



An Experimental Statistics Publication for Scotland

ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

GDP Monthly Estimate, Scotland

October 2022

21 December 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).

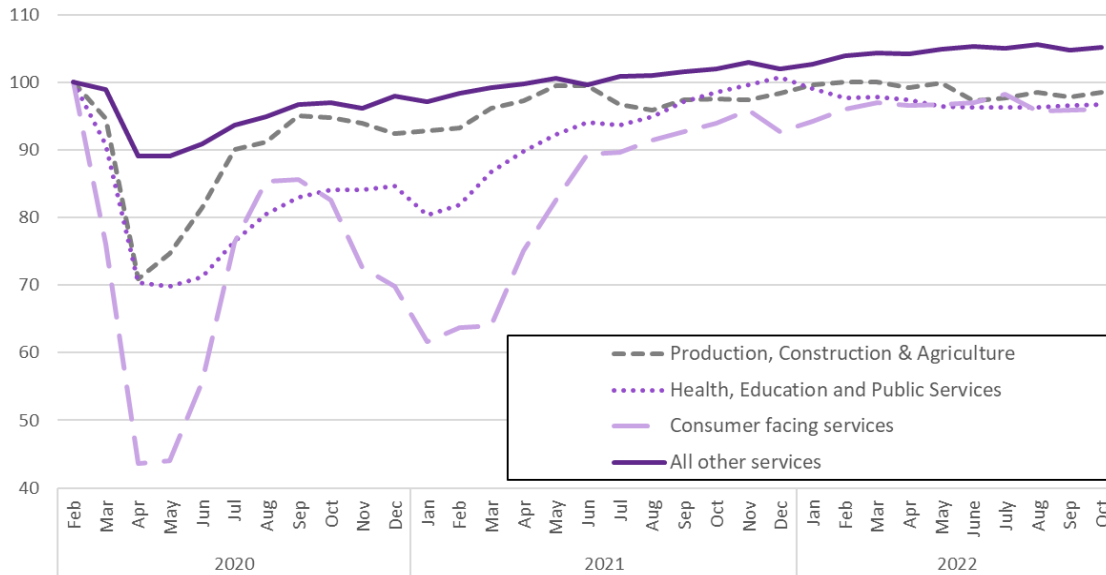
Main Findings

- Scotland's onshore GDP is estimated to have grown by 0.4% in October, after falling 0.4% in September.
- Output in the services sector, which accounts for around three quarters of the economy, is estimated to have grown by 0.3% in October. At the broad level, output in consumer facing services remained flat (0.0% growth), while health, education and public services output grew by 0.2%, and output in all other services grew by 0.5%.
- Overall output in production, construction and agriculture grew by 0.6% compared to the previous month.
- In the three months to October, GDP is estimated to have fallen by 0.1% compared to the previous three month period. This is a slight improvement in growth after output fell by 0.2% in 2022 Quarter 3 (July to September). Further information on quarterly GDP can be found in the [Quarterly First Estimate for 2022 Quarter 3](#).



Industry Results

Monthly GDP by broad industry groups, February 2020 to October 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 grown by 0.3% in October. Within this broad sector, the largest improvement in growth was in transport and storage services, which grew by 1.3%. The largest negative contribution to growth was in other services, which fell by 1.3%.

Within services, at the broad level, output in consumer facing services remained flat (0.0% growth). Output in health, education and public services grew by 0.2% in October. Output across all other services grew by 0.5% in total, with increases led by a 1.3% increase in Transport and Storage output.

Overall output in production, construction and agriculture grew by 0.6% compared to the previous month. This includes growth of 4.4% in the Electricity and Gas Supply industry and growth of 0.9% in construction, partly offset by a fall of 0.3% in manufacturing output and a fall of 0.9% in mining and quarrying industries.

Cross-industry themes

The Office for National Statistics commented on some common themes that were anecdotally reported as part of the Monthly Business Survey to have played a part in performance across different industries. However it is often difficult to quantify these effects.

There was anecdotal evidence to suggest that industrial action in October 2022 had an impact on businesses. Rail strikes resulted in units in accommodation, and food and beverage service activities, reporting a reduction in their revenue. However, units involved in bus transport reported that the strikes had led to an increase in their turnover. The port strikes were also reported as having had an impact, with units in haulage, logistics and shipping, employment agencies, and manufacture of machinery reporting that they had led to a reduction in their turnover. Postal strikes were also mentioned, with units in courier activities and employment agencies reporting an upturn in their revenue.

Revisions

Estimates in this release remain consistent with the Quarterly First Estimate for 2022 Quarter 3 published on 30 November. There are small revisions to month on month growth rates relative to those published in the September Monthly GDP release, but these cancel out within each three month period.

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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.

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