

## Batting for Sunak

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The media seem to be highlighting a story from the [Office for National Statistics](#) this morning that says that GDP rose by 0.3% in November. This is clutching at straws. The ONS themselves say:

### 1. Main points

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) is estimated to have fallen by 0.2% in the three months to November 2023, compared with the three months to August 2023.
- Monthly GDP is estimated to have grown by 0.3% in November 2023, following an unrevised fall of 0.3% in October 2023.
- Services output grew by 0.4% in November 2023 and was the main contributor to the monthly growth in GDP; this follows a fall of 0.1% in October 2023 (revised up from a 0.2% fall in our previous publication).
- Production output grew by 0.3% in November 2023, following a fall of 1.3% in October (revised down from a 0.8% fall in our previous publication).
- The construction sector fell by 0.2% in November 2023 after a fall of 0.4% in October 2023 (revised up from a 0.5% fall in our previous publication).

In other words, the ONS recognises that monthly data is always provisional subject to unpredictable swings and so is unreliable, and as a result quarterly data is more useful. And that still shows that we are headed for recession.

Anyone reporting otherwise is batting for Sunak.