



Press release

Date

29 February 2024

Gross domestic product in the fourth quarter of 2023: Swiss economy again shows moderate growth

Switzerland's GDP adjusted for sporting events grew moderately in the fourth quarter of 2023 (+0.3%), continuing the below-average growth of the previous quarter (+0.3%).¹ The development differed among individual economic sectors and expenditure-side components.

Following a positive previous quarter, value added in **manufacturing** (-0.1%) dipped somewhat, driven by the **chemical and pharmaceutical industry** falling into negative territory (-2.3%) on the back of declining exports. The other industrial sectors, however, grew again following two negative quarters. In addition, value added in the **energy sector** (+4.3%) rose. Hydropower plants in particular contributed to this with their increased electricity production.

The services sector once again provided significant support for GDP growth. As incoming tourism continued to recover, the **accommodation and food services sector** (+3.5%) recorded significant growth in value added. Increased travel also benefited the **transport and communication sector** (+0.4%). In addition, **business-related services** (+0.3%), **health and social care services** (+1.4%) and **public administration** (+0.7%) achieved above-average growth rates. Finally, thanks to a strong increase in commission business, **financial services** (+1.0%) returned to substantial growth after several weak quarters. This was accompanied by a moderate increase in **services exports**² (+0.7%), similar to **goods exports**³ (+0.5%).

In the fourth quarter **domestic final demand** (-0.3%) declined slightly once again. This is mainly due to a significant and broad-based dip in **investments in equipment** (-2.5%). **Construction investment** (-0.3%) also fell, and with it value added in the **construction industry** (-0.2%). **Private consumption** grew slightly below average (+0.3%), supported by the areas of housing, health, mobility and foreign travel. By contrast, less was spent on food and other goods in the retail sector. In both **retail** (-0.3%) and **trade** (-1.0%), value added declined in

¹ To facilitate cyclical interpretation, this press release provides quarter-on-quarter growth rates in real terms, seasonally adjusted and (where applicable) adjusted for sporting events. The adjustment for sporting events concerns GDP, the 'arts, entertainment and recreation' sector, and service exports and imports. Further information on the adjustments for sporting events can be found at www.seco.admin.ch/gdp under 'Documents'.
Not adjusted for sporting events: +0.3% in the fourth quarter of 2023 and +0.3% in the third quarter of 2023.

² Not adjusted for sporting events: +1.7%.

³ Excluding valuables.

the fourth quarter. Like domestic demand, **imports**⁴ of goods and services were also weak (+0.7%) after adjusting for sporting events.

Initial results for 2023

Provisional results indicate that **GDP growth in 2023** was 1.3% adjusted for seasonal, calendar and sporting events, after 2.5% in the previous year. The slowdown in growth is related to the process of normalisation following the COVID-19 crisis. The challenging international environment also weighed on economic development.

The unadjusted GDP grew 0.7% in 2023, after +2.6% in the previous year.⁵

Note

The Swiss National Bank introduced a new **current account** survey as of the first quarter of 2023.⁶ It is possible that the data available for the fourth quarter will be revised to a greater extent than usual at a later date. Data items from the current account are used at various points in calculating the Swiss National Accounts. Therefore, the possibility of **greater revisions** than usual over the coming quarters cannot be ruled out.

Further information on GDP in the fourth quarter can be found in the spring 2024 edition of **Konjunkturtendenzen** at www.seco.admin.ch/gdp.

Contact/Enquiries:

Eric Scheidegger, SECO, Head of the Economic Policy Directorate, Tel. +41 58 462 29 59

Felicitas Kemeny, SECO, Head of Short Term Economic Analyses, Economic Policy Directorate, Tel. +41 58 462 93 25

⁴ Goods excluding valuables. When not adjusted for sporting events, imports of goods and services increased by 0.7% in the fourth quarter.

⁵ Further information on the impact that international sporting events have on Swiss GDP can be found at <https://dievolkswirtschaft.ch/de/2023/02/warum-die-wm-in-katar-das-schweizer-bip-erhoeht/> (in German and French).

⁶ https://data.snb.ch/en/topics/aube/doc/changerev_aube#rev_aube_nlbe.

Quarterly figures on GDP

Appendix to SECO's press release of 29.02.2024¹

Table 1: Production approach, change over the previous quarter ³

Real, seasonally adjusted², in %

	23:1	23:2	23:3	23:4
Gross domestic product*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	0.9	-0.2	0.3	0.3
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	0.3	-0.2	0.3	0.3
Manufacturing	0.6	-3.0	0.2	-0.1
Construction	1.0	-1.1	-0.4	-0.2
Trade	2.7	1.9	0.8	-1.0
Accommodation, food	1.9	8.9	-3.7	3.5
Finance, insurance	-1.6	-1.2	0.1	0.9
Business services	0.4	0.6	-0.2	0.3
Public administration	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.7
Health, social activities	0.5	0.9	0.7	1.4
Arts, entertainment, recreation*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	0.6	0.7	0.3	-0.2
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	-49.6	0.7	0.5	0.3
Other	1.5	-0.7	0.3	0.6

* Affected by sport event effects: GDP, sector aggregate «arts, entertainment, recreation».

Table 2: Expenditure approach, change over the previous quarter

Real, seasonally adjusted², in %

	23:1	23:2	23:3	23:4
Gross domestic product*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	0.9	-0.2	0.3	0.3
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	0.3	-0.2	0.3	0.3
Private consumption	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.3
Government consumption	-0.6	-0.2	0.4	0.6
Equipment and software investment	1.1	-3.6	-1.0	-2.5
Construction investment	0.2	-0.8	0.2	-0.3
Exports of goods excl. valuables	0.9	-1.0	4.9	0.5
as well as excl. merchanting	4.6	-2.4	3.0	-1.5
Exports of services*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	2.2	2.2	-0.8	0.7
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	-1.3	1.1	0.3	1.7
Imports of goods excl. valuables	5.0	-6.7	1.2	1.6
Imports of services*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	10.0	-0.2	-3.0	-0.6
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	7.4	1.9	-1.6	-0.6

* Affected by sport event effects: GDP, exports and imports of services.

¹Data and further information: www.seco.admin.ch/gdp ; background information on sport event adjustment in the «Documents» tab.

Figure 1: Gross domestic product

Real, seasonally adjusted², change over the previous quarter in %

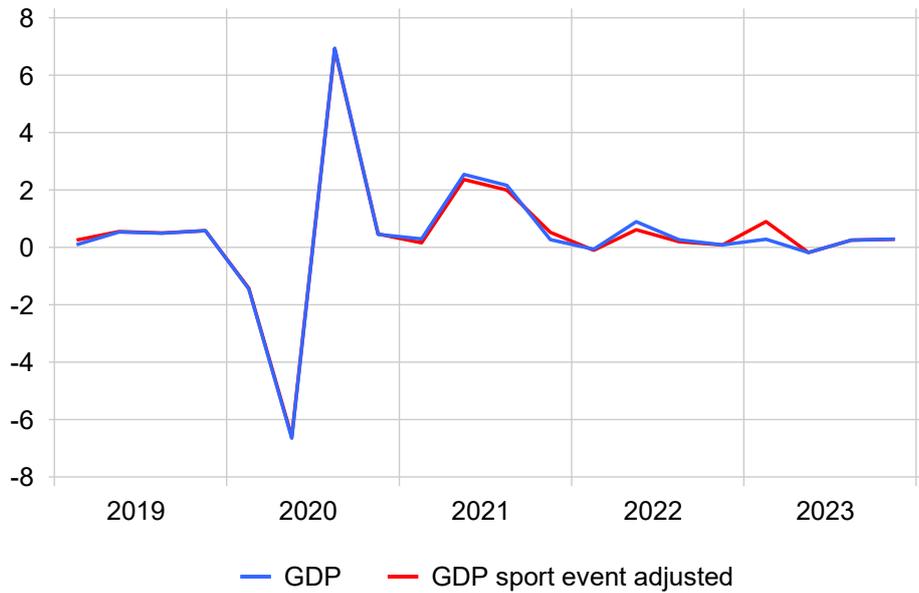


Figure 2: Growth contribution of sectors

over the previous quarter, real, seasonally adjusted² and sport event adjusted, in percentage points

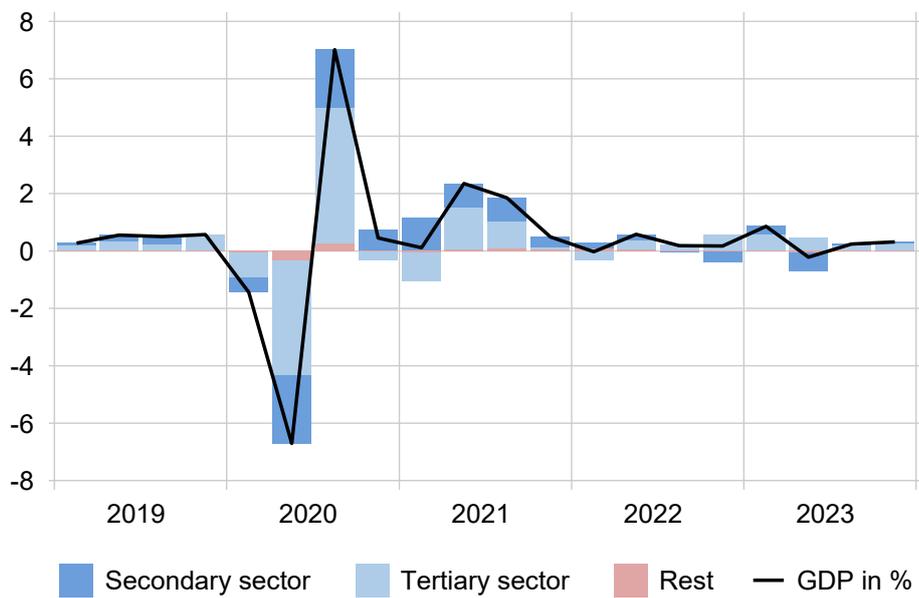


Table 3: Production approach, change over the same quarter of the previous year ³
Real, in %

	23:1	23:2	23:3	23:4
Gross domestic product*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	1.8	0.9	1.0	1.2
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	1.6	0.4	0.4	0.6
Manufacturing	0.6	-3.6	-4.1	-2.4
Construction	-3.6	-2.8	-1.1	-0.8
Trade	7.0	8.7	9.9	3.3
Accommodation, food	20.0	15.6	7.8	10.7
Finance, insurance	-5.6	-6.1	-4.2	-1.7
Business services	-1.5	0.0	0.4	1.1
Public administration	1.8	1.5	1.6	2.0
Health, social activities	3.4	3.0	2.9	3.6
Arts, entertainment, recreation*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	9.1	4.5	3.4	1.4
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	-26.0	-45.2	-48.2	-48.9
Other	6.0	2.1	1.3	1.3

* Affected by sport event effects: GDP, sector aggregate «arts, entertainment, recreation».

Table 4: Expenditure approach, change over the same quarter of the previous year
Real, in %

	23:1	23:2	23:3	23:4
Gross domestic product*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	1.8	0.9	1.0	1.2
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	1.6	0.4	0.4	0.6
Private consumption	3.3	2.0	1.5	1.5
Government consumption	-0.9	-0.7	-0.3	0.1
Equipment and software investment	4.0	-1.3	-4.0	-6.0
Construction investment	-2.2	-4.2	-1.2	-0.9
Exports of goods excl. valuables	-1.6	11.8	4.6	4.2
as well as excl. merchanting	3.7	1.4	2.7	2.3
Exports of services*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	4.8	3.4	1.3	4.4
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	5.5	1.0	0.1	1.9
Imports of goods excl. valuables	6.0	-1.3	-3.3	0.5
Imports of services*				
<i>sport event adjusted</i>	18.6	19.5	16.4	5.1
<i>not adjusted for sport events</i>	16.2	19.7	15.9	5.8

* Affected by sport event effects: GDP, exports and imports of services.

Table 5: Production approach, change over the previous year³

Real, in %

			<i>Seasonally² and sport event adjusted</i>	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Gross domestic product*	2.6	0.7	2.5	1.3
Manufacturing	6.8	-2.4	6.9	-2.3
Construction	-5.5	-2.1	-5.4	-2.2
Trade	-4.3	7.1	-4.0	7.3
Accommodation, food	47.2	13.0	48.3	13.3
Finance, insurance	-1.0	-4.4	-1.0	-4.4
Business services	-2.1	-0.0	-2.1	-0.0
Public administration	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.7
Health, social activities	5.1	3.2	5.1	3.2
Arts, entertainment, recreation*	56.9	-43.4	31.6	4.5
Other	7.8	2.6	7.9	2.7

* Affected by sport event effects: GDP, sector aggregate «arts, entertainment, recreation».

Table 6: Expenditure approach, change over the previous year

Real, in %

			<i>Seasonally² and sport event adjusted</i>	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Gross domestic product*	2.6	0.7	2.5	1.3
Private consumption	4.2	2.1	4.2	2.1
Government consumption	-0.8	-0.5	-0.8	-0.5
Equipment and software investment	4.5	-1.9	4.6	-1.9
Construction investment	-5.5	-2.1	-5.5	-2.1
Exports of goods excl. valuables	3.4	4.5	4.0	4.8
as well as excl. merchanting	4.1	2.5	4.6	3.0
Exports of services*	5.8	2.0	6.0	3.4
Imports of goods excl. valuables	7.5	0.5	7.6	0.6
Imports of services*	4.2	14.1	4.3	14.7

* Affected by sport event effects: GDP, exports and imports of services.

²Seasonal adjustment including calendar adjustment.

³**Manufacturing:** Noga 10–33; **Construction:** Noga 41–43; **Trade:** Wholesale and retail trade; Repair of motor vehicles, Noga 45–47; **Accommodation, food:** Accommodation and food service activities, Noga 55–56; **Finance, insurance:** Financial and insurance activities, Noga 64–66; **Business services:** Real estate services; professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities, Noga 68–82; **Public administration:** Public administration and defence; compulsory social security, Noga 84; **Health, social activities:** Human health and social work activities, Noga 86–88; **Arts, entertainment, recreation:** Arts, entertainment and recreation, Noga 90–93. **Other:** Agriculture, forestry, fishing, Noga 01–03; Mining and quarrying, Noga 05–09; Energy and water supply, waste management and remediation activities, Noga 35–39; Transportation and storage, Noga 49–53 Information and communication, Noga 58–63; Education, Noga 85; Other service activities, Noga 94–96; Activities of households as employers, Producing activities of households for own use, Noga 97–98; taxes and subsidies on products.