

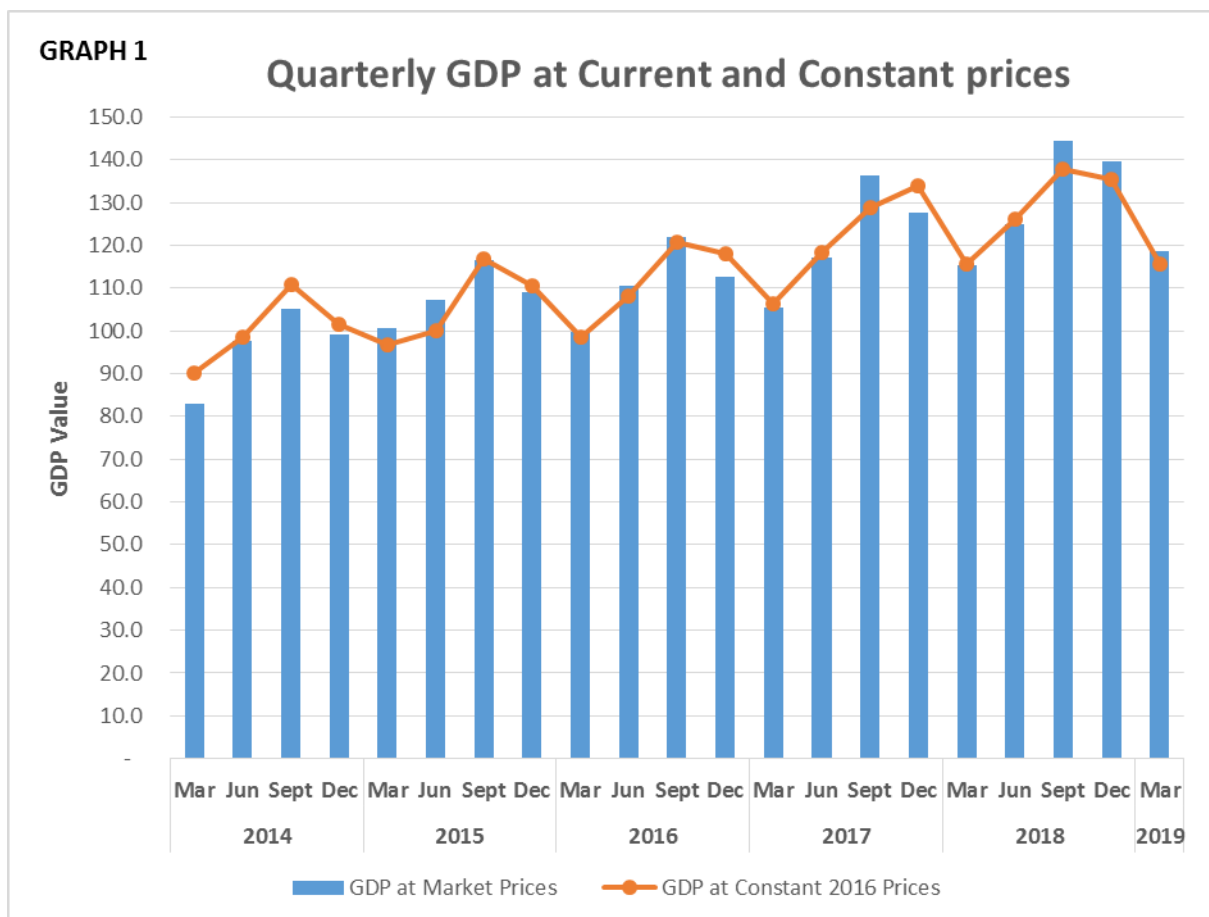
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT
GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS
COOK ISLANDS
STATISTICAL BULLETIN

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
March Quarter 2019

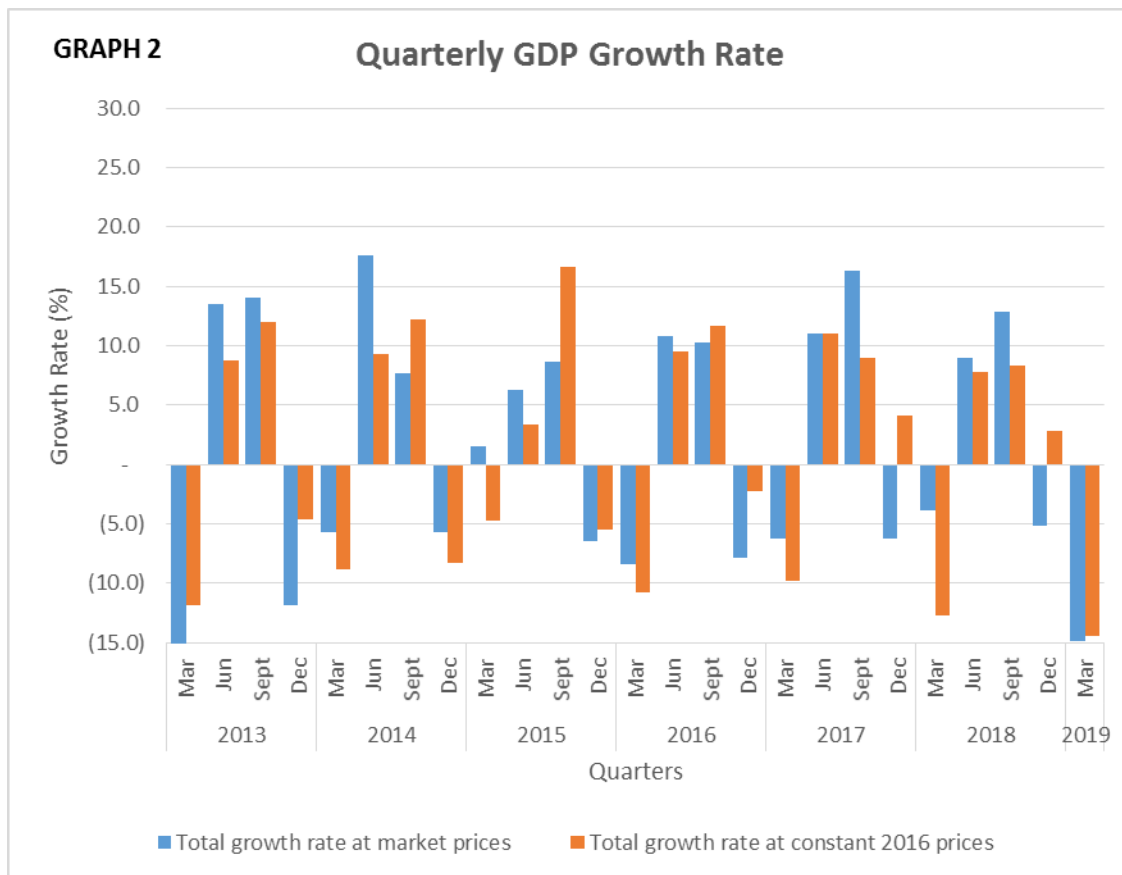
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for March Quarter 2019 at current prices was \$118.6 million decreasing by 15.1 percent when compared to December quarter 2018. When compared to March quarter 2018, value added had increased by 2.9 percent.

At constant 2016 prices, March quarter 2019 recorded a value of \$115.5 million. This resulted in a decrease of 14.7 percent in economic activity when compared to the previous quarter (December quarter 2018).

Graph 1 below shows total quarterly GDP at both current and constant 2016 prices.



Graph 2 below shows the percentage growth rate, at both current and constant prices. As seasonal fluctuations show, it is quite evident that March quarter usually produces the largest negative growth within the year. This is mostly due to the reduction of economic growth, mainly the decrease in tourism activities (visitor arrival numbers) in this period.



Further information about this release can be obtained from the Cook Islands Statistics Office.

Taggy Tangimetua
 Government Statistician
 September 2019

Explanatory Notes

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the measure of economic growth in the Cook Islands.

GDP Compilation Approaches

There are three different approaches taken to calculate GDP - the production approach, the expenditure approach, and the income approach.

The production approach (GDP (P)) is being used to calculate the Cook Islands GDP on a quarterly basis. This approach measures the total value of goods produced in the Cook Islands, after deducting the cost of goods and services used in the production process. Generally the GDP in this approach is calculated as, the total Gross Output (GO) less Intermediate Consumption (IC).

Scope and Coverage of the GDP

GDP is calculated for all economic activities in the Cook Islands. These activities include Agriculture and Fishing; Mining and Manufacturing; Electricity, Gas and Water; Construction; Retail and Wholesale Trade; Restaurants and Accommodation; Transport, Storage and Communication; Financial Intermediation; Real Estate, Renting and Business Services; Education, Health and Public Administration; Other Services; and Owner Occupied Dwellings.

International Standard Industrial Classifications (ISIC Rev 4) – is used to classify the principal economic activity (industry) of establishments and enterprises. At the broader industry groupings:

- Primary industries include agriculture, fishing and pearl
- Secondary industries include mining and manufacturing; electricity and water supply; and construction.
- Tertiary or service industries include wholesale and retail trade; restaurants and accommodation; transport, storage, cartage and communication services; Finance and Business Services; Community and Personal Services; Public Administration; Education and Health Services; Ownership of Owner-Occupied Dwellings.

General information

Data Source

VAT data is the main data source in the compilation of GDP. Other data sources and methods are found in the table for the methodology of compiling the Cook Islands quarterly GDP on request.

System of National Accounts

The conceptual framework used to compile the

Cook Islands GDP is based on the System of National Accounts 1993.

GDP Implicit Price Deflators

Implicit price deflators (IPDs) for expenditure on GDP provide a broad measure of price change for total economic activity. They provide an estimate of price change between the base period and any other period, using the quantity weights in the latter period. Because weights change from period to period, a change in an IPD between any two periods reflects changes in both actual prices and weights or compositional changes. It is calculated as GDP at current prices divided by GDP at constant prices and multiply by 100.

Per capita measures

A per capita measure is the annual GDP (at current or average prices) divided by the corresponding projected population of the Cook Islands. We use the average estimated resident population of the Cook Islands.

Base period for the GDP

The base period is the calendar year ending 31 March 2006.

Revision policy

We may revise previously published series each quarter. The frequency and cause of these revisions are listed below.

Quarterly – more data becoming available for the latest quarters, which is used to replace existing estimates.

Annual – introduction of annual data after the release of the latest annual national accounts.

Irregular – for example, methodological changes.

Publication Schedule

Compilation and release of calendar year GDP data is within six to nine months after reference year.

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