Preliminary flash estimate for the first quarter of 2019

**GDP up by 0.4% in the euro area and by 0.5% in the EU28**

+1.2% and +1.5% respectively compared with the first quarter of 2018

Seasonally adjusted GDP rose by 0.4% in the euro area (EA19) and by 0.5% in the EU28 during the first quarter of 2019, compared with the previous quarter, according to a preliminary flash estimate published by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union. In the fourth quarter of 2018, GDP had grown by 0.2% in the euro area and by 0.3% in the EU28.

Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, seasonally adjusted GDP rose by 1.2% in the euro area and by 1.5% in the EU28 in the first quarter of 2019, as in the previous quarter.

![GDP growth rates](image)

**Growth rates of GDP in volume**

(based on seasonally adjusted data)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018Q2</th>
<th>2018Q3</th>
<th>2018Q4</th>
<th>2019Q1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EA19</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU28</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The source dataset can be found [here](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat). Annualised growth rates are also available. They were 1.5% for the euro area and 1.9% for the EU28 in 2019Q1.
Geographical information
The **euro area (EA19)** includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union (EU28)** includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Methods and definitions
European quarterly national accounts are compiled in accordance with the European System of Accounts 2010 (ESA 2010).

The preliminary flash estimate of the first quarter of 2019 GDP growth presented in this release is based on the data of 17 Member States, covering 93% of EA19 GDP (90% of EU28 GDP).

Two statistical working papers present the preliminary GDP flash methodology for the European estimates and Member States estimates.

Revisions and timetable
With this preliminary flash estimate, euro area and EU GDP figures for earlier quarters are not revised.

All figures presented in this release may be revised with the GDP t+45 flash estimate scheduled for 15 May 2019 and subsequently by the estimate of GDP and main aggregates scheduled for 6 June 2019.

Data on revisions for test estimations, showing that the preliminary flash estimation procedure is sufficiently reliable, are available in chapter 5 of the statistical working paper Euro area and EU GDP flash estimates at 30 days.

For more information
Eurostat website section on national accounts, and specifically the page on quarterly national accounts
Eurostat database section on national accounts
Eurostat Statistics Explained article on measuring quarterly GDP
Eurostat metadata on quarterly national accounts
European System of Accounts 2010
Eurostat €-indicators release calendar

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