

13th February 2015

Quarterly National Accounts – Flash Estimate

Fourth Quarter 2014 and year 2014

Year-on-year change rate of Gross Domestic Product was 0.7% in volume in the fourth quarter 2014 and 0.9% in the year 2014

The Portuguese Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased by 0.7% in volume in the fourth quarter 2014, compared with the same period of 2013 (1.1% in the third quarter 2014), according to the flash estimate of the Quarterly National Accounts. This evolution was determined by a less intense positive contribution of domestic demand compared with the observed in the third quarter, reflecting the deceleration of private consumption. Net External Demand presented a slightly less negative contribution to the GDP year-on-year change rate, driven by the acceleration of Exports of Goods and Services.

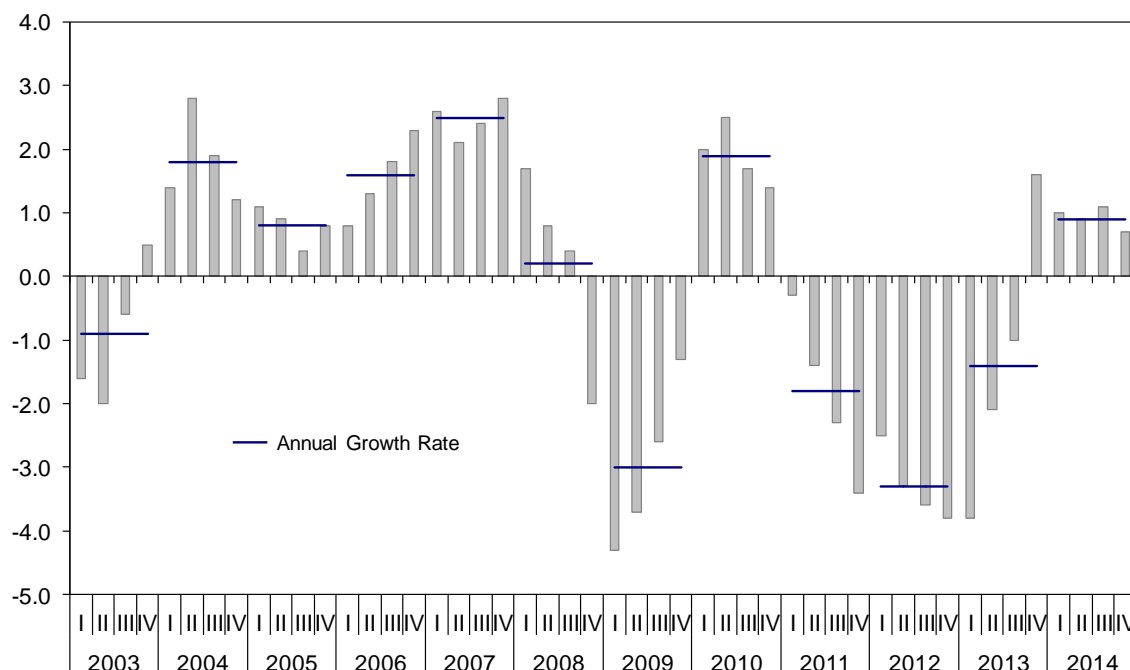
Comparing with the previous quarter GDP increased by 0.5% in real terms (0.3% in the third quarter), due to the positive Net External Demand contribution.

In 2014 GDP recorded a real growth rate of 0.9%, following a decrease of 1.4% in 2013, as a result of the upturn of Domestic Demand.

Gross Domestic Product

Chain-linked volume data (reference year=2011)

Year-on-year quarterly change rate, %



This flash estimate includes data revisions, particularly due to updated information on external trade of goods, with small revisions in nominal terms and in deflators for the third quarter 2014. 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 (%)								
	4Q 12	1Q 13	2Q 13	3Q 13	4Q 13	1Q 14	2Q 14	3Q 14	4Q 14
Flash 4Q 2014	-3.8	-3.8	-2.1	-1.0	1.6	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.7
QNA 3Q 2014 (85 days)	-3.8	-3.8	-2.1	-1.0	1.6	1.0	0.9	1.1	
QNA 3Q 2014 (60 days)	-3.8	-3.8	-2.1	-1.0	1.6	1.0	0.9	1.1	

	Quarter-on-Quarter Growth Rate (%)								
	4Q 12	1Q 13	2Q 13	3Q 13	4Q 13	1Q 14	2Q 14	3Q 14	4Q 14
Flash 4Q 2014	-1.6	0.2	0.4	0.1	1.0	-0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5
QNA 3Q 2014 (85 days)	-1.6	0.2	0.4	0.1	1.0	-0.4	0.3	0.3	
QNA 3Q 2014 (60 days)	-1.6	0.2	0.4	0.1	1.0	-0.4	0.3	0.3	

Flash - Flash Estimate (45 days); QNA - Quarterly National Accounts; QNA (85 days) - Data released on the 23rd December 2014 in the section of National Accounts available at Statistics Portugal website, as a result of new information, notably due to the compilation of the National Accounts by Institutional Sector.

Gross Domestic Product

Chain linked volume data (reference year=2011)

	Annual Growth Rate (%)		
	2012	2013	2014
Flash 4Q 2014	-3.3	-1.4	0.9
QNA 3Q 2014 (85 days)	-3.3	-1.4	
QNA 3Q 2014 (60 days)	-3.3	-1.4	

Flash - Flash Estimate (45 days)

QNA - Quarterly National Accounts

2012, 2013 and 2014: preliminary data

Next Press Release of Quarterly National Accounts

Current estimates of Quarterly National Accounts (detailed results) for the fourth quarter 2014 will be published in 27th February 2015.

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 those cases where basic information is not complete, selected after a series of tests performed over a large sample. One must take into consideration that these 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.