

Singapore's GDP Grew by 2.5 Per Cent in the First Quarter of 2017

13 April 2017. Based on advance estimates¹, the Singapore economy grew by 2.5 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter of 2017, easing from the 2.9 per cent growth in the previous quarter. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted annualised basis, the economy contracted by 1.9 per cent after posting a strong rebound of 12.3 per cent in the preceding quarter.

Gross Domestic Product at 2010 Prices

| | 1Q16 | 2Q16 | 3Q16 | 4Q16 | 2016 | 1Q17* |
|--|------|------|-------|------|------|--------------|
| Percentage change over corresponding period of previous year | | | | | | |
| Overall GDP | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.2 | 2.9 | 2.0 | 2.5 |
| Goods Producing Industries | | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | -0.4 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 11.5 | 3.6 | 6.6 |
| Construction | 3.1 | 2.7 | -2.2 | -2.8 | 0.2 | -1.1 |
| Services Producing Industries | 1.5 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.5 |
| Quarter-on-quarter annualised growth rate, seasonally-adjusted | | | | | | |
| Overall GDP | -0.5 | 0.8 | -0.4 | 12.3 | 2.0 | -1.9 |
| Goods Producing Industries | | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | 12.9 | 3.6 | -5.0 | 39.8 | 3.6 | -6.6 |
| Construction | -1.6 | 3.1 | -12.6 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 5.4 |
| Services Producing Industries | -4.2 | -0.7 | 1.1 | 8.4 | 1.0 | -2.2 |

*Advance estimates

The manufacturing sector expanded by 6.6 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter, moderating from the 11.5 per cent growth in the previous quarter. Growth was supported primarily by robust output expansions in the electronics and precision engineering clusters, which outweighed output declines in the biomedical manufacturing, transport engineering and general manufacturing clusters. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted annualised basis, the sector saw a pullback in growth in the first quarter, contracting by 6.6 per cent following the 39.8 per cent surge in the preceding quarter.

The construction sector contracted by 1.1 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter, extending the 2.8 per cent decline in the previous quarter,

¹ The advance GDP estimates for the first quarter of 2017 are computed largely from data in the first two months of the quarter (i.e., January and February 2017). 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.

weighed down by a slowdown in private sector construction activities. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted annualised basis, the sector grew by 5.4 per cent, accelerating from the 0.8 per cent growth in the preceding quarter.

The services producing industries expanded by 1.5 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter, an improvement from the 1.0 per cent growth in the previous quarter. Growth was mainly supported by the wholesale & retail trade and transportation & storage sectors, which were in turn bolstered by a continued recovery in exports. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the services producing industries contracted at an annualised rate of 2.2 per cent, reversing the 8.4 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 2017.

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
13 April 2017