

## Unprecedented falls in GDP in most G20 economies in second quarter of 2020

COVID-19 containment measures weighed heavily on economic activity in the second quarter of 2020, with unprecedented falls in real gross domestic product (GDP) in most G20 countries. For the **G20 area** as a whole, GDP dropped by a record (minus) 6.9%, significantly larger than the (minus) 1.6% recorded in the first quarter of 2009 at the height of the financial crisis.

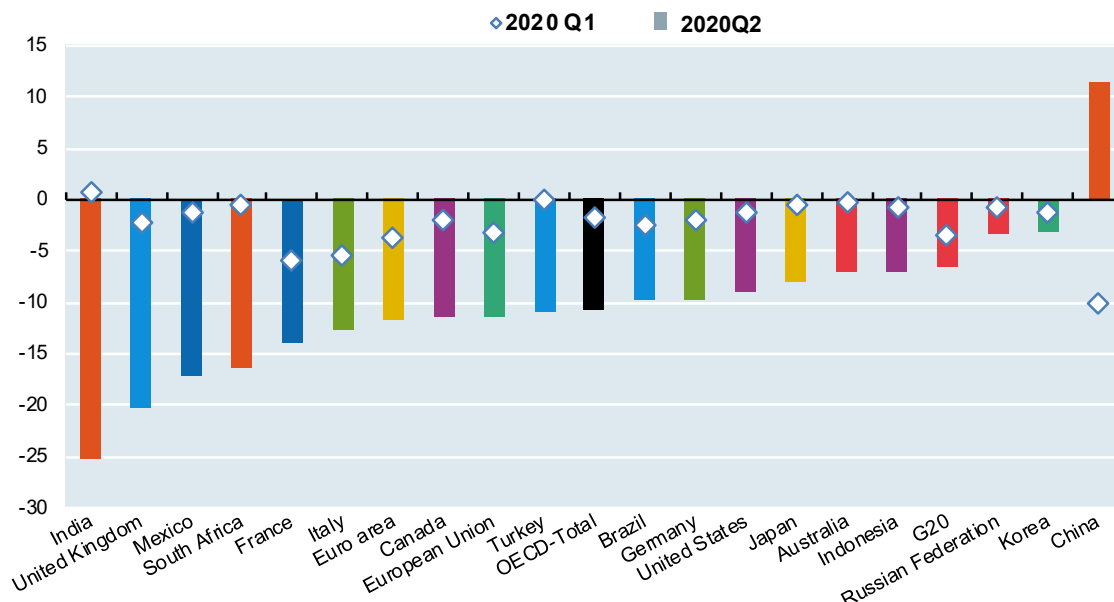
**China** was the only G20 country recording growth (11.5%) in the second quarter of 2020, reflecting the earlier onset of the pandemic in this country and subsequent recovery. GDP contracted by an average of (minus) 11.8% in all other G20 economies in the second quarter of 2020, when the effects of the pandemic began to be more widely felt.

GDP fell most dramatically, by (minus) 25.2%, in **India**, followed by the **United Kingdom** (minus 20.4%). GDP also dropped sharply in **Mexico** (minus 17.1%), **South Africa** (minus 16.4%), **France** (minus 13.8%), **Italy** (minus 12.8%), **Canada** (minus 11.5%), **Turkey** (minus 11.0%), **Brazil** and **Germany** (minus 9.7% in both countries), the **United States** (minus 9.1%), **Japan** (minus 7.9%), **Australia** (minus 7.0%) and **Indonesia** (minus 6.9%). The contraction was less pronounced in **Korea** and **Russia** (minus 3.2% in both countries).

Year-on-year GDP in the **G20 area** fell by (minus) 9.1% in the second quarter of 2020, following a contraction of (minus) 1.7% in the previous quarter. Among G20 economies, **China** recorded the highest annual growth (3.2%), while **India** recorded the largest annual fall (minus 23.5%).

### Quarterly GDP in volume terms for the G20 economies

Percentage change on the previous quarter, seasonally adjusted data



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

**Note:** As a consequence of measures put in place by governments to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), many statistical agencies are facing unprecedented collection, compilation and methodological challenges to develop indicators across a number of domains. To address these challenges, the statistical community is developing guidance, both conceptual and practical, to help ensure the continued delivery of timely and reliable statistics. However, in some cases, there will inevitably be an impact on quality and, as such, the statistics included in this press release may be subject to larger, and more frequent, than normal revisions.

**Quarterly GDP in volume terms for the G20**  
*Percentage change on the previous quarter, seasonally adjusted data*

	2018			2019				2020	
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<b>G20</b>	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.4	-3.5	-6.9
Argentina	-5.1	-0.1	-1.0	0.1	-0.4	0.8	-0.9	-4.8	..
Australia	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.6	-0.3	-7.0
Brazil	-0.2	0.8	-0.4	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.5	-2.5	-9.7
Canada	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.1	-2.1	-11.5
China	1.6	1.5	1.3	2.0	1.2	1.4	1.3	-10.0	11.5
France	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.2	-0.2	-5.9	-13.8
Germany	0.5	-0.3	0.3	0.6	-0.5	0.3	0.0	-2.0	-9.7
India	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.4	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.7	-25.2
Indonesia	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	-0.7	-6.9
Italy	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.2	-5.5	-12.8
Japan	0.4	-0.8	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.0	-1.8	-0.6	-7.9
Korea	0.6	0.6	0.9	-0.3	1.0	0.4	1.3	-1.3	-3.2
Mexico	-0.1	0.2	-0.3	0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-1.2	-17.1
Russian Federation	0.3	0.4	0.4	-0.5	2.4	-0.9	-0.7	-0.9	-3.2
Saudi Arabia	0.6	1.2	1.1	-1.3	-0.6	0.3	1.2	..	..
South Africa	-0.1	0.6	0.3	-0.8	0.8	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-16.4
Turkey	0.5	-1.6	-3.0	1.7	2.1	0.4	2.0	-0.1	-11.0
United Kingdom	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.7	-0.1	0.5	0.0	-2.2	-20.4
United States	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.6	-1.3	-9.1
<b>European Union</b>	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.1	-3.3	-11.4
of which: Euro area	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	-3.7	-11.8
<b>OECD-Total</b>	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	-1.9	-10.6

**Quarterly GDP in volume terms for the G20**  
*Percentage change on the same quarter of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data*

	2018			2019				2020	
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<b>G20</b>	3.8	3.4	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	-1.7	-9.1
Argentina	-2.8	-4.2	-6.2	-6.0	-1.3	-0.5	-0.3	-5.3	..
Australia	3.3	2.6	2.2	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.3	1.6	-6.3
Brazil	0.8	1.5	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.7	1.6	-1.4	-11.4
Canada	1.7	2.0	1.8	1.5	2.0	1.6	1.5	-0.9	-13.0
China	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.0	-6.8	3.2
France	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.8	1.6	0.8	-5.7	-18.9
Germany	2.0	0.8	0.3	1.1	0.1	0.8	0.4	-2.2	-11.3
India	7.0	6.5	5.7	5.4	5.0	4.4	4.1	3.3	-23.5
Indonesia	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.9	3.0	-5.4
Italy	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.1	-5.6	-17.7
Japan	1.0	-0.4	-0.3	0.8	0.9	1.7	-0.7	-1.9	-10.1
Korea	3.1	2.2	3.2	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.4	1.4	-2.8
Mexico	2.2	2.8	1.2	0.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.8	-2.1	-18.7
Saudi Arabia	1.7	2.4	4.2	1.7	0.5	-0.4	-0.4	..	..
South Africa	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.0	1.0	0.1	-0.6	-0.2	-17.2
Turkey	5.5	2.3	-2.6	-2.4	-0.9	1.1	6.3	4.4	-9.0
United Kingdom	1.3	1.6	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.3	1.1	-1.7	-21.7
United States	3.3	3.1	2.5	2.3	2.0	2.1	2.3	0.3	-9.1
<b>European Union</b>	2.4	1.8	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.2	-2.7	-13.9
of which: Euro area	2.2	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.0	-3.2	-14.7
<b>OECD-Total</b>	2.7	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.7	-0.9	-11.7

>> **Notes:** To find out more about the G20 and the Inter-Agency Group on Economic and Financial Statistics: <http://www.principalglobalindicators.org/?sk=E30FAADE-77D0-4F8E-953C-C48DD9D14735&ss=1420495322854>

>> **Access data:** All the latest G20 data, countries and aggregate, can be downloaded from: <http://stats.oecd.org/index.aspx?queryid=33940>

>> **Contacts:** For further information readers are invited to contact the OECD's Media Relations Division on (33) 1 45 24 97 00 or at [news.contact@oecd.org](mailto:news.contact@oecd.org). For technical questions contact [stat.contact@oecd.org](mailto:stat.contact@oecd.org).

>> **Next QNA releases:**

OECD GDP growth – Q3 2020: 19 November 2020

G20 GDP growth – Q3 2020: 14 December 2020

## Methodological note for the OECD QNA press release: G20 GDP growth

Press Releases can be found on the OECD web page, see [OECD Internet Site](#).

This first estimate of GDP growth for the G20 aggregate in the latest quarter is produced by the OECD Secretariat. It is based on quarterly seasonally adjusted data reported by G20 economies and Eurostat and it covers 98% of the G20 GDP.

### Definitions

**Gross domestic product (GDP)** is the standard measure of the value added created through the production of goods and services in a country during a certain period. As such, it also measures the income earned from that production, or the total amount spent on final goods and services (less imports). While GDP is the single most important indicator to capture economic activity, it falls short of providing a suitable measure of people's material well-being for which alternative indicators may be more appropriate. The indicator shown in the press release is based on real GDP (also called GDP at constant prices or GDP in volume), i.e. the developments over time are adjusted for price changes. The numbers are also adjusted for seasonal influences. The indicator is presented in two measures: percentage change from the previous quarter and percentage change from the same quarter of the previous year.

### Country notes

The statistical data in this publication are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant statistical authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, or to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries.

*China* – China is part of the G20 aggregate for all quarters. Data shown in the tables correspond to official figures from the National Bureau of Statistics of China (NBS). Quarterly data used to compile the G20 aggregate are based on estimates from the OECD's Economics Department, which are not shown in the tables.

*Russian Federation* – The Russian Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat) has implemented the 2008 SNA in its System of National Accounts in the beginning of April 2016 and since July 2017 it has released time series according to the 2008 SNA back to 2011.

*Saudi Arabia* – Data is compiled by the "General Authority for Statistics, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia" and provided to the OECD by the IMF.

The seasonally adjusted data includes a working-day correction for all G20 countries except Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and South Africa. When seasonally adjusted national data are not available, data are adjusted by the OECD's Statistics Directorate with the TRAMO/SEATS method; this is the case for Argentina, India, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia. Figures for the G20 aggregate are calculated from seasonally (and calendar) adjusted data of the countries (*i.e.* the indirect method). Growth over the previous quarter is not annualised in this News Release. The charts presented in this News Release are based on data with more than one decimal.

Growth rates for the G20 are derived from chained volume estimates in US dollars converted using 2015 Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) of GDP.

The estimations of annual growth presented in the last paragraph are derived from quarterly estimates.

### Implementation of SNA 2008 / ESA 2010 methodology

Quarterly national accounts data are compiled according to the new SNA 2008 / ESA 2010 standards by all the countries in the G20 area except Saudi Arabia.

Find more information on the change of methodology and its impact on GDP at the following link: <http://www.oecd.org/sdd/na/sna-2008-main-changes.htm>

Adherence to the 2008 SNA ensures a high degree of comparability across countries. The COVID-19 crisis has however impacted on conventional data collection mechanisms in many countries, and created particular challenges for the estimation of non-market activities such as health and education, which may have affected the reliability of timely estimates of GDP and, in turn, their international comparability.

### Country coverage

The OECD news release on "G20 GDP growth" presents time series which extend beyond the date of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union on 1 February 2020. In order to maintain consistency over time, the "European Union" aggregate presented here excludes the UK for the entire time series. Interested readers may refer to

the [Eurostat website](#) for further information on Eurostat's plans for disseminating EU aggregates and to the [Eurostat database](#) for the actual series.

The G20 consists of the following: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.

The G20 aggregate is calculated taking the sixteen individual country members of the G20 (other than France, Germany and Italy) plus the European Union as an aggregate.

**Further information**

Further methodological information can be downloaded from:

[http://www.oecd.org/sdd/na/G20QuarterlyGDPGrowth\\_Methodology.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/sdd/na/G20QuarterlyGDPGrowth_Methodology.pdf)