

Singapore's GDP Grew by 2.0 Per Cent in the Fourth Quarter of 2015

4 January 2016. Based on advance estimates¹, the Singapore economy grew by 2.0 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the fourth quarter of 2015, slightly faster than the 1.8 per cent growth in the previous quarter. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted annualised basis, the economy expanded at a faster pace of 5.7 per cent compared to the 1.7 per cent growth in the preceding quarter.

For the whole of 2015, the economy grew by 2.1 per cent. This is in line with MTI's earlier announced GDP growth forecast of "close to 2.0 per cent".

Gross Domestic Product at 2010 Prices

	4Q14	2014	1Q15	2Q15	3Q15	4Q15*	2015*
Percentage change over corresponding period of previous year							
Overall GDP	2.1	2.9	2.7	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.1
Goods Producing Industries							
Manufacturing	-1.3	2.6	-2.6	-4.9	-5.9	-6.0	-4.8
Construction	0.7	3.0	-1.6	2.6	1.1	2.2	1.1
Services Producing Industries	3.1	3.2	4.2	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.6
Quarter-on-quarter annualised growth rate, seasonally-adjusted							
Overall GDP	4.9	2.9	3.5	-2.8	1.7	5.7	2.1
Goods Producing Industries							
Manufacturing	-2.5	2.6	1.0	-17.4	-3.5	-3.1	-4.8
Construction	2.2	3.0	-6.5	15.0	-4.9	7.0	1.1
Services Producing Industries	7.8	3.2	3.7	-0.4	2.9	6.5	3.6

*Advance estimates

The manufacturing sector contracted by 6.0 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the fourth quarter, extending the 5.9 per cent decline in the previous quarter. The sector was primarily weighed down by a decline in the output of the electronics, transport engineering and precision engineering clusters. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the sector contracted at an annualised rate of 3.1 per cent, following the 3.5 per cent contraction in the preceding quarter.

¹ The advance GDP estimates for the fourth quarter of 2015 are computed largely from data in the first two months of the quarter (i.e. October and November 2015). 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.

The construction sector expanded by 2.2 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the fourth quarter, an improvement from the 1.1 per cent growth recorded in the previous quarter. Growth was supported by a pick-up in public sector construction activities. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted annualised basis, the sector expanded by 7.0 per cent, a reversal from the 4.9 per cent contraction in the preceding quarter.

Growth in the services producing industries came in at 3.2 per cent on a year-on-year basis in the fourth quarter, easing slightly from the 3.4 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 expanded at an annualised rate of 6.5 per cent, an improvement from the 2.9 per cent expansion in the preceding quarter.

MTI will release the preliminary GDP estimates for the fourth quarter and the whole of 2015, including performance by sectors, sources of growth, inflation, employment and productivity, in its *Economic Survey of Singapore* in February 2016.

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
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