

Singapore's GDP Grew by 1.8 Per Cent in the First Quarter of 2016

14 April 2016. Based on advance estimates¹, the Singapore economy grew by 1.8 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter of 2016, the same pace of growth as in the previous quarter. Growth was flat on a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted annualised basis, in contrast to the 6.2 per cent expansion in the preceding quarter.

Gross Domestic Product at 2010 Prices

	1Q15	2Q15	3Q15	4Q15	2015	1Q16*
Percentage change over corresponding period of previous year						
Overall GDP	2.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.8
Goods Producing Industries						
Manufacturing	-2.9	-5.2	-6.0	-6.7	-5.2	-2.0
Construction	-1.6	3.6	3.0	4.9	2.5	6.2
Services Producing Industries	4.3	3.2	3.4	2.8	3.4	1.9
Quarter-on-quarter annualised growth rate, seasonally-adjusted						
Overall GDP	0.2	-1.6	2.3	6.2	2.0	0.0
Goods Producing Industries						
Manufacturing	-3.5	-13.8	-6.0	-4.9	-5.2	18.2
Construction	6.7	7.7	0.2	6.0	2.5	10.2
Services Producing Industries	-0.4	0.4	3.8	7.7	3.4	-3.8

*Advance estimates

The manufacturing sector contracted by 2.0 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter, following the 6.7 per cent decline in the previous quarter. The sector was primarily weighed down by a decline in the output of the transport engineering, precision engineering and electronics clusters. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted annualised basis, the sector rebounded to post growth of 18.2 per cent, compared to the 4.9 per cent contraction in the preceding quarter.

The construction sector expanded by 6.2 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter, an improvement from the 4.9 per cent growth recorded in the previous quarter. The stronger growth in the sector was supported by both

¹ The advance GDP estimates for the first quarter of 2016 are computed largely from data in the first two months of the quarter (i.e. January and February 2016). They are intended as an early indication of the GDP growth in the quarter, and are subject to revision when more comprehensive data become available.

public and private sector construction activities. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted annualised basis, the sector grew by 10.2 per cent, accelerating from the 6.0 per cent growth in the preceding quarter.

Growth in the services producing industries came in at 1.9 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter, easing from the 2.8 per cent growth in the previous quarter. Growth was supported mainly by the wholesale & retail trade and finance & insurance sectors. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the services producing industries contracted at an annualised rate of 3.8 per cent, a reversal from the 7.7 per cent expansion in the preceding quarter.

MTI will release the preliminary GDP estimates for the first quarter, including performance by sectors, sources of growth, inflation, employment and productivity, in its *Economic Survey of Singapore* in May 2016.

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
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