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# National Institute of Economic and Social Research

## Information Technology, Productivity and Growth

A two-day conference organised by NIESR  
Thursday October 28th, 10.30am - 5.30pm  
& Friday October 29th, 9.30am - 3.30pm  
Venue: The City Inn, Westminster, London

This two-day conference marks the end of the European Commission funded 5th framework research network, Employment Prospects in the Knowledge Economy (EPKE).

The conference is concerned with the impact of information technology use on productivity, employment and growth. The papers present empirical evidence based on both firm level and industry level data for Europe and the US. Thus, the conference will present the results of the research undertaken throughout the EPKE research programme plus papers on related topics from invited speakers outside the network.

### Speakers include:

- B.K. Atrostic, US Census Bureau, *Business use of information technology in the US*  
Eric Bartelsman, Free University of Amsterdam, *The role of policy and institutions in firm performance*  
Bruno Crepon, CREST/INSEE, *Microeconomic evidence on information technology and productivity in France*  
Robert Inklaar, University of Groningen, *Job-rich growth in Europe*  
Nick Oulton, LSE, *Productivity in UK industries*  
Michael Peneder, WIFO, *Schumpeterian Development*  
Matthew Spiegelman, The Conference Board, *European performance lags in the distributive trades sector*  
Alessandro Sterlacchini, University of Ancona, *ICT, R&D and productivity in Italian manufacturing firms*  
Jack Triplett, Brookings Institution, *Services Productivity in the United States*  
John Van Reenen, LSE, *The use of information technology in UK firms*  
Michela Vecchi, NIESR, *The use of e-commerce by UK firms*  
Thomas Zwick, ZEW, *Information technology and skill use in German firms*

Presentation titles are provisional, see website ([www.niesr.ac.uk](http://www.niesr.ac.uk)) for full conference programme.

For more information on this conference or a GDP estimates subscription, please contact Grant Naber, quoting reference REV0704: tel: +44 (0)20 7654 1901, email: [g.naber@niesr.ac.uk](mailto:g.naber@niesr.ac.uk), post: Grant Naber, NIESR, 2 Dean Trench Street, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HE, UK.

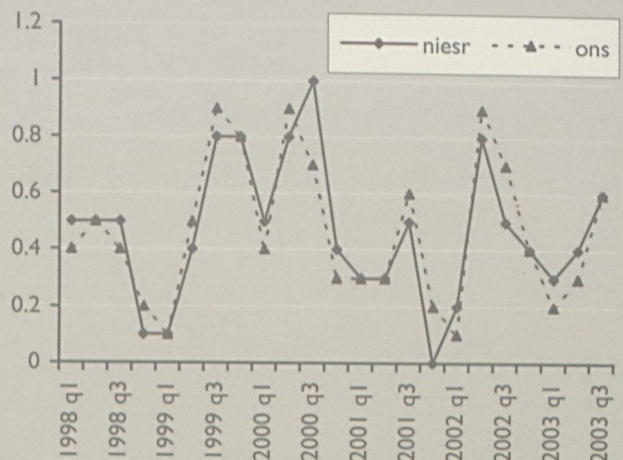
## NIESR Monthly GDP Estimates

NIESR uses statistical projection techniques to project UK GDP one month ahead, giving NIESR's highly respected monthly UK GDP estimates. We also estimate economic growth in the three months ending in the month just ended. This means that each calendar quarter an estimate of quarterly growth is produced about 3 weeks ahead of the Office of National Statistics.

The importance of the NIESR GDP estimates is well recognised, being widely reported in the press. The minutes of the Monetary Policy Committee sometimes refer to them as one of the factors which influence interest rate decisions. Four summary tables are available, as well as a full monthly set of time series:

- Table 1: Summary table of quarterly growth rates showing monthly data, 3 months ending in that month, and quarterly growth (% per quarter). All contain figures for industry & GDP.
- Table 2: Output by sector (industry, agriculture, construction, private services, public services, GDP(B) (calculated at prices excluding taxes and subsidies), GDP
- Table 3: Output in quarter ending in month shown by sector (as above)
- Table 4: Growth in quarter ending in month shown over previous quarter (% at annual rate) by sector (as above)

The data are always consistent with the latest official data. The chart below shows a comparison of NIESR estimates of quarterly growth with the ONS first estimates (produced 3 weeks later). This validates our approach.



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## National Institute Economic Review

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### Aims and Scope

The *Review* is the quarterly publication of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research – one of Britain's oldest and most prestigious independent research organisations. The Institute's objective is to promote, through quantitative research, a deeper understanding of the interaction of economic and social forces that affect people's lives so that they may be improved. It has no political affiliation, and receives no core funding from government. Its research programme is organised under the headings of Economic Modelling and Analysis; Productivity; Education and Training and the International Economy.

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