



## BRIEFING PAPER

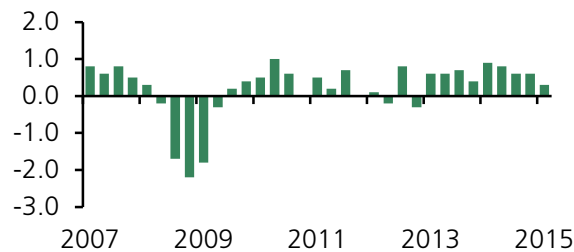
Number 7396, 23 November 2015

# Economic Indicators Nov 2015 – Autumn Statement edition

By Aliyah Dar

### GDP growth

% change on previous qtr



GDP grew by 0.3% in Q1 2015.

### Consumer Prices Index (CPI)

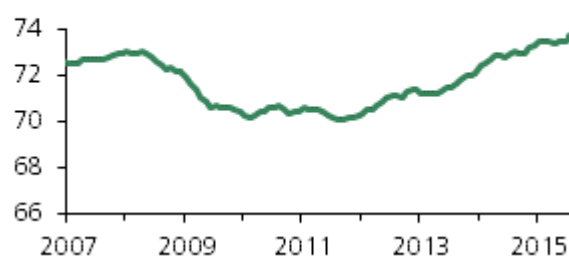
% change on yr



The CPI annual inflation rate was -0.1% in October 2015.

### Employment Rate; UK

%, age 16-64



The employment rate was 73.7% in July-September 2015.

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# 1. Headline UK Economic Indicators, Nov 2015

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<b>Gross Domestic Product: Q3 2015, Seasonally Adjusted</b>		
Change (real %)	0.5 (qtr)	2.3 (yr)
<b>Industries</b>		
<b>Service output: Aug 2015</b>		
Change (%)	0.0 (mth)	2.8 (yr)
<b>Manufacturing output: Sep 2015</b>		
Change (%)	0.5 (mth)	-0.6 (yr)
<b>Productivity: Q2 2015, Seasonally Adjusted</b>		
<b>Output per hour</b>		
Change (%)	0.9 (qtr)	1.3 (yr)
<b>Inflation: Oct 2015</b>		
Change on year (%)	-0.1 (CPI)	0.8 (RPI)
<b>Labour Market: Jul-Sep 2015, Seasonally Adjusted</b>		
<b>Unemployment</b>		
Unemployment Rate (% of economically active)		5.3
Change (% points)	-0.3 (qtr)	-0.7 (yr)
<b>Employment</b>		
Employment Rate (% aged 16-64)		73.7
Change (% points)	0.3 (qtr)	0.7 (yr)
<b>Interest Rate: as of 23 Nov 2015</b>		
Bank of England Base Rate		0.5%
<b>Public Finances: 2014/15</b>		
Net borrowing	90 (£ bn)	4.9 (% GDP)
Net debt	1,487 (£ bn)	80.0 (% GDP)
<b>Trade: Q2 2015</b>		
Current Account	-16.8 (£ bn)	-3.6 (% GDP)
<b>Sterling Exchange rate: 23 Nov 2015</b>		
US Dollar (\$)	1.52 (rate)	-2.9 (% change on yr)
Euro (€)	1.43 (rate)	13.0 (% change on yr)
<b>EC Economic Sentiment Indicator for UK: Sep 2015</b>		
Points (1990-2012 = 100)		108.3
Change (points)	-2.4 (mth)	-4.7 (yr)
<b>Retail Sales: Oct 2015, Seasonally Adjusted</b>		
Retailing total (inc vehicle fuel), value		1.1 (% change on yr)
<b>Housing Market: Sep 2015</b>		
<b>House Price Index</b>		
Change (%)	0.8 (mth)	6.1 (yr)

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See Section 5 for information on the sources used in this table.

## 2. This month's developments

### Spending Review and Autumn Statement

On Wednesday 25 November, the Chancellor will present the joint Autumn Statement and Spending Review to the House of Commons.

The Spending Review will set departmental spending limits for each financial year from 2016/17 to 2019/20. While some departments have protected budgets (including the NHS, some schools spending, defence spending and the international development budget). This means that other departments will see larger reductions, in many cases on top of reductions seen over the previous Parliament.

For more information see the Library briefing [Background to the 2015 Spending Review and Autumn Statement](#).

### Public sector net debt increases

Public Sector Net Debt (PSND) was 80.5% of GDP at the end of October 2015 – higher than the 79.4% recorded a year ago. Public Sector Net Borrowing (PSNB) rose by £1.1 billion to £54.3 billion in October 2015 compared to the previous year.

### Employment rate reaches record high

The employment rate reached 73.7% in the period July to September 2015, the highest since comparable records began in 1971. The unemployment rate fell to 5.6%, this is the lowest it has been since March to May 2008.

### Wages on the rise

Median gross weekly earnings for full-time employees were £528 in April 2015 – an increase of 1.8% on 2014. In real terms, earnings increased by 1.9% compared to 2014 – the first real terms increase since 2008.

### Inflation remains negative

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) remained at -0.1% in October 2015, this was the first time that the CPI had fallen on an annual basis for 2 months in a row since the index was created in 1997.

### Japan back in recession, interest rates rise on the table for US

Japan fell back into recession in Q3 2015 – annualised GDP contracted at a rate of 0.8% following a fall of 0.7% in Q2.

There is also speculation that the US Federal Reserve will raise interest rates at its December meeting.

## 3. Introduction to Economic Indicators

Economic Indicators is published on the first Tuesday of the month. Individual indicator pages are updated more frequently as new data becomes available and are published on the Library's webpages.

### Feedback

If you have any comments or suggestions about Economic Indicators please contact the editor, Aliyah Dar on x6920.

### Weekly email alert

A weekly email alert with updated indicators is available to Members and their staff on request. To subscribe, please visit the Economic Indicators web pages.

### Regional Economic Indicators

A separate briefing, Regional and National Economic Indicators, is available containing key economic data on the regions and countries of the UK, compared to the national UK average.

### Sources and glossary

A guide to sources is provided in Section 5. Economic terms, symbols and abbreviations used in the publication are provided in Section 6.

### Contacts

Members and their staff are encouraged to talk to Library subject specialists. A comprehensive guide is available in Using the Library. Researchers are not able to discuss pages with members of the public. For enquiries please contact the following specialists:

Subject	Specialist	Contact
Balance of Payments	Dominic Webb	2042
Businesses	Chris Rhodes	2454
EC Finance	Matthew Keep	4324
GDP	Daniel Harari	2464
Employment	Aliyah Dar	6920
Financial Services	Dominic Webb	2042
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Taxation	Matthew Keep	4324
Unemployment	Jeanne Delebarre	6962
Wages and Earnings	Feargal McGuinness	4904

# A1: Gross Domestic Product

The economy grew by 0.5% in real terms in Q3 2015 compared with the previous quarter, following growth of 0.7% in Q2 2015.

**Real Gross Domestic Product**  
seasonally adjusted

	% change on qtr	% change on yr
2011	...	2.0
2012	...	1.2
2013	...	2.2
2014	...	2.9
2014 Q3	0.6	2.9
Q4	0.8	3.0
2015 Q1	0.4	2.7
Q2	0.7	2.4
Q3	0.5	2.3

GDP increased by 2.9% in 2014 compared with 2013, the highest annual increase since 2006.

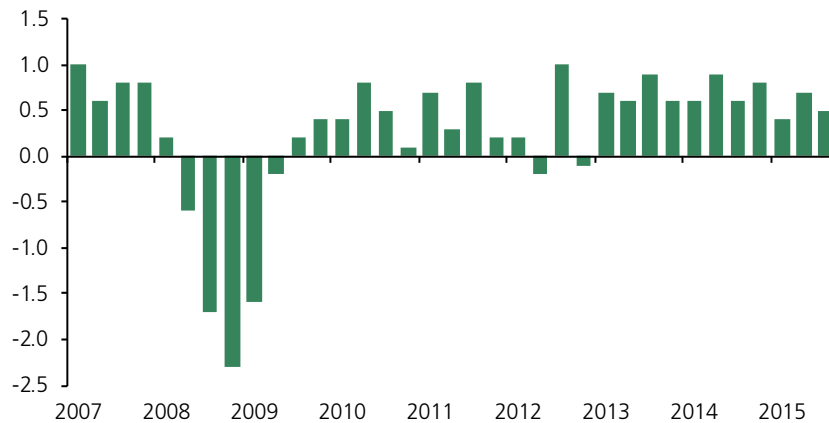
GDP is estimated to be 6.4% above the pre-economic downturn peak in Q1 2008.

GDP in cash terms was £1,816 billion in 2014.

Source: ONS, series: IHYP, IHYQ, IHYR

**GDP growth**

% change on previous qtr



**Forecasts**

In November, the Treasury survey of independent forecasts for GDP growth showed an average forecast of 2.5% for 2015 and 2.4% for 2016.

The latest Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) forecasts, from July 2015, are for growth of 2.4% in 2015 and 2.3% in 2016.

**Annual GDP growth forecasts (%)**

	2015	2016
HM Treasury average of independent forecasts (Nov 15)	2.5	2.4
OBR forecasts (Jul 15)	2.4	2.3

Source: HMT, Forecasts for the UK economy: a comparison of independent forecasts, Nov 2015  
Office for Budget Responsibility, *Economic and fiscal outlook*, Jul 2015

**Subject Specialist**

Daniel Harari  
x2464

**Updates**

ONS, [Second Estimate of GDP](#), 27 Nov 2015

HM Treasury, [Forecast for the UK economy](#), 16 Dec 2015

OBR, [Economic and fiscal outlook](#)

## A2: GDP International

Real GDP in the UK grew by 0.5% in Q3 2015 compared with the previous quarter. The US saw 0.4% growth and the Eurozone 0.3%. Japan's economy shrank for the second successive quarter.

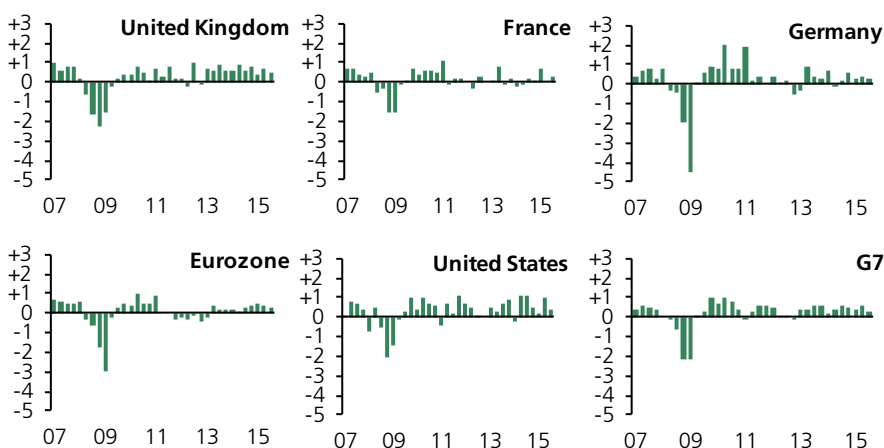
### Real GDP

% changes

	change on qtr				change on yr			
	Q4 14	Q1 15	Q2 15	Q3 15	Q4 14	Q1 15	Q2 15	Q3 15
UK	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.5	3.0	2.7	2.4	2.3
Eurozone	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.6
USA	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.4	2.5	2.9	2.7	2.0
Japan	0.3	1.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.8	-0.8	1.0	1.1
Germany	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.5	1.1	1.6	1.7
France	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.9	1.1	1.2
G7	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.3	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.7
OECD	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.0

Source: OECDstat

### Quarter-on-quarter growth rates



### Forecasts

On 9 November 2015, the OECD forecast that the UK would grow by 2.4% in both 2015 and 2016. Their forecast for 2016 was up 0.1 percentage point, compared with their previous round in September.

### Real GDP growth forecasts

% change

	IMF (Oct 15)		EC (Nov 15)		OECD (Nov 15)	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
UK	2.5	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4
France	1.2	1.5	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.3
Germany	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.8
Eurozone	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.8
US	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.4	2.5
Japan	0.6	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.0
China	6.8	6.3	6.8	6.5	6.8	6.5
India	7.3	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.2	7.3
Brazil	-3.0	-1.0	-2.6	-0.5	-3.1	-1.2
<b>World</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>

Sources: IMF Oct 15 WEO; EC Autumn 2015 forecast; OECD Economic Outlook Nov 15

### Subject Specialist

Daniel Harari  
x2464

### Updates

OECD, [OECDStat database](#)

OECD, interim [Economic Outlook](#), March 2016

IMF, [World Economic Outlook](#), Jan 2016

European Commission, [Autumn Economic Forecast](#), Feb 2016

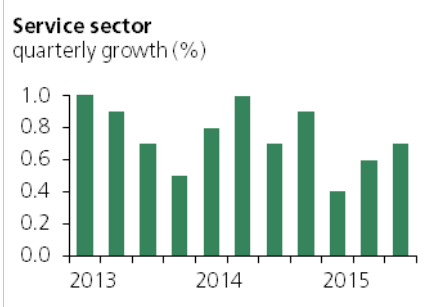
# A3: Components of GDP

GDP can be analysed in terms of the output produced of different industries of the economy and by expenditure on goods and services made by households, businesses and the government.

Overall, GDP increased by 0.5% in real terms in Q3 2015 compared with the previous quarter.

## GDP by Industry

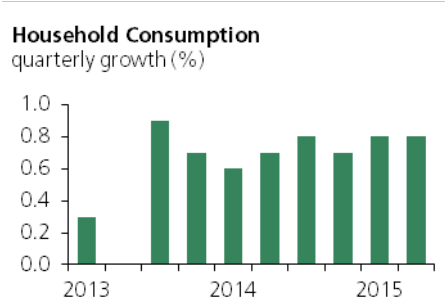
In 2014, the service sector accounted for around 79% of economic output, the production sector for 14% and the construction sector for 6%.



In Q3 2015, service sector output increased by 0.7% in real terms compared with Q2 2015. Manufacturing output fell by 0.3% (but overall the production sector increased by 0.3%). Output in the construction sector decreased by 2.2%.

## GDP by Expenditure

Household consumption is the largest element of expenditure, accounting for 62% of the total in 2014. Government consumption accounted for 20% and investment for 17%.



In Q2 2015, household consumption grew by 0.8% in real terms compared with Q1 2015. Government consumption was up 0.4% and investment was up 1.0%.

Exports increased by 1.9% while imports decreased by 2.7%.

### GDP by expenditure

% change on previous quarter (real terms)

	Household consumption	Government consumption	Investment	Exports	Imports	GDP
2013 *	1.9	0.5	2.6	1.2	2.8	2.2
2014 *	2.7	1.9	7.5	1.8	2.8	2.9
2014 Q2	0.7	1.4	1.4	2.4	-1.8	0.9
Q3	0.8	0.5	1.4	-1.5	0.8	0.6
Q4	0.7	-0.4	-0.5	3.8	2.8	0.8
2015 Q1	0.8	1.1	1.5	-1.2	0.6	0.4
Q2	0.8	0.4	1.0	1.9	-2.7	0.7

Source: ONS series ABJR, NMRY, NPQT, IKBK, IKBL and ABMI

Note: \* annual % change

### Subject Specialist

Daniel Harari  
x2464

### Update

ONS, [Second Estimate of GDP](#), 27 Nov 2015



# A4: Productivity

One of the most important factors in determining living standards is productivity – how much output is produced for a given input (such as an hour of work).

The more efficient the economy is, the more that can be produced in a sustainable fashion. In other words, higher productivity growth leads to a higher long-term growth rate of the economy.

Labour productivity also determines wages: the more productive an employee is, the more they are likely to be paid.

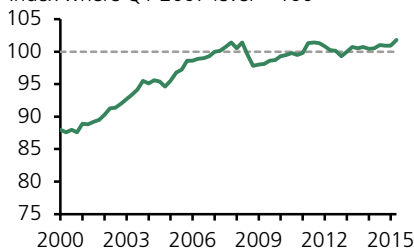
## UK productivity

The average increase historically in the UK has been about 2% but in the seven years since the recession began, productivity has stagnated. The Office for National Statistics in March [said](#) this is “unprecedented in the post-war period”.

Productivity across the whole UK economy, measured by output per hour, is estimated to have increased by 0.2% in 2014 as a whole. In Q2 2015, productivity rose by 0.9% compared with the previous quarter and by 1.3% compared with the same period a year ago.

**Productivity level (GDP per hour)**

Index where Q1 2007 level = 100



**Productivity - output (GDP) per hour**

	% change on qtr	% change on yr
2013	..	0.4
2014	..	0.2
2014 Q3	0.5	0.5
Q4	-0.1	0.2
2015 Q1	0.0	0.5
Q2	0.9	1.3

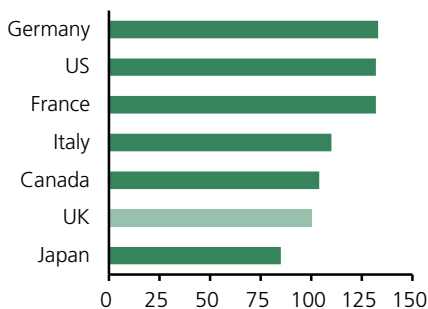
Source: ONS series LZVD, TXBB

## International comparisons

International comparisons of productivity levels are presented as an index where the UK=100.

**Productivity (GDP per hour), 2014**

Index where UK=100



In 2014, based on GDP per hour, the UK came sixth highest out of the G7 countries, with Germany top and Japan bottom. UK productivity was 20 percentage points below the average of the rest of the G7 countries, the widest productivity gap since at least 1991 (when the ONS data series began).

### Subject Specialist

Daniel Harari  
x2464

### Update

ONS, [Labour Productivity](#), 23 Dec

ONS, [International Comparisons](#), Feb 2016

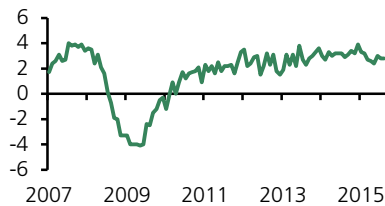
# A5: Services

The service industries include the retail sector, the financial sector, the public sector, business administration and cultural activities.

In 2014, the service industries accounted for 78% of total UK economic output (Gross Value Added) and accounted for 83% of jobs in December 2014.

## Services Output

**Output - Index of Services**  
% change on previous year

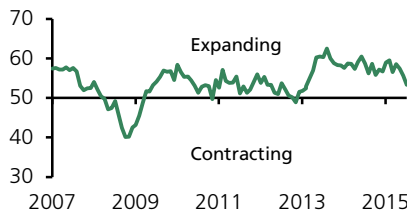


Output remained unchanged in August compared to July.

Compared with a year before, it has increased by 2.8%.

## Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)

**UK Services PMI**  
50 = no change



The Markit/CIPS UK Services PMI is important indicator of output and confidence in the sector

In September 2015 it was 54.9 (where a figure above 50 indicates that output is increasing).

The UK Services PMI fell to a 28-month low in September, showing the slowest rise in new business since April 2013.

### Services Output Index

	Index	% change on yr
2013 Aug	102.8	2.8
2014 Aug	106.1	3.2
2015 Jun	109.1	3.0
Jul	109.3	2.8
Aug	109.3	2.8

Source: ONS, series S2KU, S222

### PMI Index

	Index	Change on mth
2013 Oct	62.5	
2014 Oct	56.2	
2015 Aug	55.6	-1.8
Sep	53.3	-2.3
Oct	54.9	1.6

Source: Markit/CIPS UK Services PMI

### Subject Specialist

Chris Rhodes  
x2454

### Update

ONS, [Index of Services](#), 27 Nov 2015

Markit/CIPS, [UK Services PMI](#), 3 Dec 2015

# A6: Manufacturing

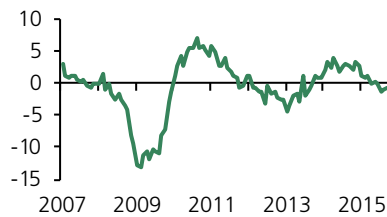
Manufacturing is one of the production industries, which also include mining, electricity, water & waste management and oil & gas extraction.

In 2014, the manufacturing sector accounted for 10% of total UK economic output (Gross Value Added) and for 8% of jobs in December 2014.

## Manufacturing Output

### Output - Index of manufacturing

% change on previous year



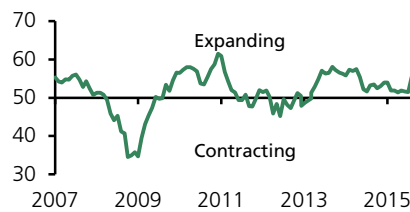
Output increased by 0.8% in September compared to August 2015.

Compared with a year before, manufacturing output decreased by 0.6%.

## Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)

### UK Manufacturing PMI

50 = no change



The Markit/CIPS UK Manufacturing PMI is an important indicator of output and confidence in the sector.

In October 2015 it was 55.5 (where a figure above 50 indicates that output is increasing).

### Manufacturing output index

	Index	% change on yr
2013	98.9	-1.1
2014	101.6	2.7
2015 Jul	100.5	-1.2
Aug	100.9	-0.9
Sep	101.7	-0.6

Source: ONS, series K22A, K27Y, K2DO

### PMI Index

	Index	Change on mth
2013 Oct	56.5	
2014 Oct	53.2	
2015 Aug	51.6	-0.3
Sep	51.5	-0.1
Oct	55.5	4

Source: Markit/CIPS UK Manufacturing PMI

### Subject Specialist

Chris Rhodes  
x2454

### Update

ONS, [Index of Production](#), 8 Dec 2015

Markit/CIPS, [UK Manufacturing PMI](#), 1 Dec 2015

# B1: Inflation

The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) is the main measure of inflation. It is produced in line with international standards and is the measure used for the Bank of England’s 2% inflation target. The Retail Prices Index (RPI) is no longer classified as a National Statistic as the way it is calculated does not meet international standards. It is included here as it is well-known and is the longest running measure of inflation.

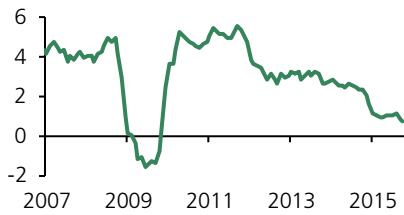
**Consumer Prices Index (CPI)**  
% change on yr



The CPI inflation rate was -0.1% in October, unchanged when compared to September. The RPI inflation rate was 0.7% in October, down from 0.8% in September.

Falling prices for fuel, food and drink and energy costs were the largest downward contributors.

**Retail Prices Index (RPI)**  
% change on yr



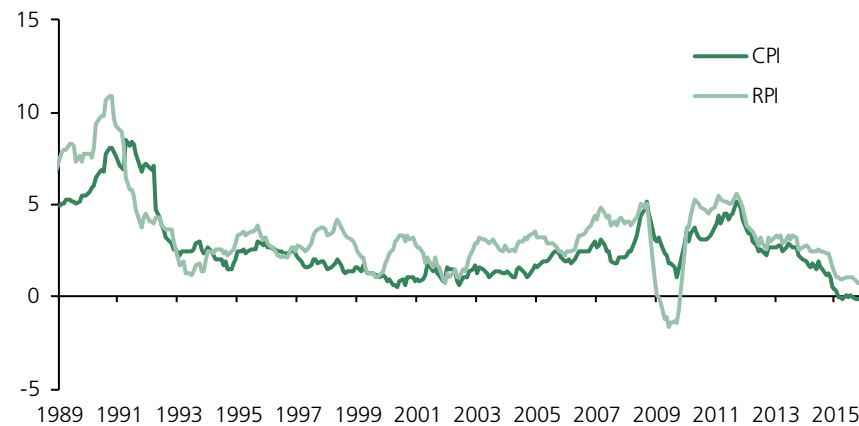
**Price Indices**

% change on a year ago

	CPI	RPI
2012	2.7	3.2
2013	2.2	2.6
2014	1.3	2.3
2015 Aug	0.0	1.1
Sep	-0.1	0.8
Oct	-0.1	0.7

Source: ONS database, series: D7G7, CZBH

**CPI and RPI since 1989**  
% change on yr

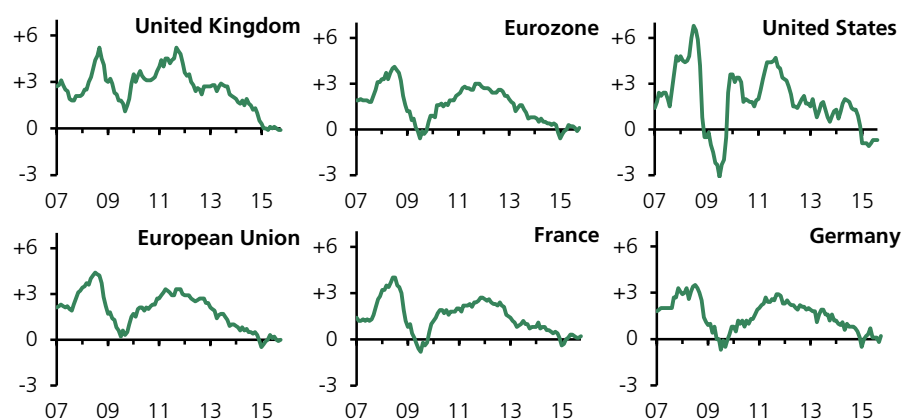


**Subject Specialist**  
Dominic Webb  
x2042

**Update**  
ONS, [Consumer Price Indices](#), 16 Dec 2015

## B2: International inflation

Inflation in the EU, some other European countries, and the US can be compared using the standard Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), or the CPI as it is known in the UK.



UK inflation was -0.1% in the year to October 2015, unchanged from September.

Eurozone inflation for the year to October was +0.1%, up from -0.1% in September.

Malta had the highest annual inflation rate in the EU in October 2015 at 1.6%, followed by Belgium at 1.2%.

The lowest annual inflation rate in the EU was -1.8% in Cyprus, followed by Romania (-1.4%) and Bulgaria (-1.2%).

HICP annual inflation in the US in the year to August was -0.7%, unchanged from July.

### Inflation rates: selected countries

Annual % change in consumer prices (HICP)

	2012	2013	2014	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sep 15	Oct 15
UK	2.8	2.6	1.5	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Eurozone	2.5	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.1
European Union	2.6	1.5	0.6	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0
France	2.2	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Germany	2.1	1.6	0.8	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.2
US	2.1	1.3	1.3	-0.7	:	:	..

Source: Eurostat & stat.OECD database. EU figure for October 2015 is provisional estimate

### Subject Specialist

Dominic Webb  
x2042

### Update

ONS, [Consumer Prices bulletin](#) (UK), 15 Dec 2015

Eurostat, [Flash estimate](#) (Eurozone), 2 Dec 2015

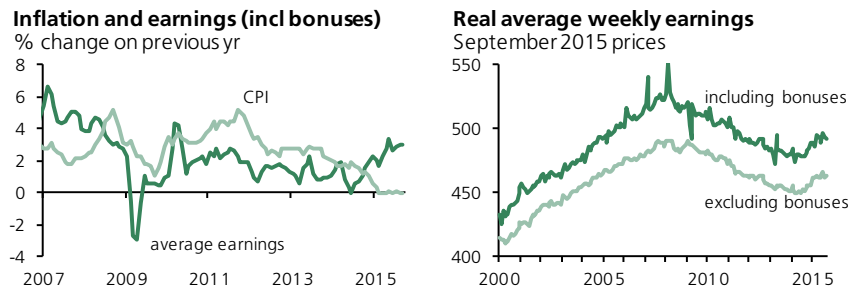
Eurostat, [HICP full release](#), 16 Dec 2015

## B3: Average Earnings

In April 2015 median gross weekly earnings for full-time employees were £528, up 1.8% on April 2014.

More timely but less detailed data show average weekly earnings for the whole economy, including bonuses, were 3.0% higher in the three months to September 2015 compared with the year before. Inflation as measured by the CPI averaged 0.0% over the same period.

### Average Earnings, Whole Economy



### Trends by Sector

**Annual % change in average earnings (including bonuses), Great Britain**

	Total	Private	Public
2013 Sep	0.8	1.2	0.3
2014 Sep	1.1	1.2	0.5
2015 Jul	2.9	3.3	1.0
Aug	3.0	3.5	1.1
Sep	3.0	3.4	1.2

Note: Data show annual % change in earnings to three month period ending in given month; data are seasonally adjusted

Source: ONS, Average Weekly Earnings series

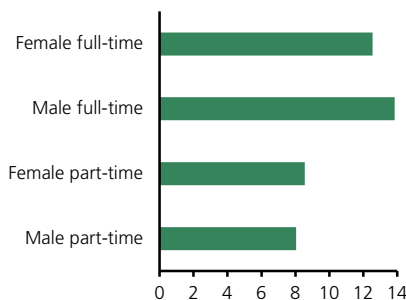
Year to July-September 2015 included construction (up 6.0%) and wholesale, retail and hospitality (up 4.4%).

Average total weekly pay (including bonuses) grew by 3.4% in the **private sector** in the three months to September 2015, compared with the year before. In the **public sector**, total pay increased by 1.2% over the same period.

Sectors seeing larger increases in average earnings over the

### Pay Levels

**Median hourly pay excluding overtime**  
April 2015 (£)



Median weekly earnings for full-time employees in the UK were £528 in April 2015. (The median is the point at which half earn more and half earn less).

Median hourly earnings (excluding overtime) were £13.29 for full-time employees; £13.84 for men working full-time and £12.54 for women.

Median hourly earnings (excluding overtime) were £8.44 for part-time employees; £8.04 for men working part-time, and £8.56 for women. Women are more likely than men to work part-time.

#### Subject Specialist

Feargal McGuinness  
x4904

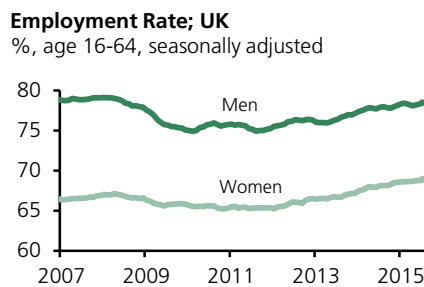
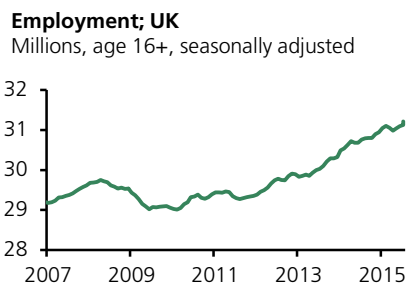
#### Update

ONS, [Labour Market Statistics](#), 16 Dec 2015

ONS, [Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings](#), Nov 2016

# C1: Employment

31.21 million people were in employment in July-September 2015, up 177,000 from the previous quarter and up 419,000 on the previous year. The employment rate (the proportion of the population aged 16-64 in work) was 73.7%, up 0.7% points on the previous year and the highest rate since comparable records began in 1971.



16.61 million men were in work in July-September 2015, 107,000 higher than the previous quarter. The employment rate for men aged 16-64 was 78.5%. Female employment increased by 69,000 over the past quarter to 14.61 million. The employment rate for women aged 16-64 was 69.0%.

4.55 million people were self-employed, 38,000 higher than in the previous quarter. The number of people working as employees rose by 146,000, to 26.46 million.

22.80 million people were working full-time in July-

September 2015, up 31,000 on the previous quarter and 273,000 higher than a year earlier.

There were 8.42 million people working part-time, an increase of 145,000 from the previous quarter and 146,000 higher than a year earlier.

1.66 million people were employed on a temporary basis in July-September 2015, up 16,000 from the previous quarter and down 41,000 compared to the year before.

Private sector employment stood at 25.74 million in June-September 2015, an increase of 58,000 on the previous quarter and up 472,000 on the previous year.

This compares to 5.36 million people working in the public sector, down 16,000 from the previous quarter and 59,000 lower than a year earlier.

## Subject Specialist

Aliyah Dar  
x6920

## Updates

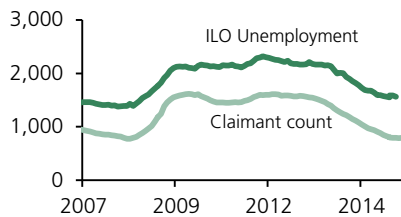
ONS, [Labour Market Statistics](#), 16 Dec 2015

## C2: Unemployment National

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of unemployment is the headline measure of unemployment in the UK. The number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and predecessor unemployment benefits is also used.

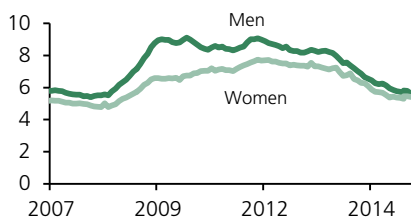
ILO unemployment was 1.75 million people in the UK in July-September 2015, down 103,000 from the previous quarter and down 210,000

**Unemployment; UK**  
000s, age 16+, seasonally adjusted



from the previous year. The unemployment rate was 5.3% (the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed), down 0.1% on the previous quarter and down 0.7% points on the previous year.

**Unemployment Rate; UK**  
%, age 16+, seasonally adjusted



The number of people claiming JSA (adjusting for Universal Credit) increased by 3,300 between September and October to 795,500 people aged 18 or over.

There were 957,000 men unemployed in July-September 2015, down 13,000 on the

previous quarter. 793,000 women were unemployed, down 10,000 on the previous quarter.

653,000 people aged 16-24 were unemployed in June-August 2015, down 30,000 on the previous quarter. The unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds was 14.2%, down 0.6% points from the previous quarter.

514,000 people had been unemployed for longer than 12 months at July-September 2015, a decrease of 62,000 from the previous quarter.

**UK Unemployment**  
Seasonally adjusted

Age	Total		Men		Women		Youth	
	000's 16+	% 16+	000's 16+	% 16+	000's 16+	% 16+	000's 16-24	% 16-24
Jul-Sep 2012	2,542	7.9	1,432	8.3	1,110	7.4	979	20.9
Jul-Sep 2013	2,488	7.6	1,390	8.0	1,098	7.3	980	21.1
Jul-Sep 2014	1,959	6.0	1,087	6.2	872	5.7	737	16.2
Apr-Jun 2015	1,852	5.6	1,014	5.8	838	5.5	738	16.0
Jul-Sep 2015	1,749	5.3	957	5.4	793	5.1	653	14.2
<i>Change on qtr</i>								
Level	-103	-0.3	-58	-0.3	-45	-0.3	-85	-1.8
%	-6%		-6%		-5%		-12%	
<i>Change on yr</i>								
Level	-210	-0.7	-130	-0.8	-80	-0.6	-83	-2.0
%	-11%		-12%		-9%		-11%	

Source: ONS Labour Market Statistics, A05, A06, CLA01

Notes: The unemployment rate is a percentage of the economically active population unemployed

### Subject Specialist

Aliyah Dar  
x6920

### Updates

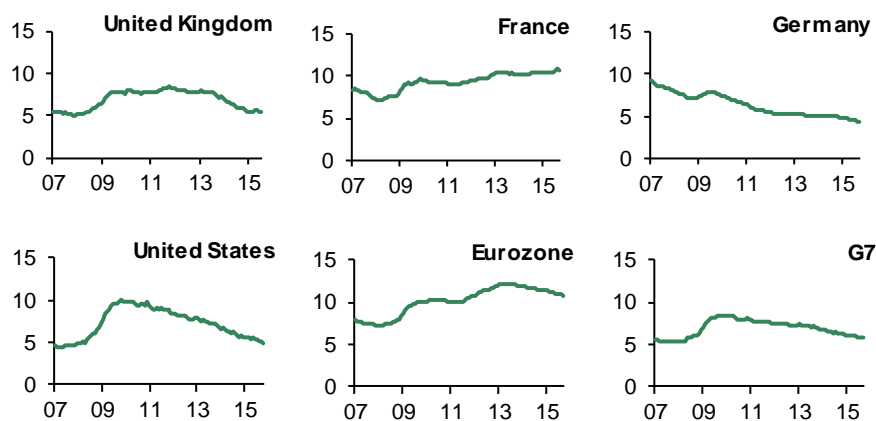
ONS, [Labour Market Statistics](#), 16 Dec 2015



## C3: Unemployment International

The OECD produces harmonised unemployment rates for OECD members based on the ILO definition of unemployment.

### Harmonised Unemployment Rate (%)



The UK harmonised unemployment rate for Q2 2015 was 5.6%. This was below the rate of France and Italy but above that of Germany.

In the US, the unemployment rate stood at 5.2% in Q3 2015, down from 5.4% in Q2.

In the Eurozone, the unemployment rate was 10.9% in Q3 2015, compared to 11.0% in Q2 2015.

Spain and Greece have the highest harmonised unemployment rate out of 34 OECD member states (22.5% and 25.0%)

Japan and Korea had the lowest unemployment rate in the OECD in Q2 2015 at (3.4% and 3.6%).

Youth (15-24) unemployment is a major issue in many developed economies at present. In Q2 2015 youth unemployment was 49.1% in Spain and 50.2% in Greece. In the same period UK youth unemployment stood at 15.5%.

#### Unemployment

Unemployed as % of labour force (standardised); seasonally adjusted

	CAN	FRA	GER	ITA	JPN	UK	USA	Eurozone	G7	OECD
2012	7.3	9.8	5.4	10.6	4.4	7.9	8.1	11.4	7.4	7.9
2013	7.1	10.3	5.2	12.1	4.0	7.6	7.4	12.0	7.1	7.9
2014	6.9	10.3	5.0	12.7	3.6	6.2	6.2	11.6	6.4	7.4
2012 Q2	7.3	9.7	5.4	10.7	4.2	7.8	8.0	11.5	7.3	7.9
2013 Q2	7.1	10.3	5.2	12.2	4.0	7.6	7.2	12.0	7.0	7.9
2014 Q3	7.0	10.3	5.0	12.7	3.6	5.9	6.1	11.5	6.3	7.3
Q4	6.7	10.5	4.9	12.8	3.5	5.6	5.7	11.5	6.1	7.1
2015 Q1	6.7	10.4	4.8	12.3	3.5	5.5	5.6	11.2	6.0	7.0
Q2	6.8	10.4	4.7	12.4	3.3	5.6	5.4	11.0	5.9	6.9
Q3	7.0	10.7	4.5	11.9	3.4	..	5.2	10.9	5.8	6.7
<i>Change on qtr</i>	0.2	0.3	-0.1	-0.5	0.0	...	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
<i>Change on yr</i>	0.0	0.4	-0.5	-0.8	-0.2	...	-0.9	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6

Source: OECD, Harmonised Unemployment Rates

#### Subject Specialist

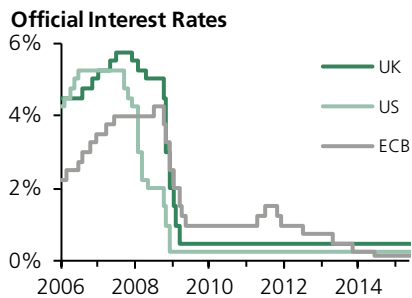
Jeanne Delebarre  
x6962

#### Updates

OECD, [Harmonised Unemployment Rates](#),  
7 Jan 2015

# D1: Interest Rates and Monetary Policy

The Bank of England has left the Base Rate in the UK unchanged at 0.5% since March 2009 – the lowest since the Bank was founded in 1694.



The Governing Council of the European Central Bank (ECB) lowered the main interest rate for the Eurozone to 0.05% and the deposit rate to -0.20% in 2014.

The US Federal Reserve's target range for the federal funds rate has been 0-0.25% since 16 December 2008. Economists

are divided on whether the Fed will raise rates at their next December 2015 meeting. The Fed has previously signalled they would raise rates by the end of the year.

## Quantitative Easing

With little room for further cuts in interest rates, the Bank of England initiated an asset purchase or quantitative easing (QE) programme in March 2009.

From an initial £75bn in March 2009, QE was increased by £125bn (to a total of £200bn) by November 2009. It was further increased as follows: up by £75bn (to £275bn) in October 2011; £50bn (to £325bn) in February 2012 and £50bn in July 2012 to a total of £375bn.

The majority (over 99%) of assets purchased by the Bank of England through QE have been gilts (UK government debt).

On 22 January the ECB launched a QE programme that will buy €60bn assets (mostly government bonds of Eurozone countries) each month until at least September 2016. The ECB has implemented this programme to raise the rate of inflation to its 2% target (inflation was -0.2% in Dec 2014).

The Federal Reserve in the US, has run three programmes of QE since the Great Recession. The first from December 2008 to March 2010 saw the Fed buy \$1.75 trillion of mortgage-backed securities and government debt between December 2008 and March 2010. The second programme involved the Fed buying about \$600bn in new assets between November 2010 and June 2011. The third programme, so-called QE3, ran from September 2012 to October 2014 and saw the Fed purchasing assets (mortgage debt and government debt) of around \$1.6 trillion.

### Subject Specialist

Dominic Webb  
x2042

### Update

Monetary policy meetings: 10 Dec ([UK](#)), 3 Dec ([ECB](#)), 16 Dec ([US](#))

## D2: Public finances

	Net borrowing		Net debt	
	£ bn	% GDP	£ bn	% GDP
2009/10	153	10.2	960	62.3
2010/11	135	8.6	1,103	68.8
2011/12	114	7.0	1,192	72.1
2012/13	120	7.1	1,300	75.8
2013/14	100	5.7	1,403	78.0
2014/15	90	4.9	1,487	80.0
2015/16	70	3.7	1,532	80.3
2016/17	43	2.2	1,576	79.1
2017/18	24	1.2	1,603	77.2
2018/19	6	0.3	1,619	74.7
2019/20	-10	-0.4	1,618	71.5
2020/21	-12	-0.5	1,627	68.5

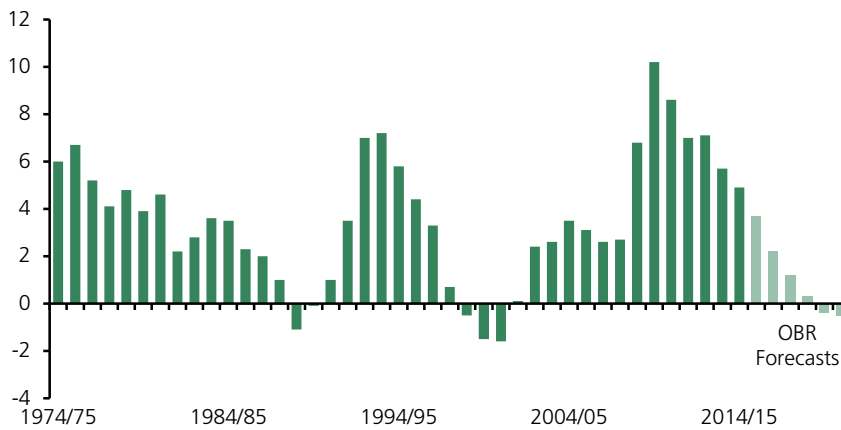
Net borrowing in the first seven months of 2015/16 was 11% lower than during the same period in 2014/15. The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) forecast borrowing to be 22% lower in 2015/16 than in 2014/15.

Borrowing is forecast to fall over the coming years before reaching a surplus of around £10 billion in 2019/20.

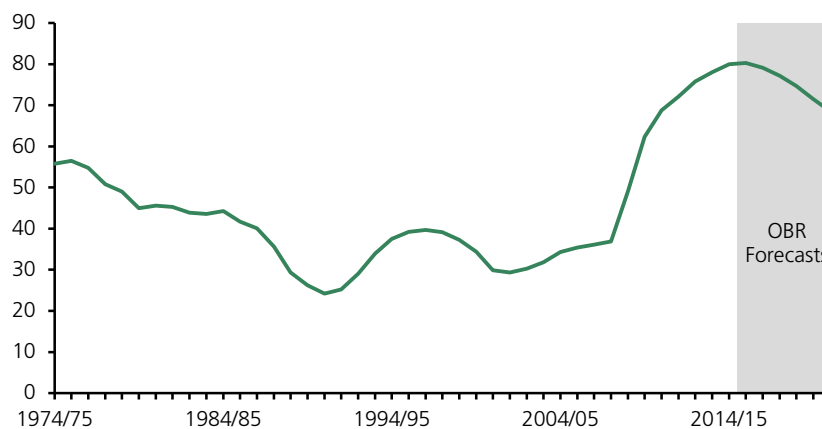
Sources: ONS, OBR. Excludes public sector banks

At the end of October 2015 net debt is 80.5% of GDP, higher than the 79.4% recorded one year ago. By 2020/21 the OBR expects net debt to fall below 70% of GDP.

**Public sector net borrowing**  
% of GDP



**Public sector net debt**  
% of GDP



**Subject Specialist**

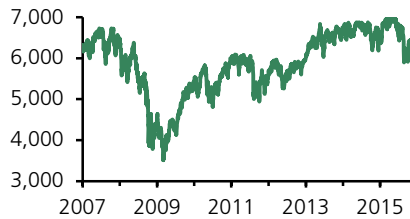
Matt Keep  
x4324

**Next update**

ONS, [Public Sector Finances](#), 22 December 2015

## D3: Financial Indicators

**FTSE-100 Index**  
Daily closing price



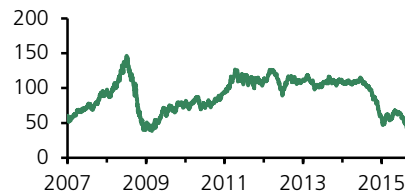
### FTSE-100 Index

The FTSE-100 tracks the share-prices of the 100 largest companies listed on the London Stock Exchange. It hit an all-time high of 7,103 in May 2015, passing the previous record high of 6,930 set in December 1999.

### Brent Crude Oil

The price of Brent crude oil reached an all-time high above \$145/barrel in July 2008. The price fell below \$100/barrel in September 2014 for the first time since May 2013. In August 2015 it fell to its lowest level in six and a half years.

**Brent Crude Oil (\$ per barrel)**  
Daily closing price of Brent crude, near-month futures contract



### Gold price

**Gold (\$ per ounce)**  
Daily price



The nominal price of gold exceeded \$1,800/ounce for the first time in August 2011, but the metal's price has since moderated considerably. In August 2015, it fell to its lowest level in five years.

#### Data from 20 November 2015

	FTSE-100	Oil (\$/bbl)	Gold (\$/oz)
20 Nov 2015	6,334.6	44.5	1,081.8
%change over:			
1-month	-0%	-8%	-8%
12-months	-5%	-44%	-9%
%change from:			
cyclical peak	-8%	-70%	-43%
date	15 Jun '07	03 Jul '08	23 Aug '11
cyclical trough	+80%	+22%	+52%
date	03 Mar '09	24 Dec '08	24 Oct '08

Note: Oil is Brent near-month futures price

Source: Financial Times

#### Subject Specialist

Daniel Harari  
x2464

#### Updates

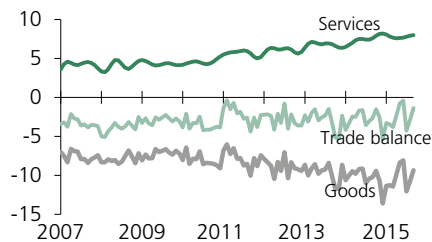
Financial Times, Weekly Basis

## E1: Trade

In 2014, the UK's exports of goods and services totalled £515 billion and imports totalled £550 billion. The EU accounted for 44% of exports of goods and services in 2014 and 53% of imports.

### Balance of trade, goods and services

£ billion, monthly data



Overall, the UK imports more than it exports meaning that it runs a trade deficit. A surplus on trade in services is more than offset by a deficit on trade in goods.

In 2014, the trade deficit was £34.5 billion (1.9% of GDP). The surplus on trade in services was £89.1 billion and the deficit on

trade in goods was £123.7 billion.

The trade deficit in Q3 2015 was £8.5 billion (Q2: £3.5 billion).

### Goods & Services and Current Account Balances

Seasonally adjusted

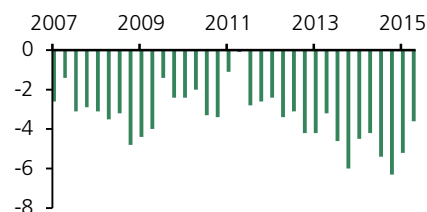
	Goods and Services (£bn)			Current Account	
	Exports	Imports	Balance	£bn	% GDP
2013	521.0	555.3	-34.2	-77.9	-4.5%
2014	515.2	549.7	-34.5	-92.9	-5.1%
2014 Q3	126.8	136.1	-9.3	-24.9	-5.4%
Q4	130.5	139.9	-9.5	-28.8	-6.3%
2015 Q1	127.6	138.1	-10.5	-24.0	-5.2%
Q2	132.3	135.7	-3.5	-16.8	-3.6%
Q3	126.3	134.8	-8.5	..	..

Source: ONS, series: IKBH, IKBI, IKBJ, HBOP, AA6H

The current account, which includes investment income and transfers as well as trade, saw a deficit of £92.9 billion in 2014, up from £77.9 billion in 2013.

### Current Account Balance

% of GDP



This is an increase from 4.5% to 5.1% of GDP. The 2014 deficit is a record high. The 2013 deficit is the second highest on record.

The current account deficit fell sharply in Q2 2015 to £16.8 billion compared with £24.0 billion in Q1, mainly due to a fall in the trade deficit.

### Subject Specialist

Dominic Webb  
x2042

### Update

ONS [UK Trade](#) 10 Dec

[UK BoP](#) 23 Dec

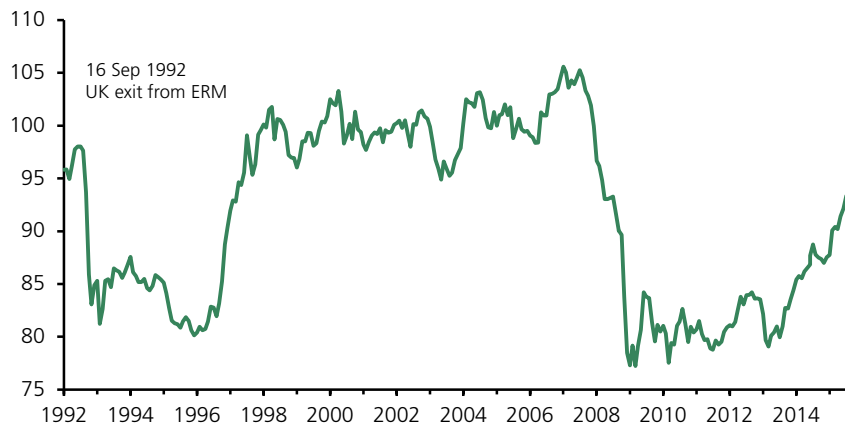
## E2: Exchange Rates

The Sterling Exchange Rate Index (SERI) measures sterling's value against a 'basket' of currencies, 'trade-weighted' (based on currencies' relative importance in UK trade).

The SERI fell by 0.3% in October 2015. Compared with the same period a year ago, it is 4.9% higher. It is currently 18.6% above its March 2009 level, when it was at its lowest point since the series began in 1980. It is 13.2% below its pre-recession peak in July 2007.

### Sterling Exchange Rate Index (SERI)

Jan 2005=100

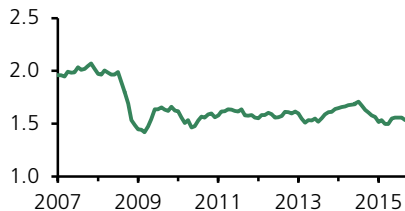


On average in October, the pound was up 0.1% against the dollar compared to September. At the 20 November market close, the pound stood at \$1.52.

Sterling was down 0.1% against the Euro in October compared to September. At the 2 November market close the pound stood at €1.40. This compares with an all-time low of €1.02 (on 30 December 2008), and a launch rate of €1.48 on 31 December 1998.

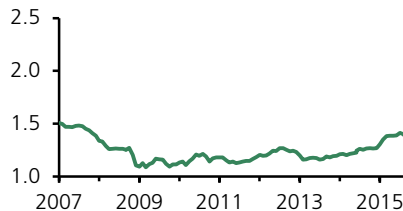
### US\$/£ Exchange Rate

\$ per £



### €/£ Exchange Rate

€ per £



### Sterling Exchange Rates

average rates in period and % changes

	US Dollar (\$)		Euro (€)	
	Rate	% change on yr	Rate	% change on yr
2012	1.59	-1.1%	1.23	7.0%
2013	1.56	-1.3%	1.18	-4.5%
2014	1.65	5.3%	1.24	5.4%
2015 Aug	1.56	-6.7%	1.40	8.9%
Sep	1.53	-6.0%	1.37	8.1%
Oct	1.53	-4.5%	1.37	7.7%

Source: Bank of England, Bankstats database

### Subject Specialist

Dominic Webb  
x2042

### Updates

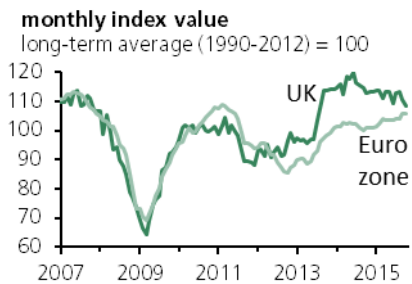
Financial Times, [sterling exchange rates](#) (daily)

Bank of England, [SERI & monthly rates](#), 2 Dec 2015

# F1: Business and Consumer Confidence

Confidence surveys, with information generally released ahead of official statistical data, can indicate changes to the economic outlook as well as turning points in the economic cycle.

## European Commission Economic Sentiment Indicator

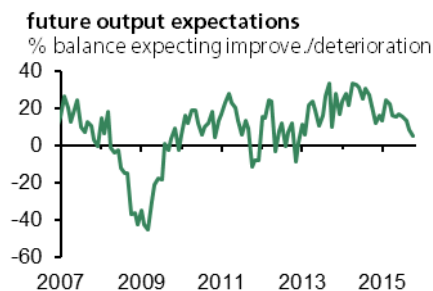


The European Commission conducts regular harmonised surveys for different sectors of EU member states' economies.

Between September and October 2015 the overall UK sentiment index fell by 2.4 points to 108.3, 4.7 points lower than a year earlier. The Eurozone index was up

5.1 points over the year to 105.9.

## CBI Industrial Trends Survey



The CBI carries out monthly and quarterly Industrial Trends surveys.

In October 2015, more manufacturers thought that output would rise over the next three months than thought it would fall. The difference was +5, less than the +9 difference the previous month.

## GfK NOP Consumer Confidence Survey

GfK NOP's Consumer Confidence Index measures a range of consumer attitudes, including forward expectations of the general economic situation and households' financial positions, and views on making major household purchases.



Overall consumer confidence was +2 in October 2015, down 1 point on the previous month and 4 points higher than a year ago. Prior to May 2014 consumer confidence had been negative since April 2005.

### Subject Specialist

Daniel Harari  
x2464

### Update

CBI, [Industrial Trends](#), late Nov

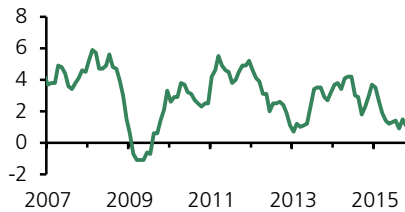
EC, [Economic Sentiment Indicator](#), 27 Nov

GfK NOP, [Consumer Confidence](#), 27 Nov

## F2: Retail Sales

The average weekly value of all retail sales in Great Britain was £7.2bn in October 2015, up from £7.0bn in September. The total annual sales value for 2014 was £378bn.

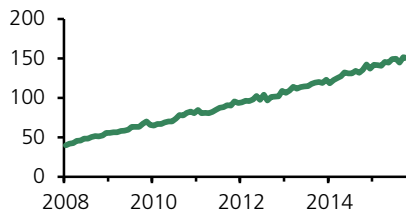
**Value of retail sales (incl. vehicle fuel)**  
3 mth % change on yr, seasonally adjusted



Over the three months to October, the value of retail sales was unchanged compared with the previous three months, ending a two and a half year period of sustained growth.

However, the value of retail sales in the three months to October 2015 was 1.1% higher than the same three months a year ago.

**Value of internet retail sales**  
2011=100, seasonally adjusted



The average weekly value of internet sales in Great Britain was £839.1 million in October 2015.

This is 11.2% up on the October 2014, at least the eight successive annual increase.

Most of the value of retail sales online is from stores without a physical presence.

### Value of retail sales

Index 2011=100, seasonally adjusted

		Food	Non-food	Total (inc. fuel)
2013	Oct	104.8	102.6	103.1
2014	Oct	103.8	109.0	106.7
2015	Aug	102.7	110.8	106.6
	Sep	105.1	110.7	107.9
	Oct	103.2	110.5	107.1
% change on yr		-0.4	2.3	1.1

The average weekly value of sales in food stores was £2.8bn in October 2015 and £3.1bn in non-food stores.

The value of sales in food stores in October 2015 was down 1.5% on the October 2014 level.

The value of sales in non-food stores was 1.4% higher than last year.

Change on year is the change on the most recent three month period compared to the same period a year earlier  
Total includes fuel and non-store retailing

Source: ONS, series: J5C4, EAQW, EAQY, J5BY, IEAU, IEAX

### Subject Specialist

Chris Rhodes  
x2454

### Updates

ONS, [Retail Sales](#),  
17 Dec 2015

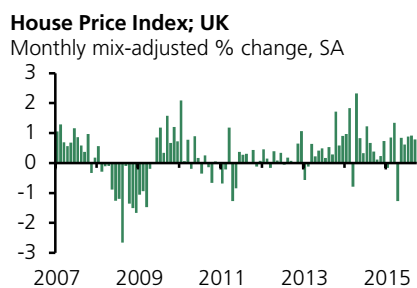


## F3: Housing Market

On a seasonally adjusted basis, **house prices** on the ONS index increased by 0.8% between August 2015 and September 2015. Prices were 6.1% higher in September 2015 compared with a year ago.

**Mortgage approvals** decreased by 2.5% in September 2015, but were 12.7% higher compared with a year ago. Approvals remain well down on pre-recession levels, but have been rising during 2015.

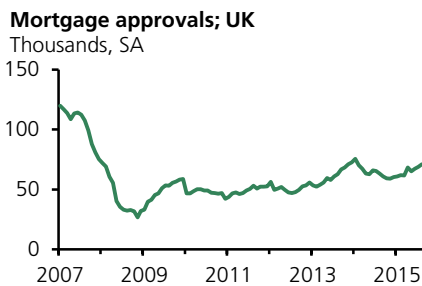
**Housing starts** increased by 9% in Q2 2015, compared to Q1 2015. Housing starts and completions have increased from the lows observed in late 2008 and early 2009 but remain below pre-recession levels.



On a seasonally adjusted basis, average mix-adjusted house prices in the UK increased by 0.8% between August 2015 and September 2015.

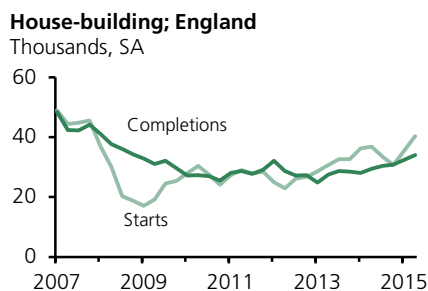
The ONS index is mix-adjusted to allow for differences between houses sold (e.g. type, rooms, location) in different months.

There are regional differences in house prices. The average mix-adjusted house price is highest in London at roughly £531,000. The lowest prices, of around £160,000, are found in Northern Ireland and the North East.



Bank of England data on the number of mortgages approved to finance house purchases are a leading indicator of house sales.

There were 68,874 mortgage approvals in September 2015, down 2.5% on the previous month but still 12.7% higher than in September 2014.



There were 35,960 house building starts in England in Q2 2015, down 9% on Q1 2015 and down 4% on Q2 2014. This is above the recent low of 17,090 in Q1 2009, but still below the 48,990 starts in Q1 2007.

There were 36,890 dwelling completions in Q2 2015, up 8% from Q1 2015 and 22% higher than in Q2 2014. Completions remain below the peak of 48,440 completions in Q1 2007.

### Subject Specialist

Matt Keep  
x4324

### Updates

ONS, [UK house price index](#), 15 Dec 2015

Bank of England, [Money and credit](#), 30 Nov 2015

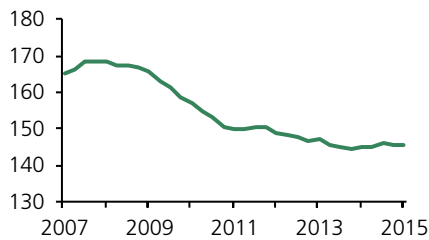
DCLG, [House-building](#), 20 Nov 2015

## F4: Household Debt

### Household debt as a % of disposable income

Household debt peaked at 169% of household gross disposable income in Q1 2008.

Household debt: % of disposable income

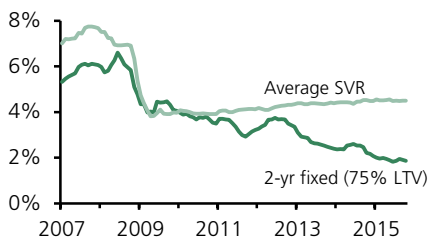


In Q2 2015, it was 144%. It has been at roughly this level since the end of 2012.

### Current average mortgage interest rates

The average Standard Variable Rate (SVR) has fallen slightly over the past year – in October 2015 it was 4.50%, compared with 4.53% a year before.

Current average mortgage interest rates

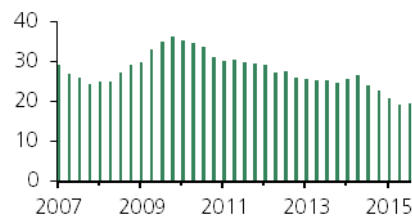


The average 2-year fixed mortgage rate was 1.87% in October, down from 2.21% a year before.

### Individual insolvencies, England and Wales

There were 19,683 individual insolvencies in England and Wales in Q3 2015, 18.5% lower than a year earlier (seasonally adjusted figures).

Individual insolvencies; England and Wales, Thousands



In Scotland, there were 2,230 individual insolvencies in Q3 2015, a decrease of 25.4% on a year earlier. In Northern Ireland, there were 611 individual insolvencies in Q3 2015, a decrease of 37.3% on a year earlier. (Data for Scotland and Northern Ireland are not seasonally adjusted.)

#### Subject Specialist

Dominic Webb  
x2042

#### Updates

Bank of England,  
[Statistical database](#), 9  
Dec

Insolvency Service,  
[Insolvency Statistics](#), 29  
Jan

ONS, [UK Economic Accounts](#), 23 Dec

## 4. Glossary

### 4.1 Definitions<sup>1</sup>

**Balance of payments:** A country's financial position, with other countries of the world, comprising two parts:

**Current account:** the balance of imports and exports of goods and services, income and transfers combined;

**Capital account:** the difference between a country's capital invested in other countries, and the capital invested by other countries in it. Technically, the two parts always balance. A balance of payments deficit normally refers to a current account deficit.

**Balance of trade:** The difference between a country's exports and imports of either goods only or goods and services combined. Trade in financial services account for around a third of UK exports, and thus partially offsets trade in goods deficits.

**Basic prices:** Prices excluding taxes and subsidies on products.

**Claimant count:** The number of people aged 18 and over claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) benefits. This includes out-of-work Universal Credit claimants.

**Consumer Prices Index (CPI):** This is the headline UK domestic measure of inflation. It measures the average change from month to month in the prices of consumer goods and services purchased in the UK.

**Current account balance:** The difference between receipts/payments due to transactions in goods, services, income and transfers between the UK and all other countries. A current account deficit means that total payments exceed total receipts; in the reverse case, the current account is in surplus.

**Current budget:** Measures the balance of public sector current account revenue over public sector current expenditure.

**Current/constant prices:** Current prices are the actual or estimated recorded monetary value over a defined period for a group of industries or products. They show the value for each item expressed in terms of the prices of that period.

Constant prices refer to volume measures whose values are derived by applying to current quantities, prices for a specific base period. They allow figures to be represented so that the effects of inflation are removed. The values for each time period are expressed in terms of the prices in a particular base period.

**Economically active:** Those aged 16 and over who are either in employment or unemployed.

**Economically inactive:** Those aged 16 and over who are neither in employment nor unemployed. This includes those who do not want a job, those who want a job but have not been seeking work in the last four weeks and those who want a job and are seeking work but not available to start work.

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<sup>1</sup> Sources: ONS, HM Treasury, HM Revenue and Customs, Finance-Glossary.com.

**Employment:** The number of people with jobs as estimated by the Labour Force Survey (LFS). This includes all people aged 16 or over who did paid work, those who had a job that they were temporarily away from, those on government supported training and employment programmes, and those doing unpaid family work during the survey period. The employment rate refers to the number of people employed as a percentage of the working age population as measured by the LFS.

**Exchange rate:** The rate at which one currency is traded against another.

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** The total market value of goods and services produced after deducting the cost of goods and services used up in the process of production (intermediate consumption) but before deducting consumption of fixed capital (depreciation).

**Gross Domestic Product – Real GDP:** Also known as constant price or chained volume measure, this is a measure used to indicate change in the actual quantity of goods and services produced, by adjusting for inflation.

**Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF):** Expenditure on fixed assets (buildings, vehicles etc.) either for replacing or adding to the stock of existing assets. Business investment is GFCF by the private sector and public corporations on transport equipment, other machinery and equipment and new dwellings and structures other than dwellings.

**Gross Value Added (GVA):** The difference between output and intermediate consumption for any given sector/industry. That is the difference between the value of goods and services produced and the cost of raw materials and other inputs which are used up in production. GVA is used to measure the productivity of sectors/industries and economies.

**Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP):** Harmonised indices of consumer prices for Member States of the European Union, which enable comparisons to be made across countries. The UK's CPI measure uses HICP methodology.

**Market prices:** The prices actually paid by the purchaser for goods and services, including transport costs, trade margins and taxes.  $\text{GDP at market prices} = \text{GDP at basic prices} + \text{transport prices paid separately} + \text{non-deductible taxes on expenditure} - \text{subsidies received}$ .

**Money supply:** The total amount of money in an economy at a given time.

**The Public Sector Net Borrowing (PSNB):** This measures the public sector's accumulation of debt net of liquid financial assets. Its approximate stock equivalent is net public sector debt.

**Public Sector Net Debt:** This is approximately the stock analogue of the PSNB. It measures the public sector's financial liabilities to the private sector and abroad, net of short-term financial assets such as bank deposits and foreign exchange reserves.

**Retail Prices Index (RPI):** A domestic indicator of inflation. It measures the average change from month to month in the prices of goods and services purchased in the UK. It is similar to the CPI, but differs in terms of methodology and coverage. For example, the RPI includes housing costs such as mortgage interest payments while the CPI doesn't.

**Seasonally adjusted:** Estimates in which the element of variability due to seasonal influences, which may distort the data, has been removed.

**Sterling Exchange Rate Index (SERI):** This measures the value of sterling against a trade-weighted 'basket' of other currencies. The weights used in this index measure currencies' relative importance to UK trade in goods and services.

**UK Base/Repo rate:** The rate at which the Bank of England lends to discount houses by buying their bills. The base rate is usually the minimum rate at which banks are prepared to lend money. The high street bank base rate follows that set by the Bank of England, and it acts as the benchmark for other interest rates, including mortgages and personal loans.

**Unemployment:** The ILO definition includes all people who are: out of work, want a job, have actively sought work in the previous four weeks and are available to start work within the next fortnight; or are out of work and have accepted a job that they are waiting to start in the next fortnight.

**Unemployment rate:** The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the total economically active population.

**Volume/value of retail sales:** The volume of retail sales is the total takings adjusted for inflation and the value of retail sales is the total actual takings.

**Workforce jobs:** The sum of employee jobs, self-employment jobs, those in HM Forces and government-supported trainees.

## 4.2 Symbols and abbreviations

..	Figure(s) not yet available
<b>CBI</b>	Confederation of British Industry
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organisation
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>ONS</b>	Office for National Statistics

## 5. Indicator Sources

Indicator Page	Sources
A1 Gross Domestic Product	ONS, <i>GDP Preliminary Estimates</i> ONS, <i>Second Estimates of GDP</i> ONS, <i>Quarterly National Accounts</i> HM Treasury, <i>Forecasts for the UK Economy</i>
A2 GDP: International	OECD, <i>OECDStat database</i> OECD, <i>Economic Outlook</i> IMF, <i>World Economic Outlook</i> European Commission's growth forecasts
A3 Components of GDP	ONS, <i>Second Estimate of GDP</i> ONS, <i>Quarterly National Accounts</i>
A4 Services	ONS, <i>Index of Services</i> Markit/CIPS, <i>UK Services Purchasing Managers Index</i>
A5 Manufacturing	ONS, <i>Index of Services</i> Markit/CIPS, <i>UK Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index</i>
A6 Productivity	ONS, <i>Labour Productivity</i>
B1 Inflation	ONS, <i>Consumer Price Indices</i>
B2 Inflation: International	OECD, <i>Main Economic Indicators</i> Eurostat
B3 Average Earnings	ONS, <i>Labour Market Statistics</i> ONS, <i>Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings</i>
C1 Employment	ONS, <i>Labour Market Statistics</i>
C2 Unemployment: National	ONS, <i>Labour Market Statistics</i>
C3 Unemployment: International	OECD, <i>Main Economic Indicators</i> OECD, <i>Economic Outlook</i>
D1 Interest Rates and Monetary Policy	Bank of England, <i>Monetary Policy Committee decisions and minutes</i> Federal Reserve, <i>Federal Open Market Committee decisions</i> European Central Bank news releases Bank of England: Bankstats, <i>Tables A1.1 and A2.2.1</i>  ONS Database
D2 Public Finances	ONS, <i>Public sector finances</i> Forecasts from Office for Budget Responsibility
D3 Financial Indicators	Financial Times, <i>Market Data</i>
E1 Trade	ONS, <i>UK Balance of Payments</i> ONS, <i>UK Trade</i>
E2 Exchange Rates	Financial Times, <i>Sterling Exchange Rates</i> Bank of England, <i>SERI &amp; monthly rates</i>
F1 Business and Consumer Confidence	EC, <i>Economic Sentiment Indicator</i> CBI, <i>Industrial Trends Survey press release</i> GfK NOM, <i>Consumer Confidence Index</i>
F2 Retail Sales	ONS, <i>Retail Sales</i>
F3 Housing Market	ONS, <i>UK House Price Index</i> Bank of England, <i>Money and Credit</i> DCLG, <i>House-Building</i>
F4 Household Debt	Bank of England, <i>Lending to Individuals</i> The Insolvency Service, <i>Insolvency Statistics</i>

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