



Press Release update 18th March (originally released 11th March)

Monthly Bulletin Supplement: Government Expenditure and Revenue Scotland (GERS) 2015

Updated for UK Budget 2015 data post 2013-14

The following update to the original Press Release of 11th March takes on board revised data published by the Office for Budget Responsibility at the time of the 2015 Budget. These revisions are principally with respect to North Sea revenues throughout and to expenditure levels in 2019-20. Table 2 reflects these revisions.

Scotland's fiscal balance, 2014-15 to 2019-20

The main difference to the previous analysis is that (see also Table 2):

- Scotland's overall fiscal balance is no longer set to improve in 2015-16, due to a further projected decline in North Sea revenues.
- Scotland's relative position (with regards to the UK) is now set to worsen in both 2014-15 and 2015-16, but thereafter remains largely the same. Hence, while the UK, on current plans, returns to surplus by 2018-19, Scotland remains in deficit up to the end of the forecast period (ie, to 2019-20).
- Overall, North Sea tax revenues between 2015-16 and 2019-20 are projected to be £9.6 billion (cash terms) lower than was the case in the Autumn Statement in December 2014.

Note: A further update will also be made available once the Scottish government updates its projections of future North Sea revenues.

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**Table 2 (revised):
Overall fiscal balance, Scotland and the UK, 2014-15 to 2018-19, £million (cash)**

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
SCOTLAND						
Onshore Revenues(i)	52,298	54,117	56,844	59,295	61,990	65,229
Expenditure(i)	68,403	68,914	68,700	69,034	70,454	73,990
Onshore Fiscal Balance	-16,105	-14,797	-11,856	-9,739	-8,464	-8,761
Total UK North Sea revenues	2,600	700	600	700	800	700
Scottish North Sea revenues(i)	2,287	616	528	616	704	616
Overall Fiscal Balance	-13,817	-14,181	-11,328	-9,123	-7,760	-8,145
UK						
Overall Fiscal Balance	-90,200	-75,300	-39,400	-12,800	5,200	7,000
Overall Fiscal Balance as % GDP						
Scotland	-8.8	-8.7	-6.7	-5.2	-4.3	-4.3
UK	-5.0	-4.0	-2.0	-0.6	0.2	0.3
Difference	-3.8	-4.7	-4.7	-4.6	-4.5	-4.6
Overall Fiscal Balance £ per head						
Scotland	-2,585	-2,643	-2,103	-1,687	-1,429	-1,494
UK	-1,398	-1,158	-603	-193	80	105
Difference	-1,186	-1,485	-1,501	-1,494	-1,509	-1,599
Cumulative Difference (£, million)	-6,343	-7,968	-8,083	-8,080	-8,235	-8,753

Sources: Figures for the UK are taken from the latest OBR (March 2015) estimates, Scottish figures are derived using the average Scottish shares of the UK totals taken from Table 1.

(i) shares used are 8.2%, 9.25% and 89% respectively.