

14 November 2017

Quarterly National Accounts – Flash Estimate
Third Quarter 2017

GDP grew 2.5% year-on-year

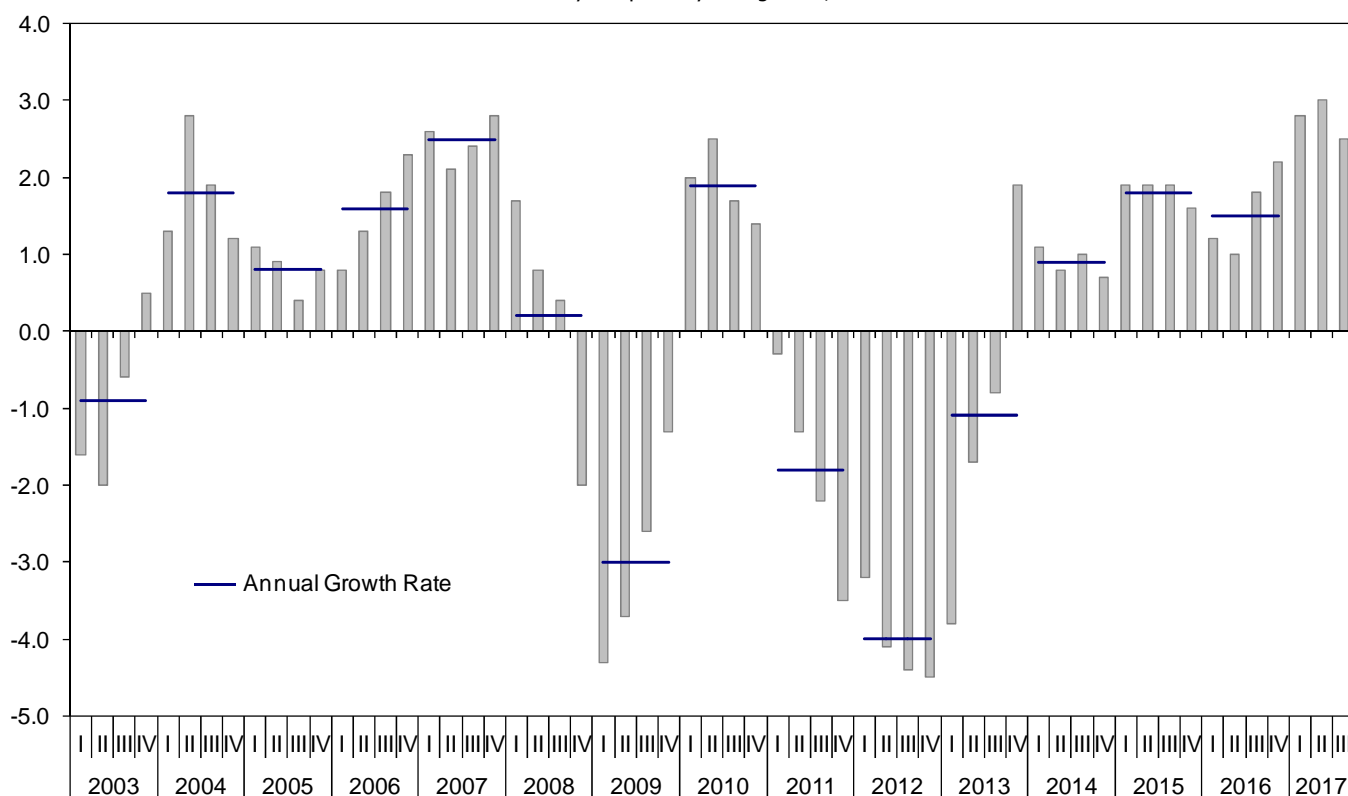
The Portuguese Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased by 2.5% in volume in the third quarter 2017, compared with the same period of 2016 (3.0% in the previous quarter). The positive contribution of domestic demand increased, reflecting the acceleration of private consumption, while Investment decelerated. Net external demand registered a negative contribution, conversely to what was observed in the former quarter, due to a less pronounced increase of Exports of Goods and Services and the acceleration of Imports of Goods and Services.

In comparison with the second quarter of 2017, GDP increased 0.5% in real terms, 0.2 percentage points more than in the previous quarter. The contribution of net external demand to quarter-on-quarter GDP change rate became positive, as a result of the higher increase in Exports of Goods and Services than in Imports of Goods and Services. The domestic demand contribution diminished slightly due to the reduction of Investment, whereas private consumption increased (negative change rate in the previous quarter).

Gross Domestic Product

Chain-linked volume data (reference year=2011)

Year-on-year quarterly change rate, %



This flash estimate includes revisions in the basic data, particularly due to updated information on external trade of goods, with revisions in nominal terms for the second quarter 2017. Despite this new set of information, the GDP year-on-year and quarter-on-quarter change rates remained unchanged.

Gross Domestic Product

Chain linked volume data (reference year=2011)

	Year-on-Year Quarterly Growth Rate (%)								
	3Q 15	4Q 15	1Q 16	2Q 16	3Q 16	4Q 16	1Q 17	2Q 17	3Q 17
Flash 3Q 2017	1.9	1.6	1.2	1.0	1.8	2.2	2.8	3.0	2.5
QNA 2Q 2017 (85 days)	1.9	1.6	1.2	1.0	1.8	2.2	2.8	3.0	
QNA 2Q 2017 (60 days)	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.9	1.7	2.0	2.8	2.9	

	Quarter-on-Quarter Growth Rate (%)								
	3Q 15	4Q 15	1Q 16	2Q 16	3Q 16	4Q 16	1Q 17	2Q 17	3Q 17
Flash 3Q 2017	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.5
QNA 2Q 2017 (85 days)	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.3	
QNA 2Q 2017 (60 days)	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.3	

Flash - Flash Estimate (45 days); QNA - Quarterly National Accounts

Gross Domestic Product

Chain linked volume data (reference year=2011)

	Annual Growth Rate (%)		
	2014	2015	2016
Flash 3Q 2017	0.9	1.8	1.5
QNA 2Q 2017 (85 days)	0.9	1.8	1.5
QNA 2Q 2017 (60 days)	0.9	1.6	1.4

Flash - Flash Estimate (45 days)

QNA - Quarterly National Accounts

2014 and 2015: final data; 2016: provisional data

Next Press Release of Quarterly National Accounts

Current estimates of Quarterly National Accounts (detailed results) for the third quarter 2017 will be published in 30th November 2017.

Methodological information about the flash estimates

Flash estimates for GDP constitute the first synthetic indication on the quarterly behaviour for the Portuguese economy and do not replace the main estimates of Quarterly National Accounts (also designated as current estimates), more accurate and detailed, which are published at t+2 months (approximately 60 days) after the end of the reference quarter.

These flash estimates are calculated using the same methodology, and preferably the same basic information, compared to the Quarterly National Accounts current estimate. The percentage of basic information available for flash estimates is over 80%. Methods for imputation and forecasting are used in the cases where basic information is not complete, selected after a series of tests performed over a large sample. One must take into consideration that the flash estimates might be subject to larger revisions (when compared to current estimates), although the percentage of basic information available is high.

In the real time tests carried out from the second quarter 2005 onwards, the mean absolute error for the flash estimate was 0.1 percentage points for both year-on-year quarterly change rate and quarter-on-quarter change rate, when compared to the current estimate. However, it must be stressed that in the current economic juncture, characterized by significant price decelerations or even reductions, the difficulty in measuring the behaviour of main macroeconomic aggregates is particularly high, mainly in splitting the nominal change of exports and imports in price and volume changes. It should be reminded that the usual information on external trade deflators used in the compilation of the current estimates of the Quarterly National Accounts is not available when this flash estimate is produced.

This press release only includes information on quarter-on-quarter and year-on-year quarterly change rates in real terms.

Change rates included in this press release are calculated from chain-linked volume data (2011=100). Data are calendar and seasonally adjusted.