Latest Results

In 2019 Quarter 4, labour productivity in Scotland, measured by output per hour worked, increased by 0.8% compared to the same quarter last year.

Compared to the previous quarter, labour productivity is estimated to have grown by 0.2% in 2019 Quarter 4, following growth of 0.4% in the previous quarter.

What is driving recent changes in productivity?

Productivity can be simply broken down into growth in output (GVA) *minus* growth in hours worked. Therefore, when output grows faster than hours, productivity increases.

Between 2018 Q4 and 2019 Q4, output per hour increased by 0.8% due to a combination of rising GVA (0.6%) and a fall in the total number of hours worked (-0.2%).

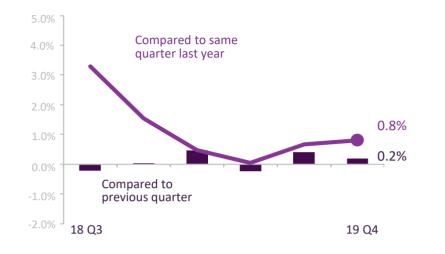
Longer Term Trends

The financial crisis and recession in 2008 had a long term impact on the economy.

From 1998 to 2007, output per hour worked increased by 1.5% per year on average. Since 2007, this average rate has slowed to 0.8% per year.

In 2019, total productivity hours remained below pre-recession levels.

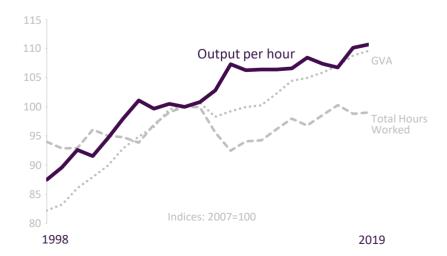
Growth in output per hour worked



Components of productivity growth



Growth in productivity and its components



https://www.gov.scot/publications/labour-productivity-statistics-2019-q4/ Source: Labour Productivity, Quarter 4 2019 (published 6 May 2020)

