



STATISTICS IN FOCUS

Economy and finance

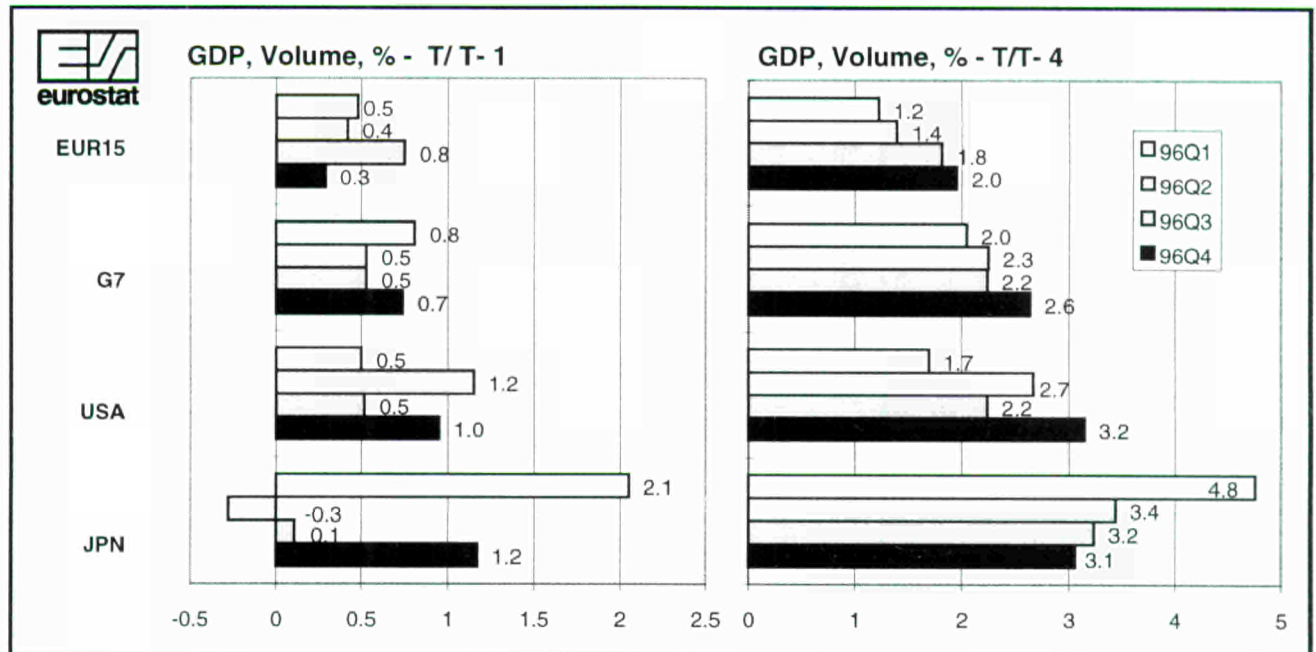
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QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS - Fourth Quarter 1996 First Eurostat estimates

Eurostat estimates (*) for GDP in the fourth quarter of 1996 show that the rate of economic growth slowed in the EU as a whole (GDP grew by +0.3% over the third quarter). This was principally caused by the reduction and stagnation in growth of the main components. However compared with the same quarter of 1995, GDP growth was higher than in previous quarter (+2.0%). Consequently, EU GDP grew by 1.6% during 1996.

By comparison, US quarterly GDP growth increased to 1.0%, and Japanese quarterly growth accelerated, after weak growth in the third quarter, to 1.2%. The GDP growth rate of the G7 increased to 0.7%.



* Methodological Note: Data for EUR15 are calculated with a coherent and consistent statistical technique using the data available from the Member States. Given that some Member States have not published their quarterly accounts, and that some data are provisional, the EUR15 data must also be considered provisional. Revisions are likely in the weeks to come.

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EUROPEAN UNION AND MAIN ECONOMIC AREAS OR PARTNERS

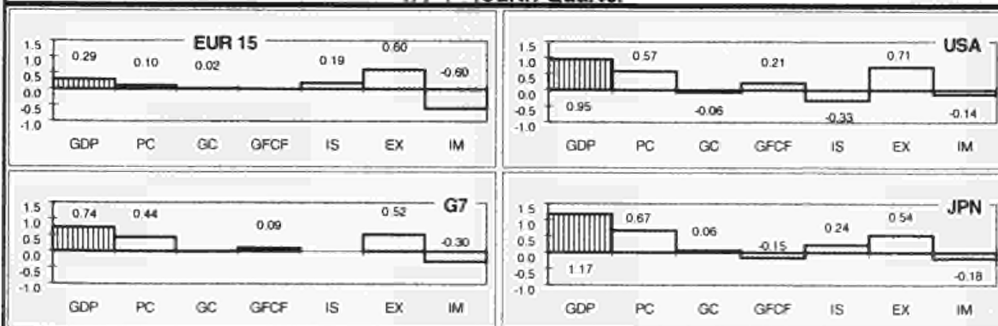
EVOLUTION OF GDP AND ITS COMPONENTS - PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS PERIOD - IN VOLUME

eurostat		GDP				Private consumption (PC)				Government consumption (GC)				Gross fixed cap. format. (GFCF)				Domestic demand				Exports (EX)				Imports (IM)				Change in stocks ⁽¹⁾ (IS)				External balance ⁽¹⁾			
		96				96				96				96				96				96				96				96							
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
EUR15	T/T-1	0.48	0.42	0.75	0.29	1.28	-0.12	0.72	0.17	-0.78	0.70	0.17	0.11	-0.55	1.50	0.39	-0.07	0.45	-0.06	0.43	0.30	1.68	0.77	2.48	1.81	1.63	-0.73	1.57	1.97	0.75	0.36	0.23	0.42	1.60	2.07	2.38	2.37
	T/T-4	1.22	1.39	1.81	1.95	2.57	1.28	1.90	2.06	0.14	-0.99	0.60	0.19	-0.12	1.94	1.87	1.27	1.68	1.11	0.95	1.12	3.07	2.89	4.86	6.91	4.72	2.07	2.24	4.49								
G7	T/T-1	0.81	0.53	0.53	0.74	1.29	0.10	0.31	0.69	-0.32	1.19	0.12	-0.06	1.68	1.86	1.13	0.43	1.00	0.47	0.55	0.52	0.82	0.77	1.57	2.80	1.85	0.46	1.62	1.62	0.33	0.17	0.26	0.25	-0.18	-0.12	-0.14	0.08
	T/T-4	2.04	2.25	2.24	2.64	2.97	2.18	1.98	2.41	-0.31	0.97	0.89	0.94	3.74	5.48	6.14	5.19	2.35	2.41	2.34	2.56	3.74	3.38	4.12	8.07	5.46	4.27	4.66	5.66								
USA	T/T-1	0.50	1.15	0.52	0.95	0.86	0.83	0.13	0.85	-0.16	1.91	-0.07	-0.42	2.62	1.76	2.01	1.07	0.79	1.30	0.86	0.38	0.45	1.39	-0.22	5.69	2.56	2.40	2.24	0.94	-0.03	0.11	0.52	0.19	-1.84	-1.99	-2.33	-1.75
	T/T-4	1.69	2.67	2.24	3.15	2.52	2.58	2.09	2.69	-1.09	0.81	0.88	1.24	4.05	5.96	6.84	7.66	1.38	2.52	2.77	3.35	7.23	7.17	4.23	7.40	4.09	5.43	7.80	8.38								
JPN	T/T-1	2.05	-0.28	0.11	1.17	2.02	-1.00	-0.11	1.15	0.80	0.10	1.37	0.62	3.37	2.38	0.34	-0.49	2.37	-0.08	-0.15	0.82	-0.66	0.13	1.48	4.43	1.99	1.85	-0.72	1.55	0.45	0.23	-0.10	0.14	0.24	0.04	0.31	0.65
	T/T-4	4.76	3.44	3.24	3.06	4.67	3.06	1.87	2.04	2.06	1.81	2.38	2.90	10.07	10.37	10.13	5.68	6.23	5.14	3.94	2.98	2.25	-1.20	1.94	5.42	15.52	13.38	7.95	4.73								

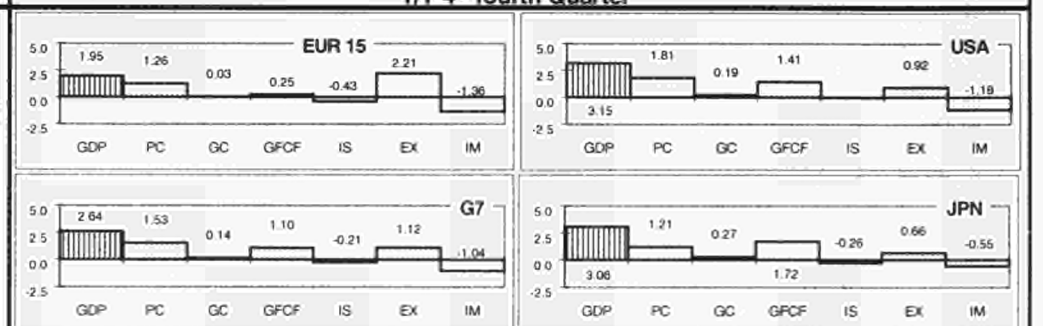
CONTRIBUTION OF THE COMPONENTS TO GDP VARIATIONS IN VOLUME⁽²⁾

eurostat		GDP				Private consumption (PC)				Government consumption (GC)				Gross fixed cap. format. (GFCF)				Change in stocks ⁽¹⁾ (IS)				Exports (EX)				Imports (IM)			
		96				96				96				96				96				96							
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
EUR15	T/T-1	0.48	0.42	0.75	0.29	0.78	-0.07	0.44	0.10	-0.13	0.12	0.03	0.02	-0.11	0.29	0.08	-0.01	-0.10	-0.39	-0.12	0.19	0.54	0.25	0.80	0.60	-0.49	0.23	-0.48	-0.60
	T/T-4	1.22	1.39	1.81	1.95	1.56	0.78	1.16	1.26	0.02	0.17	0.10	0.03	-0.02	0.38	0.37	0.25	0.09	-0.24	-0.69	-0.49	0.97	0.92	1.56	2.21	-1.40	-0.62	-0.68	-1.36
G7	T/T-1	0.81	0.53	0.53	0.74	0.82	0.06	0.19	0.44	-0.05	0.17	0.02	-0.01	0.36	0.40	0.25	0.09	-0.13	-0.16	0.09	-0.01	0.15	0.14	0.29	0.52	-0.34	-0.09	-0.30	-0.30
	T/T-4	2.04	2.25	2.24	2.64	1.88	1.39	1.26	1.53	-0.05	0.14	0.13	0.14	0.79	1.16	1.29	1.10	-0.28	-0.28	-0.35	-0.21	0.68	0.62	0.75	1.12	-0.98	-0.78	-0.85	-1.04
USA	T/T-1	0.50	1.15	0.52	0.95	0.58	0.56	0.09	0.57	-0.03	0.29	-0.01	-0.06	0.48	0.33	0.38	0.21	0.06	0.17	-0.03	0.71	0.06	0.17	-0.03	0.71	-0.36	-0.34	-0.33	-0.14
	T/T-4	1.69	2.67	2.24	3.15	1.69	1.74	1.41	1.81	-0.17	0.13	0.13	0.19	0.74	1.09	1.26	1.41	-0.86	-0.39	0.02	-0.01	0.88	0.86	0.52	0.92	-0.57	-0.77	-1.09	-1.18
JPN	T/T-1	2.05	-0.28	0.11	1.17	1.20	-0.60	-0.06	0.67	0.07	0.01	0.13	0.06	1.02	0.73	0.11	-0.15	0.07	-0.23	-0.33	0.24	-0.08	0.01	0.18	0.54	-0.23	-0.22	0.09	-0.18
	T/T-4	4.76	3.44	3.24	3.06	2.78	1.81	1.11	1.21	0.20	0.17	0.23	0.27	2.94	3.06	2.99	1.72	0.22	0.01	-0.43	-0.26	0.27	-0.15	0.24	0.66	-1.64	-1.46	-0.90	-0.55

T/T-1 - fourth Quarter



T/T-4 - fourth Quarter



(1) Percentage of GDP (S.A.)

(2) Contributions to change in GDP are calculated by expressing changes in the components compared with the previous quarter as a percent of GDP in the reference period.