

Quarterly Gross Domestic Product (GDP): October to December 2020 (Q4) – West Midlands and East Midlands Regions¹

Please note, this data release has been updated to include Quarter 4 2020 only, no revisions to the earlier data period. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) state the following; ‘As we are conducting developmental work (as part of our ongoing work programme on experimental statistics) to improve the estimates in the quarterly Regional GDP release, we have paused updating the time-series between 2012 and Quarter 3 2020 for this release. Instead of updating that time series in this release we aim to do so in our next release, at which point we plan to incorporate the improvements and both the latest estimates of annual Balanced Regional Accounts and the improved sub-national estimates of the Construction industry.’ Further information can be found [here](#).

In Summary:

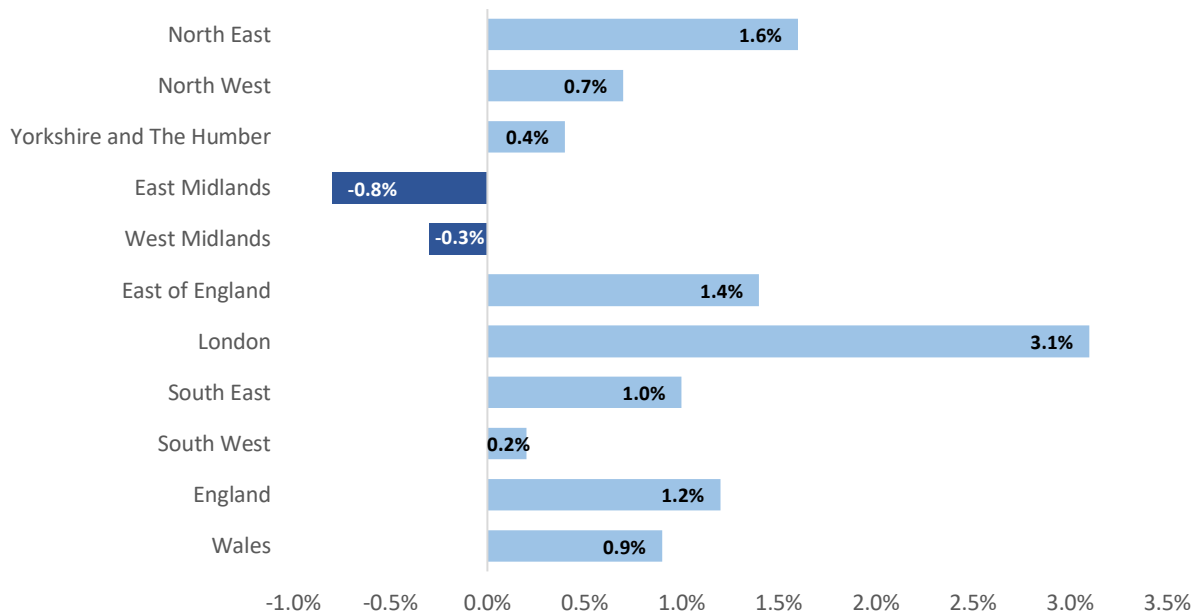
- There was positive growth in GDP for seven of the twelve English regions in 2020 Q4, with London having the highest growth, with an increase of 3.1%. This was followed by the North East with an increase of 1.6%. The West Midlands and the East Midlands were the only regions estimated to have contracted, with the East Midlands having the largest contraction in 2020 Q4 at 0.8% and the West Midlands contracting by 0.3%.
- In 2020 Q4, all four countries in the UK showed positive GDP growth; England increased by 1.2%, Scotland grew by 2.3%, Northern Ireland increased by 0.7% and Wales grew by 0.9%.
- For the West Midlands region, there was positive growth in GDP for one sector in 2020 Q4; the production sector at 0.2%. For 2020 Q4, there was contractions of 0.2% in the services sector, contractions in GDP by 0.9% for agriculture, forestry and fishing sector and contractions of 3.0% for the construction sector.
- For the East Midlands region, there was contractions in GDP for all four sectors in 2020 Q4. The largest contraction was in the production sector at -2.7%. There were GDP contractions of 2.1% in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector, contractions of 0.9% for construction sector and contractions of 0.2% for the services sector.

Full Briefing:

- Quarterly GDP analysis shows the West Midlands and the East Midlands were the only regions estimated to have contracted, with the East Midlands having the highest contraction at 0.8% and the West Midlands contracting by 0.3% in 2020 Q4. England had positive growth of 1.2% in 2020 Q4.
- There was positive growth in GDP for seven of the twelve English regions in 2020 Q4, with London having the highest growth, with an increase of 3.1%. This was followed by the North East with an increase of 1.6%.

¹ Source: ONS: GDP, UK regions and Countries: October to December 2020 – released 3rd August 2021

The following chart shows GDP change in 2020 Q4 across the English regions, England-wide and Wales:



Industries

- For the West Midlands region, there was positive growth in GDP for one sector in 2020 Q4; the production sector at 0.2%. For 2020 Q4, there was contractions of 0.2% in the services sector, contractions of 0.9% for agriculture, forestry and fishing sector and contractions of 3.0% for the construction sector.
- Within the four sectors there was positive growth in GDP for the ten industries and a further one industry that remained the same for the West Midlands region in 2020 Q4.
- The industries with the highest growth for the West Midlands region in 2020 Q4 were; mining & quarrying (+7.1%), financial and insurance activities (+4.6%) and professional scientific and technical activities (+2.9%).
- Of the seven industries in the West Midlands region where GDP contracted in 2020 Q4, the largest contractions were in; accommodation and food services activities (-21.4%), activities of households as employers, undifferentiated goods services (-6.0%) and electricity, gas, steam and air (-5.8%).
- For the East Midlands region, there was contractions in GDP for all four sectors in 2020 Q4. The largest contraction was in the production sector at -2.7%. There were contractions of 2.1% in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector, contractions of 0.9% for construction sector and contractions of 0.2% for the services sector.
- Within the four sectors there was positive growth in GDP for the ten industries for the East Midlands region in 2020 Q4.
- The industries with the highest growth for the East Midlands region in 2020 Q4 were; transport and storage (+7.4%), financial and insurance activities (+3.9%) and mining & quarrying (+3.8%).
- Of the eight industries in the East Midlands region where GDP contracted in 2020 Q4, the largest contractions were in; accommodation and food services activities (-18.4%), activities of households as employers, undifferentiated goods services (-13.3%) and electricity, gas, steam and air (-12.8%).

The following chart shows GDP change for sectors and industries for the West Midlands region and East Midlands region in 2020 Q4:

