

### Real household income rises again in the OECD but the picture is mixed

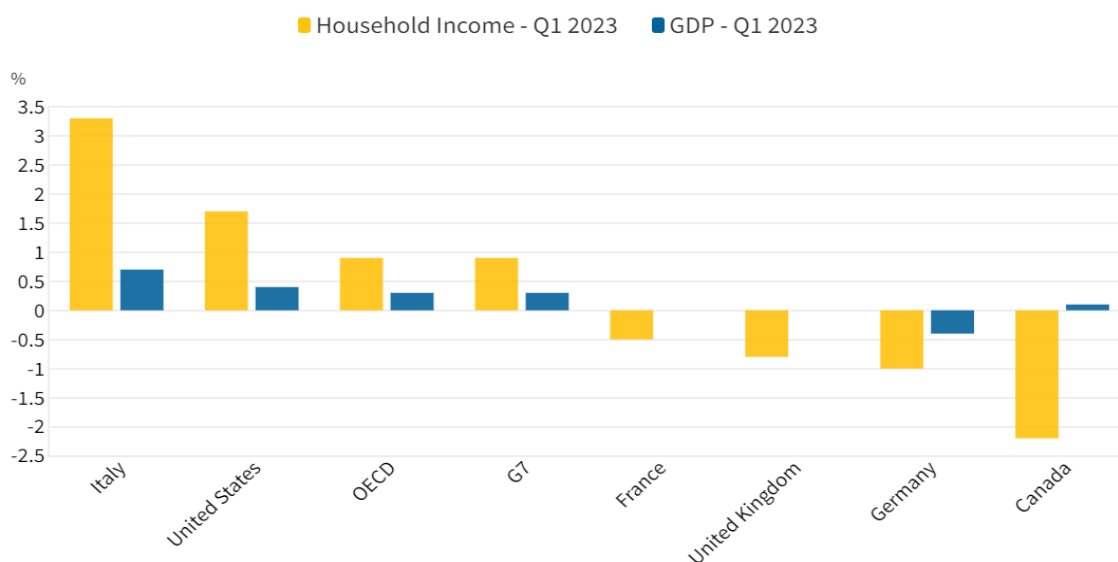
Real household income per capita grew by 0.9% in the OECD in the first quarter of 2023, exceeding growth in real GDP per capita of 0.3% (Figure 1). This is the third quarter in a row that real household income per capita has grown in the OECD, and the highest quarterly rise since Q1 2021 when incomes were boosted by pandemic-related assistance programmes.

Despite the overall increase in real household income per capita, the picture was mixed across OECD countries in Q1 2023. Of the 21 countries for which data is available, 11 recorded an increase, while ten recorded a fall. Among G7 economies, real household income per capita rose in Italy and the United States while it declined in Canada, France, Germany and the United Kingdom. Canada recorded the largest drop in real household income per capita (-2.2%), driven in part by lower government transfers to households than in the previous quarter, when extra cost-of-living payments were made. In Germany, both real GDP per capita and real household income per capita fell for the second consecutive quarter.

Italy saw the largest increase in real household income per capita in Q1 2023 (3.3%) as growth in energy prices eased following the spike in the previous quarter, improving the incomes of households when measured in real terms. In the United States, the gain in real household income per capita (1.7%) was mainly due to a decrease in taxes payable in Q1 2023<sup>1</sup> after a rise in 2022 (Figure 2) due to increases in wages and salaries, deferred payment of 2020 taxes and strong capital gains.

Among other OECD countries, Poland experienced strong growth in both real GDP per capita (3.9%) and real household income per capita (3.5%). Large increases in real household income per capita were also recorded in Denmark (4.3%), Belgium (4.1%) and the Netherlands (2.6%).

Figure 1 – Real household income per capita and real GDP per capita, G7 economies and OECD  
Q1 2023, percentage change on the previous quarter, seasonally adjusted data



Source: [OECD Household Dashboard database \(2023\)](#)

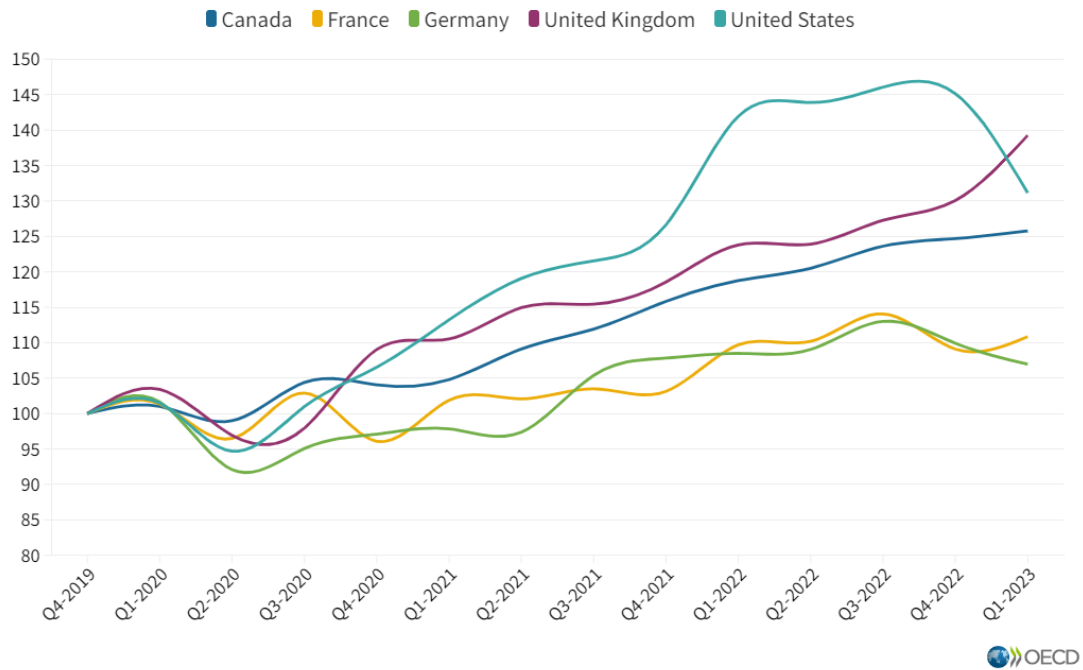
Notes:

1. Estimates are not available for Japan.
2. GDP for France and United Kingdom was flat in Q1 2023, with recorded growth of 0.0%.
3. The source database shows estimates for all OECD countries for which data is available at time of publication.

<sup>1</sup> While taxes are usually paid once a year, the national accounts show taxes payable in the period (quarter) in which they accrued.

## Figure 2 – Current taxes payable on income and wealth in the household sector, selected countries, Q4 2019 to Q1 2023

Seasonally adjusted, Q4 2019 = 100



Source: [OECD Household Dashboard database \(2023\)](#)

Notes:

1. Estimates are not available for Japan; seasonally adjusted estimates are not available for Italy.
2. The series for the United States originates from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table 2.1: Personal Income and Its Dispositions. The remaining series originate from OECD, Table 0801: Non-financial Accounts by Economic Sector.
3. The source database shows estimates for all OECD countries for which data is available at time of publication.

Visit the interactive [OECD Data Portal](#) to explore this data

**Table 1 – Quarterly real household income per capita***Percentage change on the previous quarter, seasonally adjusted data*

	2021				2022				2023
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
<b>OECD</b>	4.9	-3.5	0.0	-0.1	-1.4	-0.6	0.5	0.2	0.9
<b>G7</b>	6.4	-4.8	-0.6	-0.7	-1.6	-0.9	0.4	0.0	0.9
<b>Canada</b>	3.1	-0.5	-0.6	-2.7	2.2	-1.4	-1.0	0.4	-2.2
<b>France</b>	-1.5	1.0	0.6	1.5	-1.7	-0.6	0.8	1.2	-0.5
<b>Germany</b>	-1.1	0.2	-0.5	0.6	0.4	-0.2	0.6	-1.6	-1.0
<b>Italy</b>	-0.2	1.2	1.5	-1.0	-0.3	0.2	0.2	-3.6	3.3
<b>Japan</b>	-0.7	-0.2	0.4	0.4	-0.4	..	..	..	..
<b>United Kingdom</b>	0.1	0.3	0.0	-0.6	-1.1	-1.1	-0.2	1.1	-0.8
<b>United States</b>	10.8	-7.9	-1.1	-1.2	-2.6	-0.6	0.5	0.3	1.7

Source: [OECD Household Dashboard database \(2023\)](#)

Notes:

..: Latest quarter not yet available.

The source database shows estimates for all OECD countries for which data is available at time of publication.

**Table 2 – Quarterly real GDP per capita***Percentage change on the previous quarter, seasonally adjusted data*

	2021				2022				2023
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
<b>OECD</b>	0.8	1.7	1.1	1.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3
<b>G7</b>	0.6	1.8	0.9	1.2	-0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3
<b>Canada</b>	1.2	-0.8	1.2	1.1	0.4	0.6	-0.2	-1.0	0.1
<b>France</b>	0.0	0.9	2.8	0.4	-0.1	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0
<b>Germany</b>	-1.3	2.2	0.6	-0.1	1.1	-0.9	0.1	-0.6	-0.4
<b>Italy</b>	0.7	2.6	3.0	0.9	0.2	1.3	0.4	-0.1	0.7
<b>Japan</b>	-0.1	0.2	-0.3	1.3	-0.4	1.3	-0.2	0.3	0.9
<b>United Kingdom</b>	-1.2	6.4	1.6	1.4	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0
<b>United States</b>	1.6	1.7	0.6	1.6	-0.5	-0.2	0.7	0.5	0.4

Source: [OECD Quarterly National Accounts \(QNA\) database](#)

Note:

The source database shows estimates for all OECD countries for which data is available at time of publication.

Data shown in this release was last updated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2023.

**Methodological information:**

OECD growth and economic well-being: [Methodological Notes for economic growth and well-being News release](#)

**Access Data:**

Interested in how households are doing? Visit our interactive [Household's economic well-being dashboard](#).

OECD database: [Household dashboard](#)

OECD database: [Non-financial quarterly sector accounts](#)

**Contacts:**

For further information contact the OECD's Media Relations Division on (33) 1 45 24 97 00 or e-mail [news.contact@oecd.org](mailto:news.contact@oecd.org);  
for further information on data contact OECD's Statistics and Data Directorate: [stat.contact@oecd.org](mailto:stat.contact@oecd.org).

**Next release:** 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023