

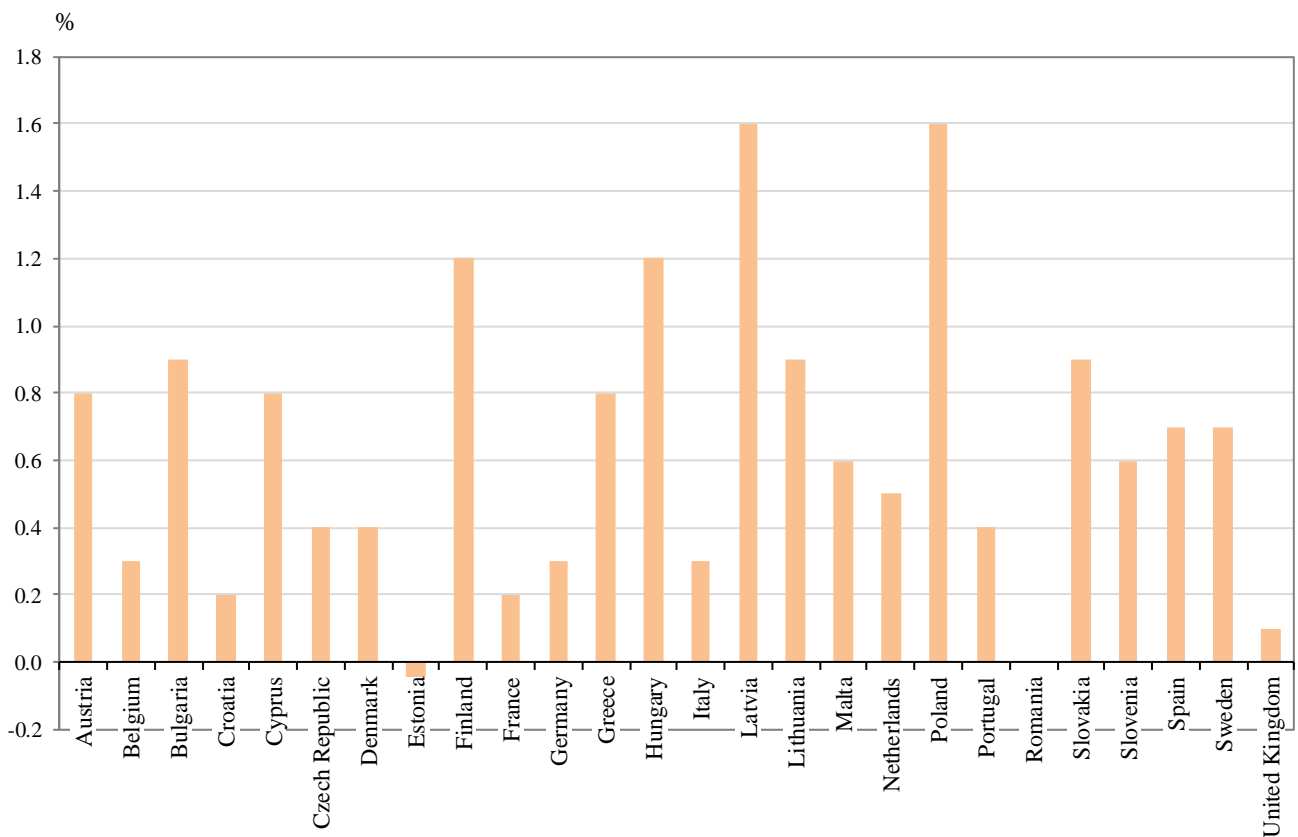


BULGARIA AND EU: GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, FIRST QUARTER OF 2018 (PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES)

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the first quarter of 2018 increased by 0.4% in the EU-28 compared to the previous quarter by seasonally adjusted data. For the same period, GDP in Bulgaria increased by 0.9% (Table 1 of the Annex).

Compared to the previous quarter, in the first quarter of 2018 Latvia and Poland recorded the highest economic growth - 1.6%, Hungary and Finland - 1.2%, while Estonia registered decline by 0.1%.

**Figure 1. GDP growth rate of EU Member States in the first quarter of 2018
by seasonally adjusted data
(Compared to the previous quarter)**



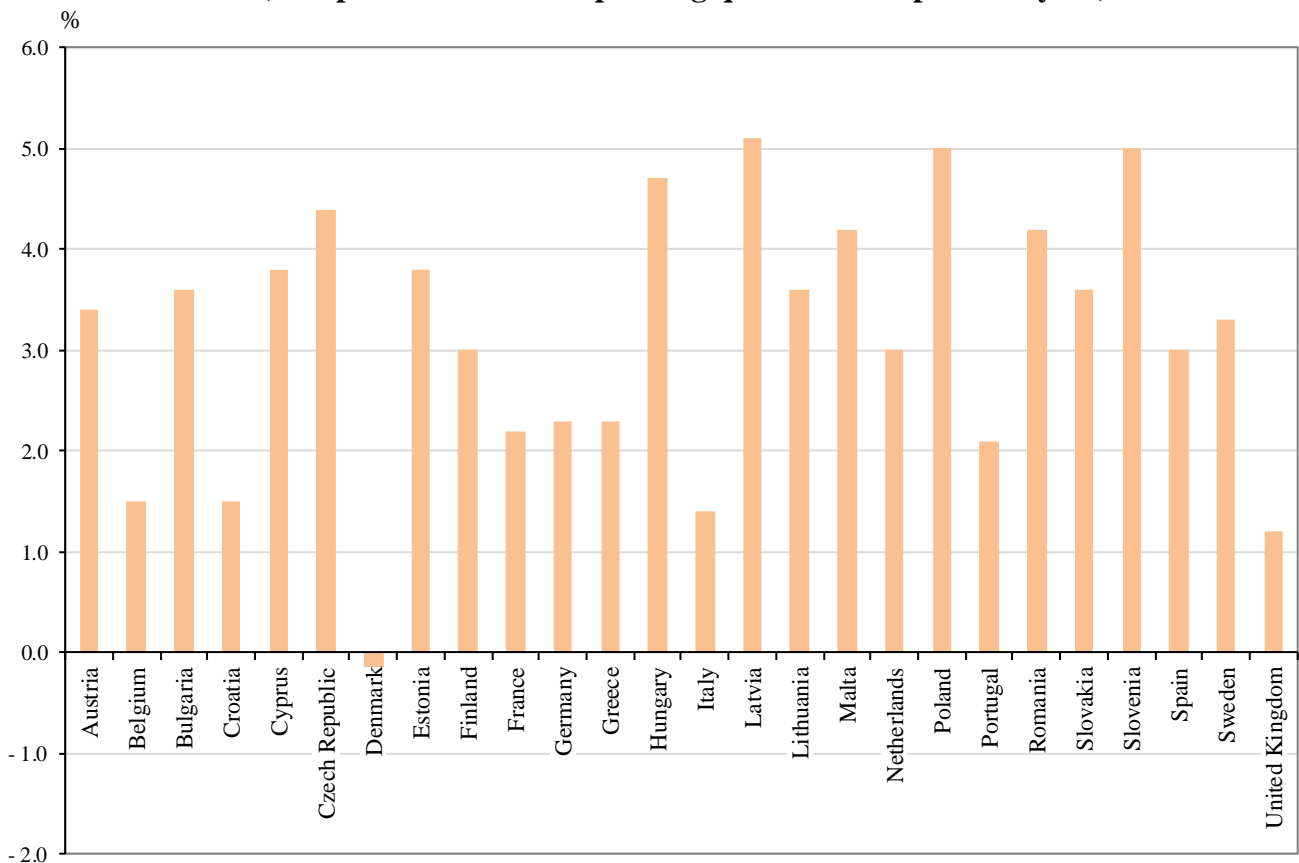
Source: Eurostat.



Compared to the same quarter of the previous year, seasonally adjusted data showed an increase in GDP in the EU-28 by 2.4% and in Bulgaria by 3.6%.

In the first quarter of 2018, compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the highest economic growth was observed in Latvia - 5.1%, Poland and Slovenia - 5.0%, Hungary - 4.7% and Czech Republic - 4.4%, while decline with 0.5% was seen in Denmark.

Figure 2. GDP growth rate of EU Member States in the first quarter of 2018 by seasonally adjusted data
(Compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year)



Source: Eurostat.



ANNEX

Table 1
Growth rates of GDP in volume (based on seasonally adjusted data)

	Percentage change compared with the previous quarter				Percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year			
	II 2017	III 2017	IV 2017	I 2018	II 2017	III 2017	IV 2017	I 2018
EU-28	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.4	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.4
Member States								
Austria	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	2.9	3.5	3.7	3.4
Belgium	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.3	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.5
Bulgaria	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.9	3.7	3.9	3.5	3.6
Germany	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.3	2.3	2.7	2.9	2.3
Greece	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.8	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.3
Denmark	-1.1	-0.8	0.9	0.4	2.4	1.1	1.3	-0.5
Estonia	1.6	0.1	2.1	-0.1	5.4	4.2	5.1	3.8
Ireland	2.6	4.8	3.2	.	6.8	10.9	7.8	.
Spain	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0
Italy	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.4
Cyprus	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.8	3.6	3.9	4.0	3.8
Latvia	1.4	1.6	0.4	1.6	4.9	6.2	4.8	5.1
Lithuania	0.7	0.5	1.4	0.9	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.6
Luxembourg	0.9	1.8	-0.1	.	1.4	3.1	1.6	.
Malta	1.6	2.2	-0.2	0.6	7.1	7.7	4.7	4.2
Netherlands	1.5	0.4	0.7	0.5	3.9	3.3	3.1	3.0
United Kingdom	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.1	1.9	1.8	1.4	1.2
Poland	0.9	1.4	1.0	1.6	4.2	5.5	4.4	5.0
Portugal	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.4	3.0	2.4	2.4	2.1
Romania	1.6	2.2	0.3	0.0	6.1	8.4	6.6	4.2
Slovakia	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.9	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.6
Slovenia	1.3	1.1	1.9	0.6	5.4	5.0	6.0	5.0
Hungary	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.2	3.8	4.3	4.9	4.7
Finland	0.6	0.3	0.9	1.2	3.1	2.4	2.7	3.0
France	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.2	2.3	2.7	2.8	2.2
Croatia	0.7	0.6	0.0	0.2	3.9	3.1	2.3	1.5
Czech Republic	2.4	0.7	0.8	0.4	4.6	5.2	5.5	4.4
Sweden	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.7	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.3
Other countries								
Iceland	0.3	3.1	0.6	.	3.0	3.4	1.3	.
Norway	1.0	0.7	-0.3	0.6	2.1	3.6	1.6	2.1
Switzerland	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.2	2.0	2.4
United States	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.8

Source: Eurostat.