






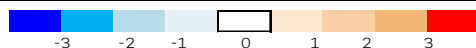


France: Growth held up well in Q1

		Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25	Jul 25	Aug 25	Sep 25	Oct 25	Nov 25	Dec 25	Jan 26	Feb 26	Mar 26
	Global												
	Composite Index	-0.1	-0.5	-0.9	-0.7	-0.7	-0.6	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	0.3	-0.1	-0.5
	Credit*												
	Interest rate on new NFC loans, %	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5
Net flows of NFC loans (12-month cumulative, EUR bn)	31	29	15	24	22	25	25	26	21	21	23		
Net NFC debt securities issuance (12-month cumulative, EUR bn)	-6	5	9	19	19	32	31	37	34	45	44		
	Industry												
	Business Climate												
	Composite	0.0	-0.6	-1.0	-0.8	-0.6	-0.6	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.7	0.1	-0.4
	Expected production	0.1	-1.0	-0.9	-0.8	-0.9	0.1	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.8	0.0	-0.1
	Order books	-0.1	-0.6	-0.6	-0.3	-0.3	-0.6	0.1	-0.4	0.0	0.5	0.0	-0.2
	Export order books	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	0.9	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.0
Price expectations	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.2	0.1	
Employment expectations	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	
	Services												
	Business Climate												
	Composite	0.0	-0.4	-0.5	-0.2	-0.5	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.3
	Expected activity	0.0	-0.4	-0.8	-0.2	-0.3	0.2	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	-0.3
Price expectations	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.3	
Employment expectations	-0.7	-1.4	-1.0	-1.0	-0.6	-0.9	-0.6	-0.3	-0.7	-0.4	-0.7	-0.6	
	Retail												
	Business Climate												
	Retail trade	-0.9	-0.8	-1.0	-0.4	-0.3	-1.3	-1.2	-0.6	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5	-1.0
Price expectations (Food)	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	
Wholesale trade	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.5	
	Construction												
	Business Climate												
	Composite	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2
	Expected activity	-0.4	0.2	-0.2	-0.4	0.1	0.1	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	0.1
	Price expectations	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Employment expectations	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
	Household Confidence & Credit*												
	Housing purchases	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.5	1.5	1.5
	Interest rate on new housing loans, %	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	
	New housing loans (12-month cumulative, EUR bn)	162	166	170	173	175	179	182	185	187	188	188	
	Consumption												
	Household Confidence & Credit*												
	Composite	-0.7	-0.9	-0.9	-0.7	-1.1	-1.2	-0.5	-0.5	-0.6	-0.5	-0.2	-0.8
	Expected financial situation	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.1
	Major purchases opportunity	-0.2	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6
	Price expectations	-0.6	-0.7	-0.9	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.2	1.5
	Fears of Unemployment	-0.4	-0.8	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2
Interest rate on new consumer loans, %	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.4	6.3		
New consumer loans (12-month cumulative, EUR bn)	73	73	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	71	71		



Indicators are converted into z-scores, i.e. deviations from their long-term average (expressed in standard deviations). Positive (negative) values indicate that the indicator is above (below) its long-term average by a given number of standard deviations. Red shading corresponds to strong economic activity, elevated inflation expectations, and low unemployment fears, while blue indicates a slowdown in activity, moderate inflation expectations, and heightened unemployment fears.

*Credit indicators are neither standardised as z-scores nor associated with any colour coding: they are shown in levels (or as 12-month cumulative flows) and should be interpreted separately from the other indicators.

The impact of the energy price shock has been limited so far. Expected price indices rebounded only slightly in March, across all sectors (a very different situation to 2022). For the time being, this shock does not involve any major supply constraints. Output is likely to be more severely affected by falling demand as the issue of purchasing power resurfaces. Although this is a concern for households, they have not yet scaled back their spending intentions.

Lending trends are beginning to reflect these tensions, as lending to households is slowing, whilst lending to businesses remains relatively stable. The year-on-year slowdown in new mortgage lending loans to households for house purchase accelerated in February as interest rates began to rise. New consumer loans have fallen for the eighth consecutive month, whilst interest rates remain at historically high levels. On a year-to-date basis, net flows of bank lending to businesses – driven in particular by the repayment of state-guaranteed loans – and net debt-security issues have risen only slightly since December 2025. Bank lending rates remained stable in February.

GDP: growth, carry-over and forecasts

OBSERVED GROWTH (q/q)			CARRY-OVER	NOWCAST	FORECAST (q/q)			ANNUAL FORECAST		
Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q4 2025	Q1 2026	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	Q3 2026	2025 (actual GDP)	2026	2027
0.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.3	1.3

See the Nowcast methodology. [Contact: Tarik Rharrab](#)

Source: Refinitiv, BNP Paribas

Growth is expected to have reached 0.3% q/q in the first quarter of 2026, according to our nowcast. This acceleration compared with Q4 2025 (0.2% q/q) indicates that demand (private, public, and export) remains strong. Furthermore, this growth is thought to have been supported by households stockpiling goods in anticipation of rising inflation.

In Q2, there is a significant likelihood of adverse consequences. Our forecasts are expected to be updated soon in order to reflect the expected impact of the energy shock. Although inflation remains relatively contained outside the energy sector, this fear persists among households. Therefore, they are likely to scale back their spending intentions, which could push GDP closer to stagnation in Q2 (contrary to the forecast of 0.3% q/q prior to the outbreak of the war in Iran).

Stéphane Colliac and Thomas Humblot (completed on 13 April 2026)



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