OXFORD ECONOMICS

Forecast summary

Danske Bank

Northern Ireland's recovery is expected to continue steadily, with growth accelerating to 1.8% in 2016 and 2.1% in 2017, underpinned by a strengthening private services sector and a moderate labour market expansion. Public sector job losses, however, still feature heavily in the employment outlook and consumer spending is expected to be more measured in 2016 because of ongoing austerity. BREXIT is most probably the biggest uncertainty that the Northern Ireland economy is facing right now and this cloud on the horizon has the potential to drag down investment levels until the issue is resolved.

Northern Ireland's economic recovery has been steady but not spectacular. Growth of 1.7% is now estimated for 2015, down from previous expectations of 2.0% growth. GVA growth in 2016 is also weaker than forecast previously at 2.2% reflecting the weaker global conditions. Ongoing austerity is expected to continue to temper a strengthening domestic economy, in the short-term at least.

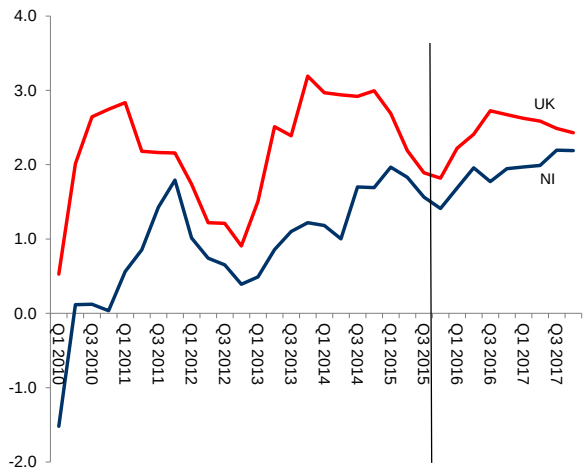
Productivity growth is encouraging. Nonetheless, our growth forecasts remain well ahead of the 1% per year recorded on average over the last 5 years. And encouragingly, productivity growth is forecast to average 1.6% in 2016, which whilst still trailing the UK average, represents a marked improvement on the lacklustre productivity growth achieved in recent years.

The labour market outlook is positive but cautious, driven by buoyancy in the private services sector. Almost 6,000 jobs were created in 2015 and this growth is forecast to continue, though at a more modest rate of 0.6% in 2016, equivalent to 5,000 additional jobs. The sector profile of employment growth is skewed heavily towards private services. This is largely underpinned by growth of around 2.9% per year in administrative & support services and information & communications, which equate to 2,000 additional jobs in 2016. Employment within public services on the other hand is expected to fall as austerity measures continue to be implemented. Overall, however, unemployment is expected to fairly flat throughout 2016 at around 53,000.

	Q on Q growth		Y on Y growth		Annual growth	
	NI	UK	NI	UK	NI	UK
Q1 2015	0.1	0.4	2.0	2.7	1.7	2.4
Q2 2015	0.3	0.7	1.8	2.4		
Q3 2015	0.6	0.5	1.6	2.3		
Q4 2015	0.4	0.6	1.4	2.1		
Q1 2016	0.3	0.7	1.7	2.4	1.8	2.5
Q2 2016	0.6	0.7	2.0	2.4		
Q3 2016	0.5	0.7	1.8	2.6		
Q4 2016	0.6	0.6	1.9	2.6		
Q1 2017	0.3	0.6	2.0	2.6	2.1	2.5
Q2 2017	0.6	0.6	2.0	2.5		
Q3 2017	0.7	0.6	2.2	2.4		
Q4 2017	0.6	0.6	2.2	2.4		

Consumers should continue to enjoy improvements in their spending power into 2016, though at a slightly more measured pace than this year. Moreover, in his November Statement and Comprehensive Spending Review the Chancellor abandoned his immediate plans for controversial changes to tax credits, which had threatened to curtail household spending in the short-term. Nonetheless, these will still be phased out to be replaced by the less generous universal credit, meaning that by the end of the parliament the impact will be largely the same as anticipated. As such, we continue to expect consumer spending growth to slow sharply over the next few years.

GVA Growth (%)



Key factors in the outlook

Improvements in household spending power in the short term are tempered in the long term.
CPI inflation has remained close to zero throughout 2015. While it should rise back above 1% by mid-2016, as the effects of the collapse in the oil price last year kick in, we still expect it to remain well below the 2% target throughout 2016. This, combined with stronger wage growth, means consumers should continue to enjoy improvements in their spending power into 2016, albeit at a slightly more measured pace than this year. Moving beyond 2016, despite abandoning his plans to make deep cuts to tax credits, the Chancellor still plans to reduce spending on welfare by around £12bn by 2019-20. These cuts will more than offset the boost from the introduction of the 'national living wage', subduing growth in household incomes. Consequently, consumer spending growth is forecast to slow from 3.1% this year to 2.8% in 2016 followed by just 2% a year from 2017-20.

Robust corporate finances continue to support strong investment.
Business investment has grown much faster than the wider economy over the past couple of years, despite firms continuing to run sizeable financial surpluses. The outlook for capital spending remains strong, with rates of return close to previous peaks, firms' cash holdings near to record levels and credit availability much improved. Although some uncertainties prevail at both the national level (BREXIT) and the global level (the possibility of a further decline in oil prices which could tip emerging markets into a full-blown crisis); this seems to have had little impact on corporate confidence with investment intentions remaining firm.

The export outlook is subdued in the short term, with trade more balanced in the longer term.
The official data have been exceptionally volatile of late, with surprisingly strong net trade figures for Q2 2015 followed by a much weaker Q3 2015. Given the degree of noise in the official data, we look to survey evidence to provide a stronger steer: the evidence is pretty conclusive that sterling's appreciation against the euro over the past year has driven a weakening in export order books.
Our forecasts assume that both the US and Eurozone economies will strengthen over the coming two years and we expect the recent appreciation of the pound to level off on a trade-weighted basis. These factors should offer greater support to UK exports.However, with consumer demand likely to remain reasonably firm, underpinning sustained growth in imports, we do not expect net trade to make any meaningful contribution to GDP growth in the near-term.

The impact of austerity measures will continue to be felt through to 2020.
On top of the cuts to welfare spending mentioned above, tax rises and cuts to departmental spending will see fiscal policy continue to exert a drag on growth prospects over the next few years. The Office for Budget Responsibility estimates that fiscal tightening will exert an average drag of 0.9% a year on GDP growth until 2019-20.

Ongoing low inflation means that interest rate hikes are further delayed.
The Monetary Policy Committee has signalled that it will err on the side of caution when it comes to tightening policy given concerns about the global outlook. We remain of the view that the first rate hike will come in the second half of 2016, rather than May as previously anticipated. However, with risks to growth remaining skewed to the downside, there is a good chance that the first rate hike could be delayed further still.

Sectoral outlook

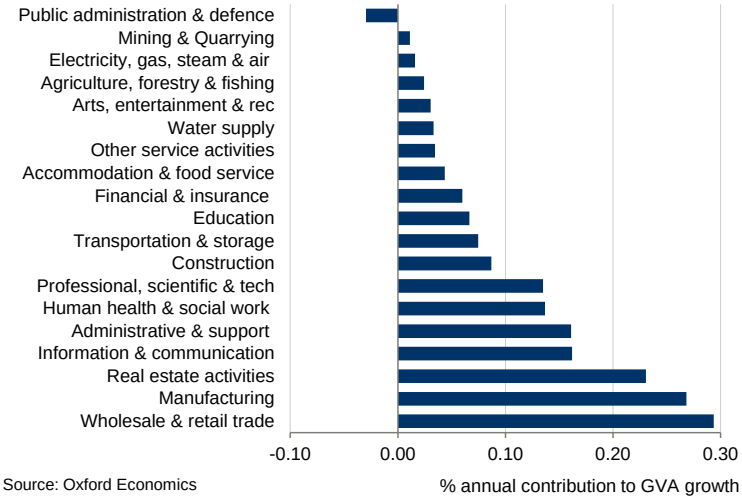
Recovery remains broad-based but is being driven by the private services sector in particular.
The sector composition of economic growth within Northern Ireland is shaped by the wider UK picture of growth being centred on domestic consumer spending and inward investment, particularly in the short- to medium-term.

As in 2015 the outlook is for majority of growth to come from the private sector.
The private sector and private services in particular, are expected to account for a significant proportion of growth. In 2016 we expect that more than 70% of GVA growth in Northern Ireland will be provided by private services with the largest contributions from wholesale & retail trade, real estate activities and manufacturing. This is a continuation of 2015 trends when these 3 sectors where the key contributors of growth.

Private services industries look set to markedly outpace economy-wide growth.
Several private services sectors are expected to grow considerably faster than the total economy (at 1.8%), with Information & communication forecast to have the strongest growth (4.8%). Administrative & support services is also forecast to grow significantly faster than the rest of the economy (4.3%) as is the professional, scientific and technology sector (at 3.1%). Growth within the sizeable real estate sector will also outpace economy as a whole (though by a narrower margin, at 2.6%). Manufacturing growth will be similar to the overall average of 1.9%.

Ongoing austerity measures continue to dampen public sector activity.
Public services, which account for almost 30% of Northern Irish economic activity, have, by contrast, a fairly muted outlook as it continues to feel the pain of restrained government spending over the next five years, with pressures only easing as we move into the next decade. Although not immune, the impact on the education and, health & social work sectors, will be less severe as front line NHS spending is protected going forward, and an ageing and growing population will mean that demand for health and care services only increases.

Sector contributions to GVA growth 2016



Source: Oxford Economics

GVA (%)	2016	2017
Information & communication	4.8	4.1
Administrative & support	4.3	3.9
Professional, scientific & tech	3.1	3.5
Mining & Quarrying	2.6	2.2
Real estate activities	2.6	2.5
Arts, entertainment & rec	2.2	2.0
Transportation & storage	2.0	2.2
Wholesale & retail trade	2.0	2.6
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	1.9	1.2
Accommodation & food service	1.9	2.2
Manufacturing	1.9	1.9
Water supply	1.8	2.8
Construction	1.6	2.6
Financial & insurance	1.6	1.7
Electricity, gas, steam & air	1.5	2.6
Other service activities	1.5	1.6
Human health & social work	1.4	1.2
Education	0.9	1.3
Public administration & defence	-0.3	0.4
Total	**1.8**	**2.1**

Key sectors:

Information & communication is expected to grow by 4.8% this year and should easily see another 600 jobs created. **Professional scientific & technical services** should grow by 3.1 per cent and is expected to create a further 800 jobs in the year ahead. However, in output terms these sectors only account for 4.3 per cent and 3.5 per cent of the local economy respectively. Nonetheless, despite being relatively small in size, both sectors will continue to support the creation of higher skilled jobs in Northern Ireland in 2016. Furthermore, growth in these sectors tends to support job creation in other sectors, particular in support services and leisure.

Administrative & support services is forecast to be one of the fastest growing sectors – with output growing by 4.3% yoy in absolute terms. This sector is expected to create an additional 1,500 jobs in 2016 which represents employment growth of 2.9% - a faster rate than experienced in 2015. It is worth highlighting, however, that this sector includes employment through recruitment agencies, which employ staff that could be working in any sector.

Manufacturing - manufacturing employment is expected to experience a slight fall in 2016 but the final figures could be even worse given the recent job losses announced by Michelin. It is our view that manufacturing output will grow by 1.9 per cent this year and this will be achieved through the adoption of new technologies and increased productivity rather than through higher employment. A feature that will be important to maintain competitiveness in increasingly competitive international markets. Unfortunately foreign exchange is a significant influence on the fortunes of this sector and the forecast monetary policy path suggests that the euro could stay weak compared to sterling for much of 2016.

Construction: The local construction sector continues to recover and growth of 1.6 forecast for this year and 2.6 per cent is forecast for 2017. Support for the local construction sector this year and next should come from two main sources. In the first instance the **housing market will continue to recover with prices expected to rise by around 4 per cent this year and 2.3 per cent in 2017**. In addition, construction will benefit from the 12.% increase in capital spend allocated to Northern Ireland's public infrastructure following the Autumn Statement. Northern Ireland's December Budget also presented

Retail: Wholesale and retail trade is the largest sector in Northern Ireland representing 14.5% of local GVA and employing around 135,000 people (16.4% of all employees). Although some of the high street chains reported disappointing results for the Christmas period, this sector is expected to grow by 2 per cent in 2016 as low inflation and rising real wages boost consumer confidence levels. However, with on-line spending now accounting for 12.7 per cent of all expenditure, retailers are still adapting to changing consumer behaviours. It should be noted that on-line sales create jobs in the transport, IT and packaging sectors.

Public sector spending cuts will add downward pressure as the impact of austerity continues to loom large over employment prospects in the medium term. The forecasts suggest the majority of job losses will be within the public admin sector (with the loss of 1,000 jobs), though the education sector is also expected to contract (losing 140 jobs). Health & social work is expected to experience a modest increase in employment (of an additional 560 jobs) reflecting that parts of the health & social work, and education sectors are protected from the worst of the cuts.

Labour market outlook:

Labour market expansion is set to continue in 2016 albeit at a slower rate.

Following the creation of around 6,000 jobs (0.8%) last year, employment growth is expected to slow to 0.6% over the next twelve months, followed by a much more subdued rate of 0.2% in 2017. This is a consequence of the sectoral outlooks where we forecast falling employment levels in the production sectors accompanied with job losses in the public sector as the spending cuts take effect. Thus the majority of job growth will be focussed within the business services sector.

Risks and uncertainties

We expect the level of risk to decline over the next three years as the UK continues to enjoy firm growth and economic imbalances – which played such an important role in the financial crisis – continue to fade.

Possible risks to the UK:

BREXIT - The upcoming EU in/out referendum raises the issue that firms may be reluctant to invest: the possibility of a vote to 'leave the EU' means that the future economic environment for firms in the UK is uncertain. Indeed, it is possibility that business investment across the UK could dry up in the preceding months to referendum.

Austerity – although the Chancellor has eased the pace of austerity a little relative to the March 2015 Budget, the government is still planning to tighten policy significantly over the period to 2019-20. There is a risk that this retrenchment causes GDP growth to slow sharply, particularly if monetary policy is tightened too aggressively or external demand softens.

Furthermore, uncertainty still exists around how the spending cuts will impact locally. The Northern Ireland Executive has recently agreed a budget for the year ahead and unprotected departments will see reductions of 5.7% applied to their baselines.

Labour market – our forecast assumes that the economy achieves rates of productivity growth which are more consistent with historical norms than the very weak rates experienced over the past five years. Were the productivity response to be weaker, we would see stronger employment growth and, potentially, a pick-up in wage pressures in the short term as firms face skills shortages. However, it would imply weaker prospects for GVA growth over the medium term.

Annex Tables

Table 1: GVA (£m2012)																				
	2014				2015				2016				2017				2018			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	467	436	417	422	436	429	438	449	445	442	447	452	438	449	455	466	450	456	461	466
Mining and quarrying	134	136	139	144	142	144	145	148	147	148	149	150	151	151	152	153	153	154	155	156
Manufacturing	4809	4829	4855	4921	4900	4910	4941	4923	4963	5000	5042	5034	5061	5102	5139	5125	5152	5187	5208	5177
Electricity, gas, & steam	349	345	343	346	352	350	351	351	355	356	357	359	363	365	367	368	371	373	376	378
Water supply; sewerage, waste management	612	613	615	610	623	622	629	635	634	636	640	645	649	654	659	664	666	670	675	679
Construction	1759	1767	1834	1865	1855	1792	1819	1845	1843	1835	1862	1889	1893	1888	1910	1933	1927	1945	1950	1954
Wholesale and retail trade	4714	4733	4755	4843	4840	4882	4937	5035	4972	4989	5019	5114	5104	5102	5165	5251	5233	5245	5287	5300
Transportation and storage	1189	1194	1226	1248	1228	1250	1248	1245	1259	1268	1275	1270	1284	1292	1301	1309	1309	1315	1324	1332
Accommodation and food service activities	742	735	778	779	784	776	787	799	789	798	805	813	806	813	823	834	822	832	838	843
Information and communication	1101	1094	1076	1080	1121	1149	1160	1170	1191	1212	1218	1200	1242	1260	1268	1250	1290	1308	1313	1291
Financial and insurance activities	1255	1233	1239	1248	1234	1251	1259	1267	1266	1266	1275	1285	1279	1289	1300	1311	1301	1312	1323	1334
Real estate activities	2929	2949	2969	2994	3018	3039	3061	3053	3087	3110	3133	3156	3167	3190	3210	3231	3241	3260	3280	3300
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1330	1399	1447	1446	1436	1450	1460	1470	1466	1487	1511	1536	1518	1542	1564	1587	1572	1590	1610	1631
Administrative and support service activities	1174	1192	1229	1258	1240	1271	1286	1300	1310	1321	1335	1350	1359	1369	1388	1407	1405	1419	1430	1442
Public administration and defence	3320	3365	3369	3355	3320	3257	3243	3229	3260	3270	3246	3233	3261	3272	3276	3248	3257	3263	3273	3282
Education	2610	2617	2622	2593	2610	2612	2625	2597	2620	2644	2620	2650	2660	2671	2652	2689	2689	2707	2688	2725
Human health and social work activities	3393	3337	3383	3356	3390	3431	3433	3434	3457	3478	3472	3466	3490	3516	3516	3516	3537	3534	3544	3553
Arts, entertainment and recreation	465	492	475	448	456	471	476	481	478	475	482	489	489	486	492	497	489	493	497	501
Other service activities	787	814	812	817	809	803	810	816	817	818	823	828	825	832	837	843	837	841	847	853
Total	**33138**	**33279**	**33583**	**33775**	**33792**	**33889**	**34108**	**34250**	**34360**	**34552**	**34712**	**34917**	**35038**	**35240**	**35474**	**35681**	**35701**	**35904**	**36077**	**36198**
Year on Year Growth (%)																				
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	16.6	2.8	-7.0	-10.1	-6.7	-1.4	5.2	6.3	2.0	3.0	2.0	0.6	-1.5	1.4	1.8	3.1	2.5	1.6	1.3	0.1
Mining and quarrying	8.2	4.2	5.2	5.0	5.7	5.9	4.4	3.2	3.7	3.0	2.6	1.2	2.6	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.7
Manufacturing	4.0	2.5	3.0	3.6	1.9	1.7	1.8	0.0	1.3	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.3	1.0
Electricity, gas, & steam	-3.5	-6.8	-6.7	-3.6	1.0	1.4	2.3	1.7	0.6	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.6
Water supply; sewerage, waste management	0.9	-2.8	-2.8	0.6	1.8	1.6	2.2	4.1	1.7	2.1	1.8	1.5	2.4	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3
Construction	6.0	7.2	8.3	6.0	5.5	1.5	-0.8	-1.1	-0.6	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.6	2.3	1.8	3.0	2.0	1.1
Wholesale and retail trade	4.6	2.9	2.2	1.3	2.7	3.2	3.8	4.0	2.7	2.2	1.7	1.6	2.7	2.2	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.4	0.9
Transportation and storage	-1.4	-4.1	0.0	4.5	3.2	4.7	1.7	-0.3	2.5	1.4	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0	3.1	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7
Accommodation and food service activities	-2.1	-2.5	2.8	3.4	5.6	5.6	1.2	2.5	0.6	2.9	2.3	1.7	2.1	1.8	2.2	2.6	2.0	2.4	1.7	1.1
Information and communication	-2.3	-3.1	-4.3	-3.0	1.9	5.0	7.8	8.3	6.2	5.5	5.0	2.5	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.8	3.5	3.3
Financial and insurance activities	-7.1	-6.6	-4.8	-2.7	-1.7	1.5	1.6	1.5	2.6	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.8
Real estate activities	-2.9	-1.3	0.3	1.1	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.3	3.4	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1
Professional, scientific and technical activities	0.5	4.4	6.4	3.9	7.9	3.6	0.9	1.7	2.1	2.6	3.5	4.4	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.6	3.1	3.0	2.8
Administrative and support service activities	3.2	4.3	3.1	7.3	5.6	6.6	4.6	3.4	5.6	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.9	4.2	3.4	3.6	3.1	2.5
Public administration and defence	-0.4	4.3	3.3	-0.6	0.0	-3.2	-3.7	-3.7	-1.8	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.5	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	1.0
Education	1.2	-0.9	2.9	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.2	-0.2	2.1	1.5	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.4
Human health and social work activities	-2.9	-4.7	-2.2	1.7	-0.1	2.8	1.5	2.3	2.0	1.4	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.4	0.5	0.8	1.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2.7	8.1	1.7	-5.5	-2.0	-4.3	0.2	7.4	5.0	1.0	1.3	1.6	2.2	2.3	2.0	1.7	-0.1	1.4	1.1	0.8
Other service activities	13.5	16.9	12.2	10.4	2.8	-1.3	-0.2	-0.1	1.0	1.8	1.6	1.4	0.9	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.2
Total	**1.2**	**1.0**	**1.7**	**1.7**	**2.0**	**1.8**	**1.6**	**1.4**	**1.7**	**2.0**	**1.8**	**1.9**	**2.0**	**2.0**	**2.2**	**2.2**	**1.9**	**1.9**	**1.7**	**1.4**

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Table 2: Employment (000's)

	2014				2015				2016				2017				2018			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	35.4	36.1	34.2	34.2	34.2	33.9	34.4	34.8	34.7	34.8	34.6	34.5	34.5	34.8	34.7	35.0	34.6	34.5	34.5	34.4
Mining and quarrying	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Manufacturing	82.7	81.6	82.4	84.7	84.4	85.4	85.2	85.0	85.0	85.0	84.9	84.8	84.7	84.6	84.5	84.4	84.1	83.9	83.8	83.6
Electricity, gas, & steam	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Water supply; sewerage, waste management	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1
Construction	55.3	54.2	54.9	53.5	55.9	56.7	56.8	56.8	56.9	56.8	56.8	56.8	57.1	57.1	57.4	57.7	57.6	57.7	57.8	58.0
Wholesale and retail trade	132.4	131.9	132.5	137.5	134.4	134.8	135.2	138.4	134.4	135.5	135.7	139.9	135.9	135.5	135.8	137.5	135.3	135.6	135.8	137.3
Transportation and storage	29.3	29.6	30.0	30.0	29.8	29.9	30.1	30.2	30.3	30.4	30.5	30.6	30.6	30.7	30.9	31.0	31.0	31.0	31.0	31.0
Accommodation and food service activities	45.6	45.2	47.6	45.9	47.7	48.5	48.6	48.7	48.6	48.5	48.6	48.7	48.7	48.7	48.8	48.9	48.9	48.9	49.0	49.0
Information and communication	20.1	20.4	19.2	18.9	19.5	20.1	20.2	20.4	20.5	20.6	20.7	20.8	20.8	20.9	21.1	21.2	21.2	21.3	21.3	21.4
Financial and insurance activities	19.5	19.1	19.1	19.2	19.0	19.5	19.5	19.4	19.4	19.3	19.3	19.2	19.3	19.3	19.3	19.3	19.2	19.2	19.2	19.1
Real estate activities	8.6	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7
Professional, scientific and technical activities	32.5	33.8	35.4	34.9	34.2	34.6	34.8	35.1	35.2	35.4	35.5	35.7	35.8	36.0	36.2	36.5	36.5	36.5	36.6	36.7
Administrative and support service activities	47.6	48.3	49.7	50.6	47.2	50.1	50.4	50.6	50.7	50.9	51.1	51.4	51.6	51.9	52.3	52.7	52.7	52.8	53.0	53.1
Public administration and defence	60.7	59.9	60.4	59.2	59.0	57.4	57.3	57.2	57.6	57.3	55.9	55.9	55.6	55.4	55.0	54.6	54.3	54.0	53.7	53.4
Education	75.5	75.7	76.8	76.5	76.1	77.1	76.3	77.1	77.0	77.0	75.6	76.4	76.5	76.6	75.2	76.1	76.1	76.2	74.7	75.4
Human health and social work activities	133.4	135.3	135.3	131.9	132.2	132.8	132.8	132.8	133.0	133.2	133.2	133.3	133.3	133.4	133.6	133.7	133.7	133.7	133.8	133.9
Arts, entertainment and recreation	19.8	21.6	20.7	19.7	19.4	19.7	19.9	20.1	20.1	20.1	20.2	20.3	20.3	20.5	20.6	20.8	20.7	20.8	20.8	20.9
Other service activities	21.2	21.5	21.4	21.8	21.7	21.8	21.9	22.1	22.1	22.1	22.0	22.0	22.1	22.2	22.3	22.5	22.5	22.6	22.7	22.7
Total	**827.9**	**830.6**	**836.1**	**835.1**	**831.4**	**838.6**	**840.0**	**845.4**	**842.4**	**843.7**	**841.6**	**847.4**	**843.9**	**844.8**	**844.7**	**848.6**	**845.4**	**845.7**	**844.5**	**847.0**
Year on Year Growth (%)																				
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.1	15.5	6.2	4.1	-3.5	-6.2	0.7	1.7	1.6	2.7	0.6	-0.9	-0.6	0.2	0.3	1.5	0.1	-1.0	-0.8	-1.7
Mining and quarrying	3.8	2.6	6.5	6.1	10.5	11.4	8.8	3.3	1.0	1.4	0.6	-0.2	-0.8	-1.4	-2.1	-2.8	-2.5	-2.2	-2.0	-1.8
Manufacturing	6.1	2.4	2.5	3.0	2.1	4.6	3.4	0.4	0.7	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.7	-0.8	-0.8	-0.9
Electricity, gas, & steam	-11.5	-13.5	-20.0	-11.8	8.6	1.4	5.8	1.0	-4.7	0.9	0.3	0.8	0.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.9	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3
Water supply; sewerage, waste management	-10.1	-11.2	-11.9	0.9	-3.4	-5.5	-5.1	0.2	3.9	3.3	1.1	-1.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.1	0.3	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3
Construction	-3.1	-5.4	-3.4	-6.4	1.1	4.6	3.4	6.2	1.9	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.5	1.0	1.6	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.5
Wholesale and retail trade	0.6	-0.1	1.4	0.3	1.5	2.1	2.1	0.7	0.0	0.5	0.4	1.1	1.2	0.0	0.1	-1.8	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Transportation and storage	-7.4	-7.1	-5.1	-4.3	1.7	1.2	0.2	0.7	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.2
Accommodation and food service activities	4.1	1.4	4.0	0.5	4.6	7.3	2.1	6.2	2.0	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3
Information and communication	8.6	8.8	0.7	-2.0	-2.9	-1.6	5.0	7.8	4.8	2.5	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.2	0.8
Financial and insurance activities	0.9	-0.8	0.7	2.8	-2.7	1.8	1.7	1.1	1.8	-0.9	-0.9	-0.9	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.5	-0.7	-0.7	-0.6
Real estate activities	20.4	13.3	10.3	-3.7	-2.4	2.0	3.0	0.6	0.4	2.0	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.0	0.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	-0.8	0.7	3.7	-1.2	5.1	2.2	-1.6	0.5	3.0	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.1	0.7
Administrative and support service activities	3.8	2.5	-0.1	5.6	-0.7	3.8	1.3	0.1	7.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.1	1.7	1.3	0.9
Public administration and defence	2.3	0.9	2.3	-1.9	-2.9	-4.2	-5.2	-3.5	-2.3	-0.2	-2.4	-2.2	-3.5	-3.3	-1.6	-2.3	-2.3	-2.5	-2.4	-2.3
Education	2.5	2.2	7.9	3.4	0.8	1.9	-0.7	0.7	1.2	-0.1	-1.0	-0.8	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.7	-0.9
Human health and social work activities	2.1	3.3	1.5	1.3	-0.9	-1.8	-1.8	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	3.5	12.7	7.8	-0.1	-1.8	-8.9	-3.8	2.2	3.5	2.2	1.5	0.9	1.0	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.0	1.5	1.0	0.6
Other service activities	4.7	4.8	3.3	7.9	2.2	1.6	2.7	1.3	1.7	1.2	0.4	-0.4	-0.1	0.5	1.3	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.6	1.2
Total	**2.3**	**1.8**	**2.0**	**0.7**	**0.4**	**1.0**	**0.5**	**1.2**	**1.3**	**0.6**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**0.1**	**0.4**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**0.1**	**0.0**	**-0.2**

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Table 3: Other variables																			
	2014				2015				2016				2017				2018		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Unemployment	60.6	57.1	54.7	51.9	53.9	54.1	53.2	53.3	53.4	53.6	53.5	53.3	53.2	53.1	53.1	53.1	53.1	53.0	53.0	53.0
Year on Year Growth (%)																				
Unemployment	-9.8	-4.3	-16.2	-20.3	-11.0	-5.2	-2.7	2.8	-0.8	-1.0	0.5	0.0	-0.4	-0.8	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2

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