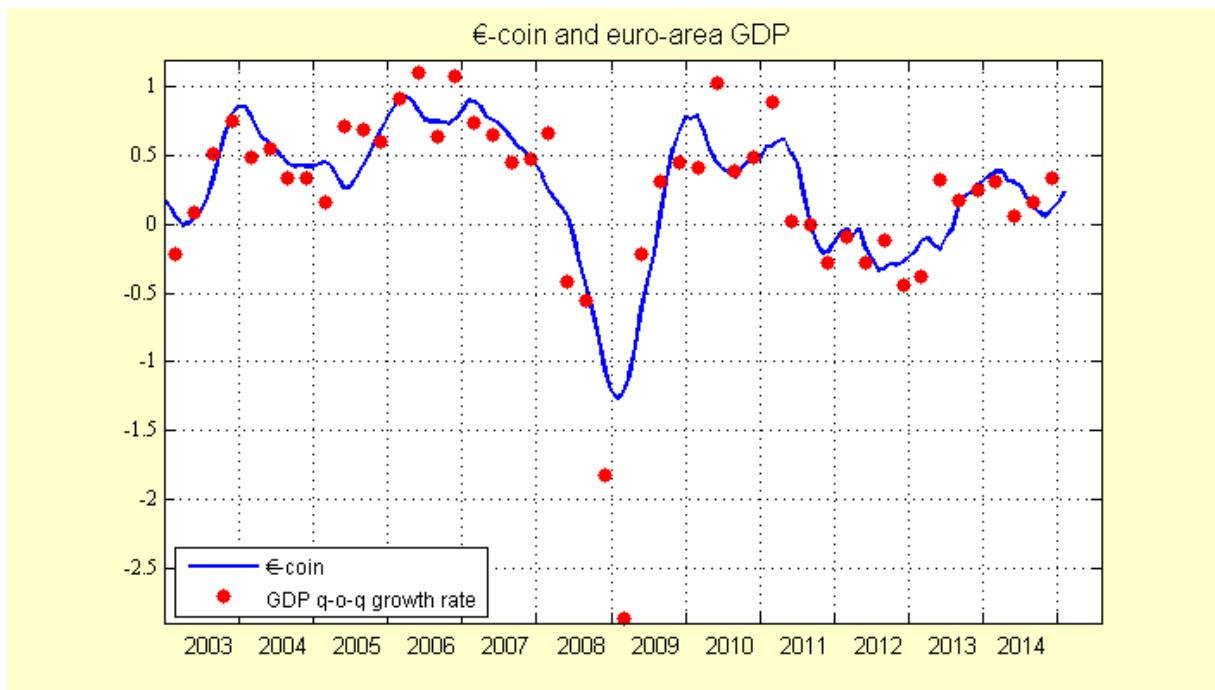


## €-coin continues its upswing

For immediate release: 08.30 GMT; 09.30 CET; Friday, 27 February 2015

- The €-coin indicator gained for the third straight month in February, rising from 0.16 to 0.23.
- The rise was due in part to the moderate expansion of economic activity registered in the fourth quarter of last year and in part to a broad-based improvement in household and business confidence.
- 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.
- Next **€-coin** release dates: **Friday 27 March** and **Thursday 30 April** (preliminary).

### €-coin and euro-area GDP – February 2015



Sources: Bank of Italy and Eurostat.

**€-coin** collates data from a large set of macroeconomic time series (industrial production indices, business surveys, demand indicators, stock market indices and more). It extracts the information that is relevant to tracking underlying GDP trends for the entire area.

The **€-coin** estimate is timely, leading Eurostat's official release of the area-wide GDP growth figure by several months. And it provides a reasonably close anticipation of the quarterly growth rate net of the more volatile components. The estimate of underlying growth trends by **€-coin** has two key advantages:

- (i) monthly frequency, with release several months ahead of the official euro-area GDP estimate;
- (ii) immunity to the short-term fluctuations and measurement errors that mark quarterly output growth; that is, the index figure is an indicator of the euro area's actual growth momentum.

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

Month	€-COIN
February 2014	0.35
March 2014	0.38
April 2014	0.39
May 2014	0.31
June 2014	0.31
July 2014	0.27
August 2014	0.19
September 2014	0.13
October 2014	0.08
November 2014	0.06
December 2014	0.11
January 2015	0.16
February 2015	0.23

For further technical details on **€-coin**, see "New Eurocoin: Tracking economic growth in real time", *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, No. 92, 1024-1034, available in the Bank of Italy working paper series (Temi di Discussione della Banca d'Italia) no. 631.

[http://www.bancaditalia.it/pubblicazioni/temi-discussione/2007/2007-0631/en\\_tema\\_631.pdf](http://www.bancaditalia.it/pubblicazioni/temi-discussione/2007/2007-0631/en_tema_631.pdf)

<http://eurocoin.bancaditalia.it>

<http://eurocoin.cepr.org>