser

e-mail: carrie.graham@gov.scot

or economic.statistics@gov.scot

For general enquiries about Scottish Government statistics please contact:

Office of the Chief Statistician, Telephone: 0131 244 0442,

e-mail: statistics.enquiries@gov.scot

Complaints and suggestions

If you are not satisfied with our service or have any comments or suggestions, please write to the Chief Statistician, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG, Telephone: (0131) 244 0302, e-mail statistics.enquiries@gov.scot.

If you would like to be consulted about statistical collections or receive notification of publications, please register your interest at www.gov.scot/scotstat

Details of forthcoming publications can be found at www.gov.scot/statistics

Crown Copyright

You may use or re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence.

See: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/