



News Release

16:30 (GMT +8)
Feb. 18, 2009
DGBAS, Taipei

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCTS: PRELIMINARY FIGURES IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2008 AND OUTLOOK FOR 2009

Economic Performance in the Fourth Quarter of 2008

In the fourth quarter of 2008, the real exports of goods and services declined by 19.75%. Furthermore, coupling with the decreasing private consumption and fixed capital formation, Taiwan's real gross domestic products (GDP) contracted by 8.36%, compared with the same quarter of previous year. Meanwhile, the GDP growth rate of the third quarter was revised to decrease 1.05%.

For 2008 as a whole, real GDP grew by 0.12%. Net exports contributed 2.17 percentage points to the change in real GDP. Meanwhile, real domestic demand decreased 2.42% and negatively contributed 2.05 percentage points to the change in real GDP.

Outlook for 2009

The latest world economic projection shows that there will be a global recession in 2009. Taiwan's export is anticipated to keep weakening. Real GDP is predicted to contract 2.97% in 2009, and the consumer price index (CPI) will fall 0.82%.

For further information:

Statistics Database:

<http://61.60.106.82/pxweb/Dialog/statfile1L.asp>

DGBAS news releases on the Internet:

<http://eng.stat.gov.tw/>

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Next release – Not Later Than May 27, 2009, for:

Gross Domestic Products in First Quarter of 2009 (Preliminary).