

Economic Insights: COVID-19

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Government response



United Kingdom government response

Updated Government measures:

• Government ordered a return to lockdown conditions between the 5th November and 2nd December, promising to pay furloughed workers 80% of their salary until the end of March 2021.

Other developments:

- Schools have been allowed to remain open throughout the new lockdown
- The self employed income support grant has increased from 55% to 80% of average profit, up to £7,500
- Both the mortgage payment and stamp duty holidays have been extended to support the property market



Economic indicator



Motor vehicle traffic

Seven-day rolling average road traffic index 7 March 2020 to 9 November 2020, non-seasonally adjusted 120 80 Percent 40 20 ——Heavy goods vehicles Source: Department for Transport 100 = same traffic as the equivalent day of the week in the first week of February

Key trends

- Total traffic levels have risen with the opening of the economy
- HGV and LGV traffic volumes reached pre-crisis levels in the summer
- Car traffic has remained below
 February levels since the lockdown
- Initial data from the second lockdown indicates a less severe drop in road traffic than in March



Manufacturing



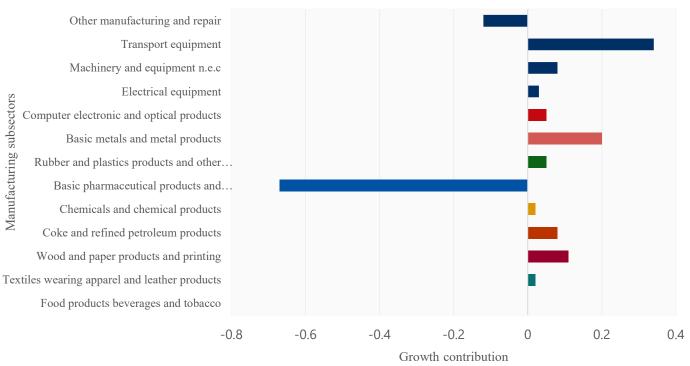
Manufacturing sector

Manufacturing subsectors contribution to growth

Strong negative contribution from pharmaceuticals had a big draw on overall growth

Key facts

- Production output grows 0.5% in September but remains 5.6% below February levels
- Transport equipment grew by 4.1% in September, but remains 22.3% below February levels
- Production of alcoholic beverages and soft drinks decline by 1.8%, remaining 5.7% below February levels







Construction



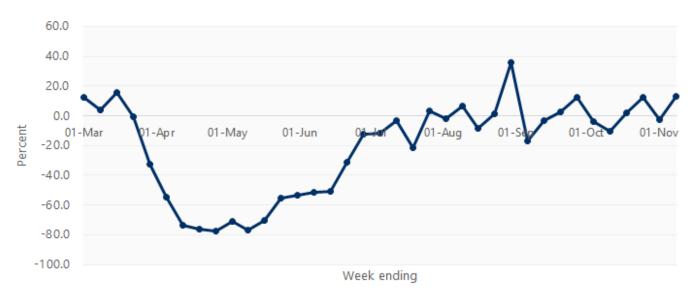
Construction

Key trends

- Construction output rose 2.9% in September but remains 7.3% below February levels
- Residential and infrastructure construction is now 0.3% and 1.8% above February levels respectively
- EPC data indicates strong demand for residential construction to capitalise on the booming housing market

Environment Performance Certificates (EPCs) for New Dwellings

The number of certificates issued compared to the equivalent week in 2019



--- EPCs for new dwellings

Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government



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