Statistical bulletin

Index of Services, UK: March 2023

Movements in the volume of output for the UK services industries. Figures are seasonally adjusted.

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Next release:
14 June 2023

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1 . Main points

- Monthly services output is estimated to have fallen 0.5% in March 2023, following a fall of 0.1% in February 2023 (unrevised) and a rise of 0.8% in January 2023 (upwardly revised 0.1 percentage points).

- In the longer-term, quarterly services output growth for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2023 was 0.1%, compared with Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2022; this is the eighth consecutive quarterly increase in services growth; however, the rate of quarterly growth continued to slow during that period.

- The Index of Services (IoS) saw monthly falls in 9 of the 14 sectors; the main contributing sectors to the monthly fall in March 2023 were wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (negative 1.4%), which contributed negative 0.15 percentage points to the IoS decrease; information and communication (negative 1.1%) and administrative and support service activities (negative 1.3%) also had notable falls and contributed negative 0.10 percentage points each to the monthly decrease.

- This was partially offset by arts, entertainment and recreation (1.5%), which contributed 0.03 percentage points, and real estate activities (0.1%), which contributed 0.02 percentage points to the IoS growth in March 2023.

- The IoS is 0.6% below February 2020, which was the last month of "normal" trading conditions prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; currently, 8 of the 14 services sectors are above their February 2020 pre-coronavirus pandemic level.

- The main sectors contributing positively to growth in Quarter 1 2023 were information and communication and administrative and support service activities, which increased by 1.2% and 1.3%, respectively; these were partially offset by falls in education, human health and social work activities, transportation and storage, and public administration and defence, which saw decreases of 0.7%, 0.5%, 1.0%, and 0.7% respectively (these four sectors have all been affected by industrial action in Quarter 1 2023, but it is not possible to quantify to what extent).

- For further and detailed analysis of the effect on our monthly IoS estimate, please see our GDP monthly estimate, UK: March 2023 article, published on 12 May 2023.

2 . Index of Services data

Index of Services time series Dataset | Dataset ID: IOS1 | Released 12 May 2023 Monthly movements in output for the services industries: distribution, hotels and restaurants; transport, storage and communication; business services and finance; and government and other services.

Monthly Business Survey turnover of services industries Dataset | Released 12 May 2023 Monthly Business Survey services industries' total turnover - current price and non-seasonally adjusted, UK.

Index of Services, main components and sectors to four decimal places Dataset | Released 12 May 2023 Monthly historical movements in output for services and their industry components, by chained volume indices of gross value added, UK.

Index of Services revisions triangles Dataset | Released 12 May 2023 Monthly chained volume indices in gross value added for services and its main components.

All data related to the Index of Services are available on the Related data page.

3 . Measuring the data

Data sources and collection

The Index of Services (IoS) is compiled using data from several different sources:

- Office for National Statistics (ONS) Monthly Business Survey (44.4%)

- ONS Retail Sales Inquiry (6.4%)

- ONS Government Expenditure (20.1%)

- ONS Households' Expenditure (15.3%)

- ONS Finance Expenditure (7.8%)

- Other (5.9%)

The Monthly Business Survey (MBS) data are published alongside this release in our MBS turnover of services industries dataset.

Data relating to the retail industry are broadly comparable with our Retail sales, Great Britain: March 2023 bulletin, published on 21 April 2023.

For further information on what is included within Other, please see our GDP(o) data sources catalogue.

The percentage of each data source is based on their gross value added weight. The GDP(o) methods and sources pages provide more information on the data that underpin these statistics; of particular note is our GDP (o) data sources catalogue.

From February 2018, value added tax (VAT) data have also been included across 64 production industries for small- and medium-sized businesses. For more information, see our VAT turnover data in National Accounts: background and methodology.

Quality and methodology

More quality and methodology information on strengths, limitations, appropriate uses, and how the data were created is available in our Index of Services QMI.

Economic statistics governance after Brexit

Following the UK's exit from the EU, new governance arrangements are being put in place that will support the adoption and implementation of high-quality standards for UK economic statistics. These governance arrangements will promote international comparability and add to the credibility and independence of the UK's statistical system.

At the centre of this new governance framework will be the new National Statistician's Committee for Advice on Standards for Economic Statistics (NSCASE). NSCASE will support the UK by ensuring its processes for influencing and adopting international statistical standards are world leading. The advice NSCASE provides to the National Statistician will span the full range of domains in economic statistics. This includes the National Accounts, fiscal statistics, prices, trade, and the balance of payments and labour market statistics.

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Revisions to IoS

In line with our National Accounts revision policy, this release (published on 12 May 2023), is open to revision for periods January and February 2023.

4 . Related links

[GDP monthly estimate, UK: March 2023](#) Bulletin | Released 12 May 2023 Gross domestic product (GDP) measures the value of goods and services produced in the UK. It estimates the size of and growth in the economy.

[Index of Production, UK: March 2023](#) Bulletin | Released 12 May 2023 Movements in the volume of production for the UK production industries: manufacturing, mining and quarrying, energy supply, and water and waste management. Figures are seasonally adjusted.

[Producer price inflation, UK: March 2023 including services, January to March 2023](#) Bulletin | Released 19 April 2023 Changes in the prices of goods bought and sold by UK manufacturers including price indices of materials and fuels purchased (input prices) and factory gate prices (output prices).

5 . Cite this statistical bulletin

Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 12 May 2023, ONS website, statistical bulletin, [Index of Services, UK: March 2023](#)

IOS1

IOS: Index of Services [1]
Chained volume indices of gross value added [2,3,4]

seasonally adjusted 2019 = 100

		Total service industries	Distribution hotels and restaurants	Transport, storage and communication	Business services and finance	Govern- ment and other services
Section		G-T	G and I	H and J	K-N	O-T
2019 weights		**1000**	**169**	**129**	**426**	**276**
		S2KU	S2MV	KI7B	KI7L	KI7T
2018		98.5	99.5	94	100.1	97.7
2019		100	100	100	100	100
2020		87.6	76.7	87.5	96.8	80.2
2021		93.7	83.4	94	101.5	88.4
2022		98.9	87.8	103.3	104.5	94.9
2022	Q1	98.5	87.8	102.4	103.8	95.1
	Q2	98.9	88.2	103	104.7	94.6
	Q3	99.1	87.5	104.1	104.7	95.1
	Q4	99.1	87.7	103.9	105	94.8
2023	Q1	99.2	88	104.4	105.4	94.5
2022	Jan	98.6	87.5	101.8	103.4	95.9
	Feb	98.5	88.4	102.9	104	94.7
	Mar	98.5	87.4	102.4	104	94.9
	Apr	98.5	88.3	102.5	104.2	93.9
	May	99.4	88.3	103.5	105.3	95.3
	Jun	98.8	88.1	102.9	104.6	94.5
	Jul	99.3	88.4	104	104.8	95.2
	Aug	99.4	87.7	105.3	105	95.3
	Sep	98.5	86.3	102.9	104.2	94.9
	Oct	99.2	87.7	103.2	104.7	95.8
	Nov	99.5	87.9	104.8	104.9	95.4
	Dec	98.7	87.7	103.7	105.4	93.2
2023	Jan	99.5	88.2	105.4	105.3	94.7
	Feb	99.3	88.1	104.6	105.6	94.5
	Mar	98.8	87.5	103.3	105.3	94.3

Percentage change, latest year on previous year

		S222	S243	KI77	KI7G	KI7O
2018		1.7	-1	9.4	0.4	1.7
2019		1.5	0.5	6.4	-0.1	2.4
2020		-12.4	-23.3	-12.5	-3.2	-19.8
2021		7	8.7	7.4	4.8	10.3
2022		5.5	5.3	10	3	7.4

Percentage change, latest month on same month a year ago

		S26Q	S28R	KI7A	KI7I	KI7Q
2022	Jan	14.5	28.8	13.3	4.8	26.3
	Feb	13.9	25.9	15.6	4.7	25.1
	Mar	11	21	13.6	2.9	18.9
	Apr	6.7	8.1	10.1	3.7	8.9
	May	6	2.4	11.9	4.7	7.4
	Jun	3.7	-0.6	10.1	3	4.2
	Jul	4.4	0.1	9.8	3.6	5.3
	Aug	3.5	-2.9	10.5	3.6	3.7
	Sep	1.6	-4.5	8.6	1.4	1.5
	Oct	2	-2.1	6.2	2.1	1.6
	Nov	1.1	-1	6.4	1.1	-0.8
	Dec	0.3	2.2	4.7	1.2	-4.4
2023	Jan	0.9	0.8	3.5	1.8	-1.3
	Feb	0.8	-0.3	1.6	1.5	-0.2
	Mar	0.4	0.1	1.0	1.2	-0.6

IOS: Index of Services [1]
Chained volume indices of gross value added [2,3,4]

seasonally adjusted 2019 = 100

		Industry sections (SIC2007)			
	Total service industries	Distribution hotels and restaurants	Transport, storage and communication	Business services and finance	Government and other services
Section	G-T	G and I	H and J	K-N	O-T
2019 weights	**1000**	**169**	**129**	**426**	**276**

Percentage change, latest month on previous month

		S222	S243	KI77	KI7G	KI7O
2022	Jan	0.1	2	2.8	-0.7	-1.6
	Feb	0	1	1.1	0.5	-1.3
	Mar	0	-1.1	-0.5	0	0.2
	Apr	0	1	0.1	0.2	-1.1
	May	0.8	0	1	1	1.6
	Jun	-0.5	-0.3	-0.6	-0.7	-0.8
	Jul	0.4	0.4	1.2	0.2	0.7
	Aug	0.2	-0.9	1.2	0.2	0.1
	Sep	-0.9	-1.5	-2.3	-0.7	-0.4
	Oct	0.7	1.6	0.3	0.4	0.9
	Nov	0.2	0.2	1.6	0.2	-0.4
	Dec	-0.8	-0.3	-1.1	0.5	-2.3
2023	Jan	0.8	0.6	1.6	-0.1	1.5
	Feb	-0.1	-0.1	-0.8	0.2	-0.2
	Mar	-0.5	-0.7	-1.2	-0.3	-0.2

Percentage change, latest 3 months on same 3 months a year ago

		S2G6	S2I7	KI7C	KI7J	KI7R
2022	Jan	12.6	22.5	11.3	5.5	21.5
	Feb	12.9	22.9	13.2	4.6	23.4
	Mar	13.1	25.2	14.1	4.1	23.3
	Apr	10.5	17.9	13	3.8	17.3
	May	7.9	9.9	11.8	3.8	11.5
	Jun	5.5	3.2	10.7	3.8	6.8
	Jul	4.7	0.6	10.6	3.8	5.6
	Aug	3.9	-1.2	10.1	3.4	4.4
	Sep	3.2	-2.5	9.7	2.9	3.5
	Oct	2.4	-3.2	8.4	2.3	2.2
	Nov	1.6	-2.6	7	1.5	0.7
	Dec	1.1	-0.4	5.7	1.5	-1.2
2023	Jan	0.8	0.6	4.8	1.4	-2.2
	Feb	0.7	0.9	3.3	1.5	-2
	Mar	0.7	0.2	2	1.5	-0.7

Percentage change, latest 3 months on previous 3 months

		S2BG	S2DH	KI7D	KI7K	KI7S
2022	Jan	1.7	-3	4.3	1.5	3.5
	Feb	1	-2.6	4.6	0.8	1.4
	Mar	0.5	-0.3	4.1	0.3	-0.9
	Apr	0.1	0.8	2.8	0.3	-2.1
	May	0.3	0.9	1.5	0.7	-1.4
	Jun	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.9	-0.6
	Jul	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.6
	Aug	0.4	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.4
	Sep	0.2	-0.9	1.1	0	0.6
	Oct	-0.1	-1.2	0.3	-0.3	0.3
	Nov	-0.1	-0.9	-0.4	-0.2	0.4
	Dec	0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.3	-0.4
2023	Jan	0.2	0.8	0.8	0.5	-0.9
	Feb	0.1	0.8	0.9	0.8	-1.3
	Mar	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.4	-0.3

1 The IOS output is designated as a National Statistic.
2 Indices reflect values measured at basic prices, which exclude "taxes less
  subsidies on products".
3 Estimates cannot be regarded as accurate to the last digit shown.
4 Any apparent inconsistencies between the index numbers and the percentage
  changes shown in these tables are due to rounding.
5 A complete run of data is available on the ONS website as a
  Time series dataset

Sources: For further information on these data please telephone
01633 456387; fax 01633 455300 or e-mail ios.enquiries@ons.gov.uk