

Press release: 14 193-112/26

Slight economic growth in Q1 2026

Real GDP up 0.2% on the previous quarter and 0.9% on Q1 2025

Vienna, 2026-06-03 – In the first quarter of 2026, real gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 0.2% seasonally and calendar adjusted compared to the fourth quarter of 2025. As Statistics Austria further reports, manufacturing contributed significantly to this growth.

“The slight upward trend in gross domestic product, which had already become apparent in 2025, continued into early 2026. In the first quarter of 2026, GDP grew by 0.2% compared with the fourth quarter of 2025. Compared with the first quarter of 2025, GDP was 0.9% higher. This growth can be attributed primarily to the manufacturing of goods and public consumption,” says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics of Statistics Austria.

Manufacturing provides a significant growth impetus

Manufacturing contributed significantly to economic growth in the first quarter of 2026, with a real increase of 1.0% compared to the fourth quarter of 2025. Real estate activities (+1.0%), business-related services (+0.4%) and the public administration, education and health sector (+0.2%) also recorded increases compared with the previous quarter. Construction remained significantly negative at –0.6%. Trade, transport, accommodation and food services together also declined again in the first quarter, by –0.8% (see table 2).

Consumption supports the economy

Consumption continued to be a pillar supporting the economy (+0.6%). Household consumption expenditure was slightly higher than in the fourth quarter of 2025 (+0.1%), while public consumption rose significantly by +1.6%. While investment in construction continued to decline (–0.4% in residential construction; –1.4% in other construction), investment in equipment increased by 0.9%. Gross fixed capital formation as a whole remained unchanged compared to the fourth quarter of 2025 ($\pm 0.0\%$). After a continuous increase in 2025, exports declined by 0.7% in the first quarter of 2026.

Slightly declining employment

Both the number of self-employed and employed persons were 0.1% lower than in the fourth quarter of 2025. Hours worked declined by 1.2%. Compensation of employees fell seasonally and calendar-adjusted by 0.2% against the fourth quarter of 2025, compared with the first quarter of 2025, it rose by 1.6% in nominal terms (see table 4). One of the reasons for the moderate increase compared with the same quarter last year and for the decline compared with the previous quarter was the postponement of the collectively agreed wage adjustment for public sector employees, whose wages will now be increased from 1 July 2026 rather than at the start of the year.

Revisions of national accounts in 2025

National accounts are regularly revised on the basis of newly available and revised data. According to current calculations, seasonally and calendar-adjusted GDP growth compared with the previous quarter was 0.4% in the first quarter of 2025, 0.1% in the second quarter, 0.4% in the third quarter and 0.2% in the fourth quarter (see table 1). GDP for 2025 was 0.8% higher than in 2024.

Table 1: Quarterly growth rates of GDP in real terms

	Quarter-on-quarter, seasonally and calendar adjusted	Year-on-year
2025 Q1	0.4	0.4
2025 Q2	0.1	0.7
2025 Q3	0.4	1.3
2025 Q4	0.2	1.0
2026 Q1	0.2	0.9

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Quarterly National Accounts.

Table 2: Quarterly growth rates of selected economic activities in real terms, quarter-on-quarter, seasonally and calendar adjusted

	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Construction	Trade, Transportation, accommodation and food service	Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	Public administration and education, health services
2025 Q1	0.2	1.8	0.1	0.0	-0.3	0.5
2025 Q2	-1.3	0.8	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	-0.1
2025 Q3	3.3	1.4	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.6
2025 Q4	3.0	0.3	-0.3	0.3	-0.3	0.5
2026 Q1	-2.2	1.0	-0.6	-0.8	0.4	0.2

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Quarterly National Accounts.

Table 3: Quarterly growth rates of selected expenditure aggregates in real terms, quarter-on-quarter, seasonally and calendar adjusted

	Consumption	Consumption of private households	Gross fixed capital formation	Exports	Imports
2025 Q1	-0.1	-0.3	0.9	1.8	0.9
2025 Q2	0.5	0.5	1.6	1.0	1.7
2025 Q3	-0.2	-0.6	1.0	1.3	0.7
2025 Q4	0.2	0.4	-0.9	0.9	0.9
2026 Q1	0.6	0.1	0.0	-0.7	-0.5

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Quarterly National Accounts.

Table 4: Quarterly growth rates of selected income and employment aggregates. quarter-on-quarter. seasonally and calendar adjusted

	Compensation of employees (current prices)	Employed persons	Self-employed persons	Hours worked
2025 Q1	1.0	0.1	-0.5	-0.6
2025 Q2	0.4	-0.1	0.8	-0.5
2025 Q3	0.8	-0.2	0.8	0.2
2025 Q4	0.7	-0.1	0.7	0.7
2026 Q1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-1.2

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA. Quarterly National Accounts.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

Information on methodology, definitions: The calculations, which are based on the standardised European system of accounts (ESA 2010), comply with the EU regulation requiring all member states to compile national accounts within the European Union using uniform concepts and methods. The available annual figures are derived from the quarterly national accounts and are provisional. The detailed annual results of the national accounts will be published on 30 September 2026 and revised in line with international standards.

Statistics Austria is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment. As a national statistical institute, it is committed to the statutory principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is headed by Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

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Media owner, producer and publisher:

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