

Statistical bulletin

Index of Services, UK: December 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 fell by 0.5% between November 2021 and December 2021, reaching a level that is 0.5% above February 2020, which was the last month of "normal" trading conditions prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- There were falls in 7 of the 14 sectors in the Index of Services.
- The largest contributions to fall were from wholesale and retail trade, which contributed 0.42 percentage points; accommodation and food service activities contributed a further 0.35 percentage points to the decrease to Index of Services; this was partially offset by human health and social work activities, which contributed a positive 0.26 percentage points in the Index of Services.
- 5 of the 14 services sub sectors have now surpassed their pre-coronavirus pandemic levels, with the largest increase from February 2020 being human health and social work activities (13.6%), whereas other services activities, which include hairdressers and other beauty treatments, remain 21.1% below their pre-coronavirus pandemic level.
- Services output for Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2021 rose by 1.2%, compared with Quarter 3 (Jul to Sept) 2021; over this period, the largest contributor was human health and social work activities, which grew by 4.5%.
- 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: December 2021](#), which was published on 11 February 2022.

2 . Index of Services data

[Index of Services time series](#)

Dataset | Dataset ID: IOS1 | Released 11 February 2022

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 February 2022

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 February 2022

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 February 2022

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: December 2021](#), published on 21 January 2021.

For further information on what is included within Other, please see the [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 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 log on 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 affected than survey data.

Our latest data and analysis on the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on the UK economy and population is now available on a [new coronavirus 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](#). If you have specific queries, you can contact the Media Relations Office by email at media.relations@ons.gov.uk.

Economic statistics governance after EU exit

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.

4 . Related links

[Comparing ONS's economic data with IHS Markit and CIPS Purchasing Managers' Index surveys](#)

Article | Released 21 October 2019

A comparison between official estimates of UK output and diffusion indices, looking at the level of correlation between Office for National Statistics data and IHS Markit and Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply Purchasing Managers' Indices.

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

Bulletin | Released 11 February 2022

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

Changes that have taken place in the UK services sector from 2008 to 2018. The differences between public sector-dominated sections and the rest of the sector, and the individual sections of the services sector, are analysed in depth.

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

Bulletin | Released 11 February 2022

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.

		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
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	84.9	90.5	94.8	89.7
2021		97.9	95.4	95.7	97.8	100.6
2020	Q4	94	87.5	92.4	96	95.7
2021	Q1	92.4	80.7	92	96.9	92.9
	Q2	98.4	98.4	94.6	97.1	102.3
	Q3	99.7	102	96.5	97.9	102.9
	Q4	100.9	100.6	99.5	99.2	104.5
2020	Oct	95.1	93.1	93	95.9	95.6
	Nov	92.7	83	91.9	95.6	95
	Dec	94.3	86.5	92.3	96.5	96.5
2021	Jan	91.1	78.8	91.8	96	90.8
	Feb	91.7	80.9	91.2	96.6	90.8
	Mar	94.5	82.4	92.9	98.1	97.1
	Apr	97.5	94.5	94.6	97	101.5
	May	98.3	99.5	94.5	96.6	102.1
	Jun	99.4	101.2	94.9	97.9	103.2
	Jul	99.3	101	96.1	97	103.4
	Aug	99.6	103	96.9	97.7	101.7
	Sep	100.3	102	96.5	98.9	103.7
	Oct	100.7	101.7	98	98.5	104.2
	Nov	101.3	102.5	99.9	99.4	104.4
	Dec	100.8	97.7	100.8	99.6	104.8
Percentage change, latest year on previous year		S222	S243	KI77	KI7G	KI7O
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	-15.1	-9.5	-5.2	-10.3
2021		7.4	12.4	5.7	3.1	12.2
Percentage change, latest month on same month a year ago		S26Q	S28R	KI7A	KI7I	KI7Q
2020	Oct	-5.5	-6.7	-7.7	-4.8	-5
	Nov	-7.5	-16.7	-7.7	-4	-6.4
	Dec	-6.2	-13.4	-7.4	-3.7	-5.1
2021	Jan	-9.6	-21.8	-7.5	-4.4	-11.2
	Feb	-8.5	-18.9	-8.2	-3.4	-10.1
	Mar	2.6	-2.6	-1	0.5	11.1
	Apr	27.2	82.2	18.7	9.1	41.9
	May	25.8	69.5	18	9	40.4
	Jun	17	30.9	10	6.5	30.6
	Jul	8.6	10.6	6.7	3.8	16.2
	Aug	6.7	5.9	8.2	4.2	10.9
	Sep	6.3	7.9	6.4	3.7	9.6
	Oct	5.9	9.3	5.3	2.7	8.9
	Nov	9.3	23.4	8.6	4	9.9
	Dec	6.9	12.9	9.2	3.2	8.6

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

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	Oct	0.7	-1.5	2.5	0.6	1
	Nov	-2.5	-10.8	-1.2	-0.4	-0.7
	Dec	1.7	4.3	0.4	1	1.7
	Jan	-3.3	-9	-0.5	-0.6	-5.9
2021	Feb	0.6	2.7	-0.7	0.7	0
	Mar	3	1.9	1.9	1.5	6.9
	Apr	3.2	14.6	1.8	-1.2	4.5
	May	0.8	5.3	-0.1	-0.4	0.6
	Jun	1.2	1.8	0.4	1.4	1
	Jul	-0.2	-0.3	1.3	-0.9	0.2
	Aug	0.3	2	0.9	0.7	-1.6
	Sep	0.7	-0.9	-0.4	1.2	2
	Oct	0.4	-0.3	1.5	-0.3	0.4
	Nov	0.6	0.8	1.9	0.8	0.2
	Dec	-0.5	-4.7	0.9	0.3	0.4
Percentage change, latest 3 months on same 3 months a year ago						
		S2G6	S2I7	KI7C	KI7J	KI7R
2020	Oct	-6.2	-5.1	-9.4	-5.6	-6.5
	Nov	-6.4	-9.7	-8.5	-4.7	-5.8
	Dec	-6.4	-12.2	-7.6	-4.3	-5.5
	Jan	-7.8	-17.3	-7.6	-4.1	-7.5
2021	Feb	-8.1	-18	-7.7	-3.9	-8.8
	Mar	-5.4	-15.1	-5.6	-2.5	-4.1
	Apr	5.4	9.1	2.1	1.8	11.3
	May	17.6	41.6	11.2	6	29.8
	Jun	23.1	57.1	15.4	8.2	37.4
	Jul	16.7	32.7	11.4	6.4	28.2
	Aug	10.6	14.8	8.3	4.8	18.7
	Sep	7.2	8.1	7.1	3.9	12.1
	Oct	6.3	7.7	6.6	3.5	9.8
	Nov	7.1	13.1	6.8	3.5	9.5
	Dec	7.4	14.9	7.7	3.3	9.1
Percentage change, latest 3 months on previous 3 months						
		S2BG	S2DH	KI7D	KI7K	KI7S
2020	Oct	11.1	25.3	6.6	4	17.1
	Nov	4.6	1.8	3.7	2.8	9.8
	Dec	1.1	-7.2	2.5	2	4.3
	Jan	-1.7	-12.8	1	1.1	0.1
2021	Feb	-1.8	-9	-0.1	0.8	-2.5
	Mar	-1.7	-7.8	-0.5	0.9	-2.9
	Apr	2	3.8	1	1.2	2.5
	May	4.7	12.2	2.4	0.8	8.1
	Jun	6.5	21.9	2.9	0.2	10.1
	Jul	4.7	17	2.4	-0.1	6.7
	Aug	2.8	10.4	2.1	0.3	2.5
	Sep	1.3	3.7	2	0.7	0.7
	Oct	1.2	1.7	2.1	1.2	0.3
	Nov	1.3	0.3	2.3	1.4	1.3
	Dec	1.2	-1.3	3.1	1.4	1.5

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