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PRESS RELEASE

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The Belgian economy grew by 1.4 % in the second quarter of 2021

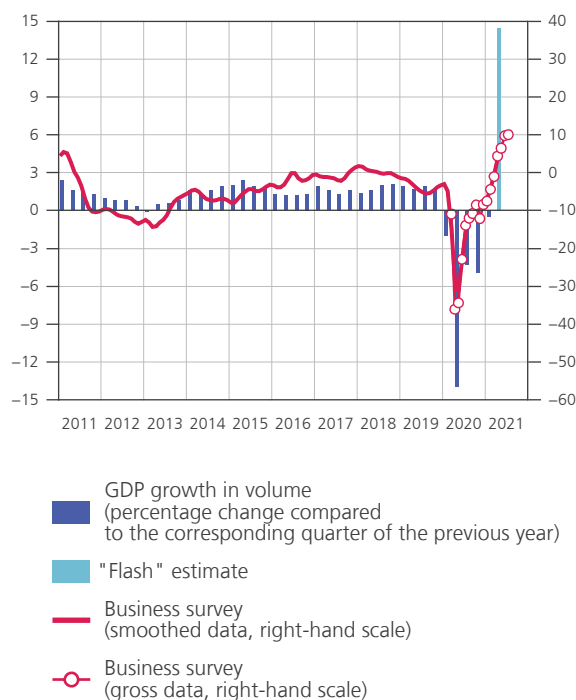
According to the flash estimate, the seasonally and calendar adjusted gross domestic product (GDP) was up by 1.4 % **in the second quarter of 2021** against the previous quarter. Year-on-year, compared to the second quarter of 2020, which was seriously affected by the COVID-19 crisis, economic growth amounted to 14.5 %. However economic activity has still not regained the level prevailing before the COVID-19 crisis since the evolution remains negative compared to the fourth quarter of 2019 (-2.5 %).

According to an early estimate, value added was up on the previous quarter by 1.1 % in industry, 0.5 % in construction and 1.4 % in services.

GDP, QUARTERLY GROWTH IN VOLUME
(data adjusted for seasonal and calendar effects)

	Percentage change compared to	
	corresponding quarter of the previous year	previous quarter
2019 I	1.9	0.2
II	1.7	0.3
III	1.9	0.5
IV	1.6	0.6
2020 I	-2.0	-3.3
II	-14.0	-11.9
III	-4.3	11.8
IV	-4.9	-0.1
2021 I	-0.5	1.1
II	14.5	1.4

GDP AND THE ECONOMIC CYCLE



*These growth figures are surrounded by even **greater uncertainty** than is normally the case with the flash estimate. Owing to the lack of administrative data for the month of June in particular, an adapted methodology has been used for this flash estimate. For the seasonal adjustment of the data series, the recent [Eurostat guidance](#) has been followed in order to estimate the impact of COVID-19 as accurately as possible.*