

Statistical bulletin

Index of Services, UK: September 2021

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



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1 . Main points

- Monthly services output grew by 0.7% between August 2021 and September 2021 but was still 0.3% below its February 2020 level, the last month of "normal" trading conditions prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- There were rises in 10 out of the 14 sectors in the Index of Services. The largest percentage growth was in human health and social work activities (4.7%); the most notable falls were 1.5% in wholesale and retail trade and 2.3% in information and communication.
- Services output for Quarter 3 (July to September 2021) rose by 1.6% compared with Quarter 2 (April to June 2021); this was led by accommodation and food service activities, which rose by 30.0%.
- The coronavirus pandemic and other events have changed output in the services industries, although each sector has been affected differently; for further and detailed analysis of the effect on our monthly Index of Services estimate, please see our article [GDP monthly estimate, UK: September 2021](#), published 11 November 2021.

2 . Index of Services data

[Index of Services time series](#)

Dataset | Dataset ID: IOS1 | Released 11 November 2021

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 11 November 2021

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 11 November 2021

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 11 November 2021

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:

- 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 [MBS turnover in services industries](#).

Data relating to the retail industry are broadly comparable with [Retail sales, Great Britain: September 2021](#), published on 22 October 2021.

For further information on what is included within Other, please see the [GDP\(o\) data sources catalogue](#).

Percentage of each data source is based on their gross value added (GVA) weight. The [GDP\(o\) methods and sources pages](#) provide more information on the data that underpin these statistics; of particular note is the [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 [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 the [Index of Services QMI](#).

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Office for National Statistics' (ONS) Monthly Business Survey (MBS) is fully online, meaning that business owners can logon from any location and submit their data at an appropriate time. Most other data in the IoS come from within the ONS and therefore will be less impacted than survey data.

Our latest data and analysis on the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) on the UK economy and population is now available on a [new web page](#). This will be the hub for all special coronavirus-related publications, including the fortnightly Business Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) Survey (BICS).

The ONS has released a [public statement](#) on COVID-19 and the production of statistics. Specific queries must be directed to the [Media Relations Office](#).

Consultation on the Code of Practice for Statistics - proposed change to 9: 30am release practice

On behalf of the UK Statistics Authority, the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) is conducting a [consultation on the Code of Practice for Statistics, proposing changes to the 9.30am release practice](#). Please send comments by 21 December 2021 to: regulation@statistics.gov.uk

4 . Related links

[A comparison between official estimates of UK output and diffusion indices](#)

Article | Released 21 October 2019

The level of correlation between Office for National Statistics (ONS) data and IHS Markit and Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply Purchasing Managers' Indices.

[GDP monthly estimate, UK: September 2021](#)

Bulletin | Released 11 November 2021

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 and includes the Index of Production (IoP), Index of Services (IoS) and construction output in Great Britain.

[Services sector performance, UK: 2008 to 2018](#)

Article | Released 2 April 2019

The article details the changes that have taken place in the UK services sector from 2008 to 2018. It also looks at the differences between public sector-dominated sectors and the rest of the Index of Services (IoS) and compares the growth of individual IoS sectors in more detail.

[Index of Production, UK: September 2021](#)

Bulletin | Released 11 November 2021

Movements in the volume of production for the UK production industries: manufacturing, mining and quarrying, energy supply, and water and waste management.

| | | 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 |
| | | S2KU | S2MV | KI7B | KI7L | KI7T |
| 2016 | | 94.6 | 98.1 | 83.7 | 97.6 | 93.5 |
| 2017 | | 96.9 | 100.7 | 86.7 | 99.3 | 96 |
| 2018 | | 98.5 | 99.4 | 94.9 | 99.8 | 97.5 |
| 2019 | | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 2020 | | 91.2 | 85.8 | 90.3 | 94.8 | 89.7 |
| 2020 | Q3 | 93.1 | 95.3 | 90.2 | 94.1 | 91.8 |
| | Q4 | 93.9 | 88.5 | 92.5 | 96 | 95 |
| 2021 | Q1 | 92.3 | 82 | 92.1 | 97.1 | 91.5 |
| | Q2 | 98.2 | 99.7 | 93.5 | 97.3 | 101.5 |
| | Q3 | 99.8 | 102.9 | 94.7 | 97.8 | 104.2 |
| 2020 | Jul | 91.2 | 93.1 | 90.1 | 93.2 | 87.4 |
| | Aug | 93.2 | 97.3 | 90 | 93.7 | 91.9 |
| | Sep | 94.9 | 95.7 | 90.6 | 95.3 | 96.2 |
| | Oct | 95.5 | 94.2 | 93.3 | 95.8 | 97 |
| | Nov | 92.5 | 83.4 | 92.2 | 95.5 | 94 |
| | Dec | 93.8 | 87.9 | 92.1 | 96.7 | 94.1 |
| 2021 | Jan | 91.3 | 79.6 | 92.1 | 96.5 | 90.2 |
| | Feb | 91.8 | 82.1 | 91.5 | 96.7 | 90.2 |
| | Mar | 93.7 | 84.3 | 92.5 | 97.9 | 94.2 |
| | Apr | 97.1 | 96.4 | 93.4 | 96.9 | 99.6 |
| | May | 97.9 | 100.2 | 93.5 | 96.9 | 100.7 |
| | Jun | 99.7 | 102.6 | 93.6 | 98.1 | 104 |
| | Jul | 99.5 | 101.9 | 94.5 | 97.5 | 104.2 |
| | Aug | 99.6 | 103.6 | 95.1 | 97.6 | 103.1 |
| | Sep | 100.3 | 103.1 | 94.6 | 98.3 | 105.2 |
| previous year | | S222 | S243 | KI77 | KI7G | KI7O |
| 2016 | | 3.2 | 2.5 | 7.4 | 3.2 | 1.6 |
| 2017 | | 2.4 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 1.8 | 2.7 |
| 2018 | | 1.6 | -1.4 | 9.5 | 0.5 | 1.5 |
| 2019 | | 1.6 | 0.6 | 5.4 | 0.2 | 2.6 |
| 2020 | | -8.8 | -14.2 | -9.7 | -5.2 | -10.3 |
| a year ago | | S26Q | S28R | KI7A | KI7I | KI7Q |
| 2020 | Jul | -9.1 | -7.1 | -10.8 | -7.1 | -12.6 |
| | Aug | -7.2 | -2.7 | -10 | -6.9 | -8.6 |
| | Sep | -5.5 | -4.6 | -10.2 | -5 | -4.4 |
| | Oct | -5.1 | -5.6 | -7.5 | -5 | -3.7 |
| | Nov | -7.7 | -16.3 | -7.4 | -4.3 | -7.3 |
| | Dec | -6.6 | -12 | -7.6 | -3.6 | -7.5 |
| 2021 | Jan | -9.5 | -21.3 | -7 | -3.8 | -12 |
| | Feb | -8.7 | -18.6 | -7.6 | -3.5 | -11.7 |
| | Mar | 1.6 | -0.7 | -0.5 | 0 | 7 |
| | Apr | 26.5 | 85.3 | 18.6 | 9.2 | 36.7 |
| | May | 25.1 | 68.6 | 17.1 | 9.1 | 37.5 |
| | Jun | 17.6 | 29.4 | 8.6 | 7.1 | 35 |
| | Jul | 9.1 | 9.4 | 5 | 4.6 | 19.2 |
| | Aug | 6.9 | 6.5 | 5.6 | 4.2 | 12.2 |
| | Sep | 5.7 | 7.8 | 4.4 | 3.1 | 9.4 |

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](#)

continued

| | | 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 | 167 | 135 | 426 | 272 |
| Percentage change, latest month on previous month | | | | | | |
| | | S222 | S243 | KI77 | KI7G | KI7O |
| 2020 | Jul | 7.6 | 17.5 | 4.4 | 1.8 | 13.4 |
| | Aug | 2.2 | 4.5 | 0 | 0.5 | 5.2 |
| | Sep | 1.8 | -1.6 | 0.6 | 1.8 | 4.7 |
| | Oct | 0.6 | -1.6 | 3 | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| | Nov | -3.1 | -11.5 | -1.2 | -0.3 | -3 |
| | Dec | 1.4 | 5.4 | -0.1 | 1.3 | 0.1 |
| 2021 | Jan | -2.7 | -9.5 | 0.1 | -0.2 | -4.2 |
| | Feb | 0.6 | 3.2 | -0.7 | 0.2 | 0 |
| | Mar | 2.1 | 2.7 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 4.4 |
| | Apr | 3.6 | 14.4 | 1 | -1 | 5.8 |
| | May | 0.8 | 3.9 | 0.1 | 0 | 1.1 |
| | Jun | 1.9 | 2.4 | 0.1 | 1.3 | 3.3 |
| | Jul | -0.2 | -0.7 | 1 | -0.6 | 0.1 |
| | Aug | 0.1 | 1.7 | 0.6 | 0.1 | -1 |
| | Sep | 0.7 | -0.4 | -0.5 | 0.7 | 2 |
| 1 year ago | | | | | | |
| | | S2G6 | S2I7 | KI7C | KI7J | KI7R |
| 2020 | Jul | -15.3 | -22.9 | -15 | -8.7 | -20.7 |
| | Aug | -10.5 | -10.2 | -11.7 | -7.4 | -14.7 |
| | Sep | -7.3 | -4.8 | -10.3 | -6.3 | -8.5 |
| | Oct | -5.9 | -4.3 | -9.2 | -5.7 | -5.6 |
| | Nov | -6.1 | -8.8 | -8.4 | -4.8 | -5.1 |
| | Dec | -6.5 | -11.3 | -7.5 | -4.3 | -6.2 |
| 2021 | Jan | -7.9 | -16.5 | -7.3 | -3.9 | -8.9 |
| | Feb | -8.3 | -17.3 | -7.4 | -3.6 | -10.4 |
| | Mar | -5.7 | -14.3 | -5.1 | -2.5 | -6.2 |
| | Apr | 4.9 | 10.5 | 2.5 | 1.6 | 7.9 |
| | May | 16.8 | 43 | 11.1 | 5.9 | 25.8 |
| | Jun | 22.9 | 56.8 | 14.6 | 8.5 | 36.4 |
| | Jul | 16.9 | 31.4 | 10 | 6.9 | 30 |
| | Aug | 11 | 14.2 | 6.4 | 5.3 | 21.5 |
| | Sep | 7.2 | 7.9 | 5 | 4 | 13.5 |
| 13 months | | | | | | |
| | | S2BG | S2DH | KI7D | KI7K | KI7S |
| 2020 | Jul | -5.7 | -2.6 | -5.4 | -4.7 | -9.7 |
| | Aug | 8.9 | 37.3 | 5.8 | 1.1 | 9.5 |
| | Sep | 16.5 | 50 | 10.5 | 4.9 | 23.4 |
| | Oct | 11.6 | 23.9 | 6.9 | 4.1 | 19.9 |
| | Nov | 5.1 | 1.4 | 3.7 | 2.9 | 12 |
| | Dec | 0.9 | -7.2 | 2.6 | 2 | 3.5 |
| 2021 | Jan | -2.1 | -12.6 | 0.9 | 1.4 | -2.4 |
| | Feb | -2.1 | -8.7 | -0.1 | 1.2 | -4.4 |
| | Mar | -1.8 | -7.3 | -0.5 | 1.1 | -3.7 |
| | Apr | 1.8 | 4.8 | 0.4 | 1 | 2 |
| | May | 4.3 | 12.6 | 1.4 | 0.6 | 7.3 |
| | Jun | 6.5 | 21.6 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 10.9 |
| | Jul | 5.1 | 15.9 | 1.5 | 0.3 | 8.8 |
| | Aug | 3.5 | 9.6 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 5.7 |
| | Sep | 1.6 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 0.5 | 2.7 |

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