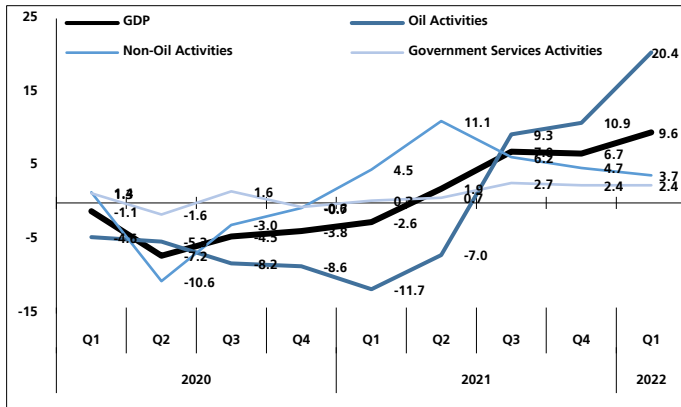


GDP Flash Estimates: Saudi economy grows by 9.6% in Q1/2022, achieving the highest growth rate since 2011

According to flash estimates by the General Authority for Statistics (GASTAT), the oil activities led the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Saudi Arabia to achieve the highest growth rate in last ten years by 9.6% in Q1/2022 compared to Q1/2021. Oil activities increased by 20.4% in Q1/2022, non-oil activities increased by 3.7% and government services activities grew by 2.4% year-on-year (Figure 1).

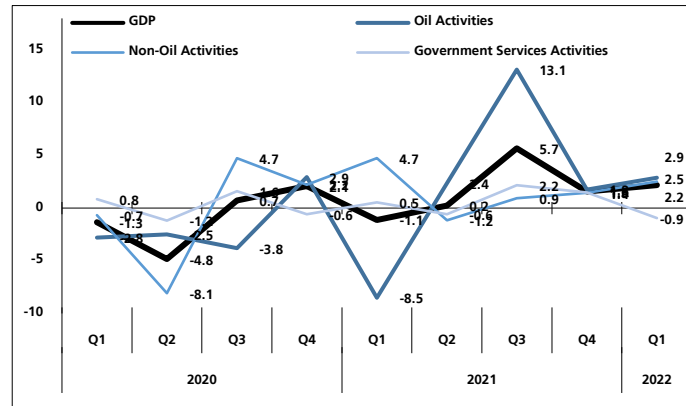
Figure1: Real GDP Growth Rates (Year-on-Year, %)



Seasonally Adjusted Real GDP Growth Rate

Seasonally adjusted real GDP grew by 2.2% in Q1/2022 compared to the previous quarter (Q4/2021). This increase due to the positive growth in oil activities by 2.9%, non-oil activities increased by 2.5% while government services activities decreased by 0.9% (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Real GDP Growth Rates (Quarter-on-Quarter, %)



Methodology of Flash Estimates of Quarterly GDP

Definition: flash Estimate of GDP (Quarterly) is the process of estimating the quarterly national accounts conducted during the short period after the end of the reference quarter, when data for the quarter is still incomplete.

Oil activities: include crude oil, natural gas and refining activities.

Government services activities: includes the activities of all government agencies listed in the government's final account and the entities that produce non-market services and controlled by government.

Non-oil activities: includes all other economic activities except for oil activities and government services activities.

Method: The estimation process is the same as that performed in the quarterly national accounts but it adopts simplified assumptions about extrapolating some indicators (monthly or quarterly) and uses many indicators related to production, expenditures, income, price and foreign trade.

Publication timing: flash estimates of quarterly GDP at constant prices are published 30 days after the end of the reference quarter.

Seasonal Adjustments: The process of estimating and removing seasonal and calendar influences from data. Seasonally adjusted data means that it does not contain seasonal and calendar effects resulting from climatic conditions, social customs, calendar events such as the Eid al-Adha and Eid al-Fitr holidays, and changes in the weekend combinations.

The methodology used: The seasonal adjustment program is one of the programs that are practiced and applied by statistics offices and committees around the world, especially when studying and analyzing a set of time series.

The TRAMO-SEATS method is used to make seasonal adjustments. This is based on the ARIMA model used in many international organizations.

[Methodology Tables.](#)