

Press Release

By the Communications Directorate

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€-coin improves in December but remains negative

- In December, **€-coin** rose sharply to -0.22, from -0.79 in November; nonetheless, the underlying weakness in euro-area economic activity remains confirmed.
- The improvement in the indicator was mainly driven by the decline in the government bond yield curve and the recovery in equity prices.
- The **€-coin** indicator developed by the Bank of Italy provides a summary index of the current economic situation in the euro area. The indicator is an estimate of quarterly GDP growth shorn of the most erratic components (seasonal variations, measurement errors and short-run volatility). **€-coin** is published monthly by the Bank of Italy and CEPR.
- The next publication dates for **€-coin** are **Friday, 2 February 2024** and **Friday, 1 March 2024** (to be confirmed).

€-coin and euro-area GDP



Source: Bank of Italy and Eurostat.

Note: The €-coin series is based on the real time estimates of the indicator at a given date and hence the series is not revised. On the other hand, the GDP growth rates are calculated on the basis of Eurostat's most recently published series and do reflect any changes in the historical data.

€-coin is constructed monthly by exploiting a vast set of macroeconomic time series (e.g. industrial production indices, business and household surveys, demand indicators, and stock market indices) in order to extract the data needed to estimate the underlying trend of euro-area GDP growth.

€-coin precedes by several months the official euro-area GDP figure released by Eurostat and gives an early indication of the trend net of any erratic or short-term components.

The following table shows the performance of the €-coin indicator over the last year:

Month	€-COIN
December 2022	-0.23
January 2023	0.06
February 2023	-0.05
March 2023	-0.14
April 2023	-0.15
May 2023	-0.42
June 2023	-0.66
July 2023	-0.56
August 2023	-0.34
September 2023	-0.18
October 2023	-0.67
November 2023	-0.79
December 2023	-0.22

For further technical details on **€-coin**, see 'New Eurocoin: Tracking economic growth in real time', *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 92, 1024-1034, available in the Bank of Italy's series Temi di Discussione (Working Papers), 631. http://www.bancaditalia.it/pubblicazioni/temi-discussione/2007/2007-0631/en_tema_631.pdf

Starting in January 2021 a new version of the indicator was published, with some revisions relative to the database and estimate sample. For further details on the revision see: https://www.bancaditalia.it/media/comunicati/documenti/2021-01/EuroCoin_December_2020_ENG.pdf?language_id=1