

Forecasts for the UK economy

A comparison of independent forecasts

April 2008

Compiled by the Macroeconomic Prospects Team

hm-treasury.gov.uk/forecasts



CONTENTS

	Page
Summary Page: Short-term forecasts	3
Table 1 - 2008: Growth in GDP and its components (% change)	4
Table 2 - 2008: Growth in prices and monetary indicators (% change)	5
Table 3 - 2008: Growth in other selected variables (% change)	6
Table 4 - 2009: Growth in GDP and its components (% change)	7
Table 5 - 2009: Growth in prices and monetary indicators (% change)	8
Table 6 - 2009: Growth in other selected variables (% change)	9
Average of independent forecasts for 2008: GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation and claimant unemployment	10
Average of independent forecasts for 2008: Current account and PSNB (2008-09)	11
Average of independent forecasts for 2009: GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation and claimant unemployment	12
Average of independent forecasts for 2009: Current account and PSNB (2009-10)	13
Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2008: GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation made in last 3 months	14
Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2008: Claimant unemployment, current account and PSNB (2008-09) made in last	15
Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2009: GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation made in last 3 months	16
Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2009: Claimant unemployment, current account and PSNB (2009-10) made in last	17
Annex 1: Forecasting institutions referred to in charts and tables	18
Annex 2: Data definitions	19
Annex 3: Notation used in tables	20
Annex 4: Organisation contact details	21

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The next edition will be published on 21st May 2008. It will also be available on the Treasury's website: <http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/forecasts>.

PU513 ISBN: 978-1-84532-407-0

FORECASTS FOR THE UK ECONOMY

A comparison of independent forecasts, April 2008

This edition of the comparison contains 26 new forecasts, all of which were received between April 2nd and April 9th, 2008. The tables below summarise the average and range of independent forecasts for 2008 and 2009 and show the average of this month's new forecasts.

Forecasts for 2008

	Independent ⁺				Average of new* forecasts
	Averages		April		
	April	March	Lowest	Highest	
GDP growth (per cent)	1.7	1.7	-0.1	3.0	1.7
Inflation rate (Q4: per cent)					
- CPI	2.5	2.4	1.7	3.2	2.5
- RPI	2.8	2.7	1.5	4.2	2.9
Claimant unemployment (Q4: mn)	0.91	0.92	0.76	1.23	0.89
Current account (£bn)	-57.3	-59.1	-89.4	-29.5	-56.7
PSNB (2007-08: £bn)	42.0	41.0	30.6	48.9	42.2

Forecasts for 2009

	Independent ⁺				Average of new* forecasts
	Averages		April		
	April	March	Lowest	Highest	
GDP growth (per cent)	1.8	1.9	-1.3	3.0	1.6
Inflation rate (Q4: per cent)					
- CPI	2.0	2.0	1.3	3.3	2.1
- RPI	2.5	2.5	1.1	3.9	2.5
Claimant unemployment (Q4: mn)	0.99	0.99	0.72	1.31	0.97
Current account (£bn)	-51.3	-53.5	-89.1	-17.1	-51.8
PSNB (2008-09: £bn)	42.7	40.6	31.7	51.3	43.4

+ Independent and City averages, and the range of forecasts, are based on forecasts made in the last three months (April: 26 institutions, March: 7 institutions, February: 3 institutions).

*Calculated from new forecasts received for the comparison this month.

Note: All the averages exclude non-standard entries (see footnotes a to tt).

Table I - 2008: Growth in GDP and its components (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		GDP	Private consumption	Government consumption	Fixed investment	Change in inventories (£bn)	Domestic demand	Total exports	Total imports	Net trade contribution
City forecasters										
ABN AMRO	Apr *	1.6	0.9	0.6	2.3	9.8	1.3	3.6	2.2	0.3
Bank of America	Apr *	1.8	1.4	0.9	2.9	8.9	1.6	1.3	1.4	-0.1
Barclays Capital	Feb	2.0	1.7	2.4	2.4	2.0	1.8	4.3	3.3	0.2
BNP Paribas	Mar	1.5	1.1	1.9	1.5	-	1.1	1.4	0.0	-
Capital Economics	Apr *	1.7	1.5	1.5	4.0	4.9	1.9	1.5	2.0	-0.2
Citigroup	Mar	1.7	1.3	2.5	2.5	4.9	1.7	2.7	2.3	0.1
Commerzbank	Apr *	1.8	2.0	1.5	3.4	5.5	2.1	3.5	4.0	-0.3
Credit Suisse	Apr *	1.8	1.8	2.1	1.5	0.4	2.0	4.0	4.3	-0.2
Daiwa Institute of Research	Apr *	1.5	1.5	2.4	0.2	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.0	-
Daiwa Securities SMBC	Mar	1.7	1.8	1.3	2.1	-	1.5	2.1	1.1	0.2
Deutsche Bank	Apr *	1.8	1.7	2.0	1.6	7.0	2.3	2.4	2.7	-0.2
Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein	Jun	1.9	1.8	2.1	1.9	-	2.0	3.6	3.5	0.0
Fortis Bank	Jan	2.1	2.0	2.5	2.1	-	2.4	5.2	5.9	-0.2
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	1.8	1.7	1.0	-0.9	0.2 h	1.3	3.0	1.2	0.5
Hermes	Apr *	2.0	1.8	1.3	4.1	6.4	2.1	3.0	3.3	-0.2
HSBC	Apr *	1.2	0.8	2.6	0.7	-	1.1	3.6	2.8	0.1
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	1.5	1.0	2.2	1.6	-2.2	1.5	5.8	5.8	-0.1
Ingenious Securities	Apr *	1.6	1.0	2.0	2.2	3.5	1.2	5.6	3.7	0.4
J P Morgan	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lehman Brothers	Apr *	1.7	1.2	1.7	4.6	-	1.7	3.6	3.2	0.0
Lloyds TSB	Apr *	2.2	2.0	2.3	1.2	1.1	2.1	3.1	3.4	-
Lombard Street	Mar	1.4	1.0	2.5	0.9	-	-	2.0	1.0	0.2
MacroEcon.com	Apr *	3.0	3.2	1.7	4.7	4.9	3.2	3.3	3.9	-
Morgan Stanley	Apr *	1.7	1.2	2.2	1.2	9.7	1.6	3.4	2.9	0.0
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.3	4.0	1.7	2.1	1.5	0.1
Schroders Investment Management	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.5	3.1	0.7	4.5	3.1	0.0
UBS	Mar	1.6	1.2	2.4	0.7	0.5	1.8	1.8	2.3	-0.2
Non-City forecasters										
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	1.9	1.9	1.6	2.6	1.0	1.5	4.0	2.7	0.3
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	1.7	1.8	2.2	2.5	2.7	1.8	4.1	4.1	-0.1
CBI	Apr *	1.8	1.6	2.3	1.4	3.3	1.4	3.8	2.2	0.4
CEBR	Apr *	1.5	1.5	2.1	-	-	1.5	-	-	-
Economic Perspectives	Apr *	-0.1	0.6	1.1	-0.2	0.5	0.0	1.2	1.4	-0.1
Experian Business Strategies	Apr *	1.5	1.4	1.5	0.8	7.9	1.4	1.5	1.0	0.1
EIU	Jun	2.3	1.9	1.9	3.7	4.0	2.2	5.7	5.0	0.0
Global Insight	Apr *	1.6	1.5	1.7	3.3	-	1.7	2.5	2.5	-0.1
ITEM Club	Feb	1.8	2.0	1.7	6.1	-0.1	-	4.3	4.0	-
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	2.1	2.3	2.4	3.5	-	-	-	-	-
Moody's Economy	Jun	1.7	1.7	1.8	4.2	0.2	2.1	3.7	4.5	-
NIESR	Feb	2.0	1.9	2.5	2.6	4.8	2.1	4.5	5.0	-0.3
Oxford Economics	Apr *	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.8	4.1	1.8	2.6	2.2	0.0
EC	Nov	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.9	1.7	2.2	5.5 nn	5.2 nn	-0.1
OECD	Dec	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.8	0.1 h	1.8	5.8	5.1	0.0
IMF	Apr *	1.6	1.4	2.4	-0.6	0.1	1.3	1.3	0.2	0.3
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months										
Independent		1.7	1.5	1.9	2.1	3.7	1.6	3.0	2.6	0.0
New (marked *)		1.7	1.5	1.8	2.0	4.3	1.6	3.0	2.5	0.1
City		1.7	1.5	1.8	2.0	4.2	1.7	3.0	2.6	0.0
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months										
Highest		3.0	3.2	2.6	6.1	9.8	3.2	5.8	5.8	0.5
Lowest		-0.1	0.6	0.6	-0.9	-2.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	-0.3
Median		1.7	1.5	2.0	2.1	3.5	1.6	3.1	2.6	0.0
HM Treasury	Mar	1¼ to 2¼	1¼ to 1¾	2¼	1¾ to 2¼	0	1½ to 1¾	3¼ to 3½	2 to 2¼	¼

Table 2 - 2008: Growth in prices and monetary indicators (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		CPI (Q4)	RPI (Q4)	RPIX (Q4)	Average earnings	Sterling index (Q4) (Jan 2005=100)	Official Bank rate (Q4, %)	Oil price (Brent, \$/bbl)	M4
City forecasters									
ABN AMRO	Apr *	2.9	3.2	3.5	4.0	-	5.00	103.7	-
Bank of America	Apr *	1.7	4.2	3.1	3.2	-	4.25	90.0	11.1
Barclays Capital	Feb	2.6	2.5	2.9	4.0	95.1	4.75	-	-
BNP Paribas	Mar	2.5	2.1	2.6	4.0	-	4.00	-	-
Capital Economics	Apr *	2.6	3.6	3.5	3.6	91.7	4.00	85.0	10.0
Citigroup	Mar	2.5	2.6	3.5	4.1	93.4	4.25	95.0	-
Commerzbank	Apr *	2.4	2.5	3.1	3.8	96.8	4.58	94.1	9.1
Credit Suisse	Apr *	2.4	2.8	3.1	-	-	4.75	-	-
Daiwa Institute of Research	Apr *	2.4	2.5	2.2	3.9	97.5	5.00	97.0	-
Daiwa Securities SMBC	Mar	2.1	-	-	-	-	4.50	-	-
Deutsche Bank	Apr *	2.5	2.4	-	3.9	94.5	4.50	-	9.0
Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein	Jun	2.0	2.2	-	-	-	5.00	-	-
Fortis Bank	Jan	1.9	-	-	-	-	5.00	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	2.5	3.8	-	4.3	96.0 j	-	85.0	11.4 j
Hermes	Apr *	2.2	2.3	2.2	4.2	98.0	5.00	-	10.0
HSBC	Apr *	2.1	2.3	2.5	3.9	-	4.25	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	2.2	1.5	2.5	4.0	-	4.00	-	-
Ingenious Securities	Apr *	2.8	3.6	3.8	4.3	94.8	5.00	-	8.6
J P Morgan	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lehman Brothers	Apr *	3.1	2.9	3.9	4.0	-	4.50	93.0	-
Lloyds TSB	Apr *	2.4	3.0	2.9	4.3	-	5.00	90.0	12.0
Lombard Street	Mar	2.3	2.9	-	-	-	4.50	-	6.6
MacroEcon.com	Apr *	3.2	3.8	3.7	-	-	6.25	81.0	13.2
Morgan Stanley	Apr *	2.8	2.6	2.9	4.1	91.9	5.00	-	-
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	2.6	2.3	3.2	3.9	92.4	4.75	96.7	-
Schroders Investment Management	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	2.4	-	-	3.8	-	4.50	-	-
UBS	Mar	2.3	2.5	3.4	3.9	-	4.25	-	-
Non-City forecasters									
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	3.0	3.6	3.8	4.2	93.7	5.00	96.5	10.3
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.4 k	2.8 k	2.5 k	4.2 n	103.3 k	5.20 ks	61.8	-
CBI	Apr *	2.7	3.6	3.3	4.1	95.7	4.75	93.0 ii	-
CEBR	Apr *	2.1	2.8	-	3.7	-	4.25	-	-
Economic Perspectives	Apr *	2.5	3.1	3.2	3.7	94.0	4.50	90.0	10.0
Experian Business Strategies	Apr *	2.6	2.4	3.0	3.7	97.3	4.50	90.0	-
EIU	Jun	2.0	3.1	-	4.0	101.9	5.00	60.3	5.9
Global Insight	Apr *	2.7	2.9	3.2	4.1	-	4.25	95.2	9.2
ITEM Club	Feb	2.0	1.7	2.4	4.2	93.0	4.75	80.0	5.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	-	-	2.3	4.3	107.7 r	5.40	-	-
Moody's Economy	Jun	1.5	2.7	3.1	-	-	5.25	50.7	12.6
NIESR	Feb	2.0	3.0 k	2.9 k	4.2 r	96.4 r	5.10 s	84.6 v	-
Oxford Economics	Apr *	2.3	2.2	3.1	4.0	91.0	4.50	96.2	8.5
EC	Nov	2.0	3.4	-	4.3	-	-	78.8	-
OECD	Dec	2.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Apr *	2.5 k	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months									
Independent		2.5	2.8	3.1	4.0	94.4	4.64	90.0	9.5
New (marked *)		2.5	2.9	3.1	3.9	94.6	4.66	92.4	9.9
City		2.5	2.8	3.1	3.9	94.6	4.63	91.9	9.9
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months									
Highest		3.2	4.2	3.9	4.3	98.0	6.25	103.7	13.2
Lowest		1.7	1.5	2.2	3.2	91.0	4.00	61.8	5.0
Median		2.5	2.7	3.1	4.0	94.3	4.50	91.5	9.6
HM Treasury	Mar	2½	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 3 - 2008: Growth in other selected variables (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		Real household disposable income	Employment growth	Claimant unemployment (Q4,millions)	Manufacturing output	World trade in manufactures	Current account (£bn)	PSNB (£bn 2008-09)
City forecasters								
ABN AMRO	Apr *	2.4	0.9	1.70 a	1.0	7.1	-68.4	45.2
Bank of America	Apr *	-	-	-	2.2	6.5	-29.5	42.6
Barclays Capital	Feb	2.4	0.8	0.81	1.7	-	-45.7	42.0
BNP Paribas	Mar	-	0.6	-	-	-	-77.0	42.0
Capital Economics	Apr *	1.5	0.8	0.80	-1.0	4.0	-50.0	45.0
Citigroup	Mar	1.9	0.9	1.03	0.5	-	-61.3	45.3
Commerzbank	Apr *	2.1	0.9	0.83	0.6	5.7 w	-55.8	38.7
Credit Suisse	Apr *	-	-	-	-	-	-	45.0
Daiwa Institute of Research	Apr *	2.3	0.4	1.00	0.2	6.4	-52.7	44.7
Daiwa Securities SMBC	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deutsche Bank	Apr *	-	-	0.87	-0.3	-	-65.2	36.0
Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-39.0	43.0
Fortis Bank	Jan	-	-	0.89	-	5.0	-58.0	39.0
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	-	0.6	1.62 a	-0.8	-	-30.0	40.6
Hermes	Apr *	1.5	0.5	0.90	-1.0	6.0	-44.0	-
HSBC	Apr *	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	-	-	0.98	0.0	-	-49.0	42.0
Ingenious Securities	Apr *	1.9	0.3	0.96	0.2	-	-68.1	48.9
J P Morgan	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lehman Brothers	Apr *	0.8	0.5	-	-0.5	-	-73.9	42.0
Lloyds TSB	Apr *	-	0.4	0.87	0.8	6.5	-60.7	46.4
Lombard Street	Mar	2.1	0.7	-	-	-	-52.3	43.0
MacroEcon.com	Apr *	3.2	0.8	0.81	-	-	-41.7	39.8
Morgan Stanley	Apr *	1.3	0.2	-	0.2	-	-	41.8
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	2.2	0.7	0.90	0.2	4.5	-57.8	41.9
Schroders Investment Management	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	-	-	-	-	-	-69.0	40.0
UBS	Mar	-	-	0.83	-0.6	-	-51.0	37.7
Non-City forecasters								
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	-	0.8	0.78	-0.6	6.3	-76.7	45.2
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.5	0.6	0.90 k	0.3	2.7 hh	-55.1	36.6 kcc
CBI	Apr *	1.2	0.6	0.76	0.4	1.7	-66.3	43.2
CEBR	Apr *	-	0.4	0.96	-1.0	-	-	39.1
Economic Perspectives	Apr *	1.1	-0.2	1.00	-0.2	5.0	-45.0	42.0 cc
Experian Business Strategies	Apr *	1.1	0.7	0.84	0.2	2.3	-89.4	30.6
EIU	Jun	2.3	0.6	0.89	0.9	7.9	-45.1	35.3
Global Insight	Apr *	2.1	0.5	0.91	0.5	-	-56.8	45.9
ITEM Club	Feb	2.4	0.5	1.00	1.4	6.0	-59.0	45.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	-	-	1.23	-	-	-50.9	33.4
Moody's Economy	Jun	3.8	0.2	0.97	1.2	-	-27.7	-
NIESR	Feb	3.0	0.4	0.97 k	1.7	6.8 w	-61.6	39.5
Oxford Economics	Apr *	2.3	0.5	0.86	0.7	5.9	-56.2	46.0
EC	Nov	2.5	0.4	1.74 a	0.8	-	-49.9	3.0 eeg
OECD	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.4 eeg
IMF	Apr *	-	0.2	-	-	5.6	-4.8 g	3.1 kg
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months								
Independent		2.0	0.6	0.91	0.3	5.3	-57.3	42.0
New (marked *)		1.8	0.5	0.89	0.1	5.1	-56.7	42.2
City		2.0	0.6	0.89	0.2	5.9	-55.2	42.4
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months								
Highest		3.2	0.9	1.23	2.2	7.1	-29.5	48.9
Lowest		0.8	-0.2	0.76	-1.0	1.7	-89.4	30.6
Median		2.1	0.6	0.89	0.2	6.0	-56.5	42.0
HM Treasury	Mar	1½ to 2	-	-	¼ to 1¼	7 w	-72½	43

Table 4 - 2009: Growth in GDP and its components (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		GDP	Private consumption	Government consumption	Fixed investment	Change in inventories (£bn)	Domestic demand	Total exports	Total imports	Net trade contribution
City forecasters										
ABN AMRO	Apr *	1.7	0.8	1.2	0.7	5.4	0.6	6.5	2.3	1.1
Bank of America	Apr *	1.6	1.4	1.4	2.2	7.0	1.6	6.5	5.1	0.2
Barclays Capital	Feb	2.1	1.6	2.0	2.9	2.0	1.9	4.4	3.6	0.1
BNP Paribas	Mar	1.9	1.6	2.0	2.9	-	1.9	1.5	2.1	-
Capital Economics	Apr *	1.0	1.0	1.8	0.5	0.1	0.7	2.5	1.5	0.3
Citigroup	Mar	1.8	1.4	1.9	1.9	8.2	1.8	7.2	6.6	0.0
Commerzbank	Apr *	1.7	1.6	2.3	1.7	3.6	1.6	4.2	3.5	0.1
Credit Suisse	Apr *	2.1	2.1	2.0	3.0	0.4	2.2	6.0	6.0	-0.2
Daiwa Institute of Research	Apr *	2.0	1.4	2.2	1.4	2.0	1.8	4.5	3.3	-
Daiwa Securities SMBC	Mar	2.2	2.0	0.8	3.0	-	1.9	3.7	2.4	0.3
Deutsche Bank	Apr *	2.2	2.4	1.8	3.0	6.0	2.4	4.0	4.8	-0.4
Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fortis Bank	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	1.8	1.7	1.6	-2.6	0.2 h	1.1	5.3	2.5	0.7
Hermes	Apr *	1.7	1.5	1.5	3.0	0.0	1.5	3.4	2.7	0.1
HSBC	Apr *	1.0	0.3	2.8	1.0	-	0.6	7.6	5.7	0.3
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	1.0	0.6	2.1	2.2	-4.5	1.0	8.0	7.7	-0.1
Ingenious Securities	Apr *	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.4	4.0	2.0	4.4 nn	4.6 nn	-0.2
J P Morgan	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lehman Brothers	Apr *	1.1	0.2	2.0	0.5	-	0.4	4.9	2.3	0.7
Lloyds TSB	Apr *	2.7	2.6	2.1	2.9	0.6	2.6	4.4	4.3	-
Lombard Street	Mar	1.8	1.3	2.0	1.0	-	-	3.5	2.0	0.4
MacroEcon.com	Apr *	3.0	3.3	1.7	4.1	9.4	3.2	4.6	5.0	-
Morgan Stanley	Apr *	1.8	1.5	2.0	2.0	9.7	1.6	4.6	3.6	0.2
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	1.9	1.4	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.5	4.1	2.3	0.5
Schroders Investment Management	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	1.6	1.5	1.3	2.0	2.8	2.0	4.1	3.5	-0.1
UBS	Mar	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.8	0.0	1.7	2.4	2.4	-0.1
Non-City forecasters										
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	2.1	2.4	2.5	1.6	-1.6	2.1	5.8	5.2	0.0
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.3	2.3	2.0	3.3	1.2	2.3	4.6	4.3	-0.1
CBI	Apr *	1.7	1.1	2.0	1.9	0.6	1.2	5.5	3.3	0.5
CEBR	Apr *	1.7	1.6	2.0	-	-	1.6	-	-	-
Economic Perspectives	Apr *	-1.3	-1.0	1.2	-4.1	-6.5	-1.7	1.2	-0.1	0.4
Experian Business Strategies	Apr *	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.4	6.5	1.2	3.4	2.0	0.3
EIU	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Global Insight	Apr *	1.5	1.4	2.1	2.0	-	1.5	3.8	3.4	0.0
ITEM Club	Feb	2.4	2.2	2.0	1.1	0.0	-	5.6	5.0	-
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	2.0	2.3	2.4	1.6	-	-	-	-	-
Moody's Economy	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Feb	2.4	1.6	2.0	2.1	4.8	1.8	6.1	3.6	0.6
Oxford Economics	Apr *	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.0	3.1	1.9	3.7	2.6	0.2
EC	Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OECD	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Apr *	1.6	1.0	2.6	0.2	-0.2	1.0	2.7	0.4	0.3
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months										
Independent		1.8	1.5	1.9	1.6	2.5	1.5	4.6	3.5	0.2
New (marked *)		1.6	1.4	1.9	1.3	2.5	1.4	4.7	3.4	0.2
City		1.8	1.5	1.8	1.9	3.3	1.6	4.7	3.7	0.2
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months										
Highest		3.0	3.3	2.8	4.1	9.7	3.2	8.0	7.7	1.1
Lowest		-1.3	-1.0	0.8	-4.1	-6.5	-1.7	1.2	-0.1	-0.4
Median		1.8	1.5	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.6	4.4	3.4	0.2
HM Treasury	Mar	2¼ to 2¾	2 to 2½	2	2¼ to 3¼	0	2 to 2½	5 to 5½	3¾ to 4¼	¼

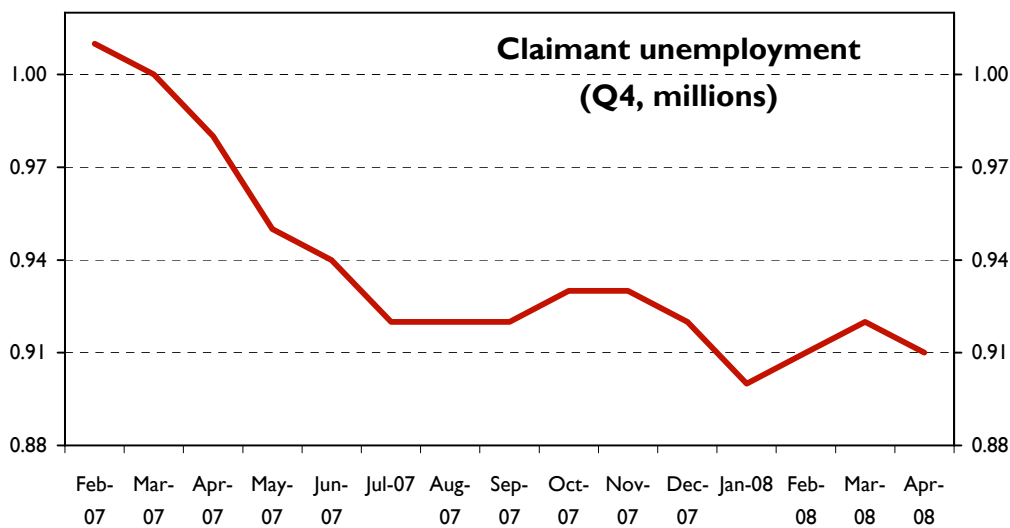
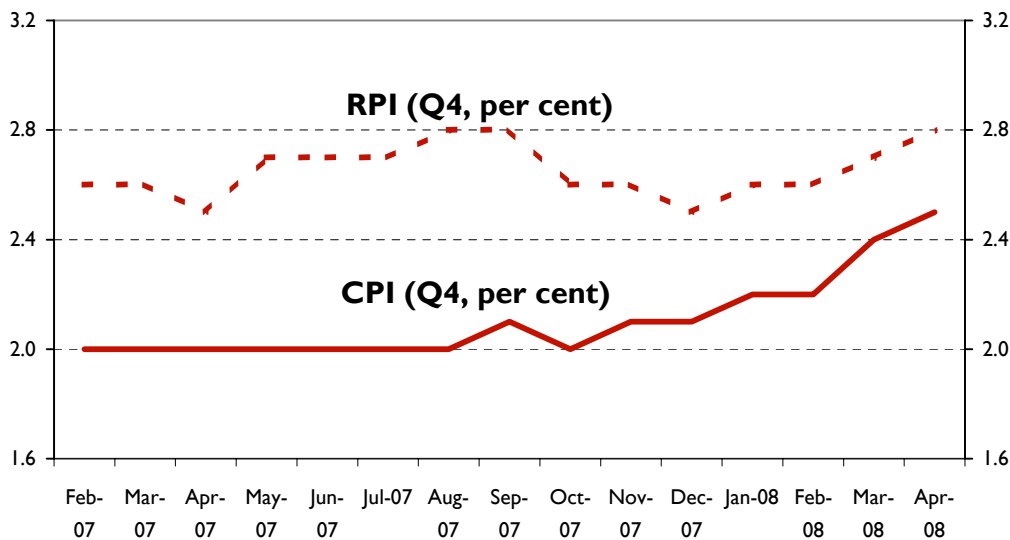
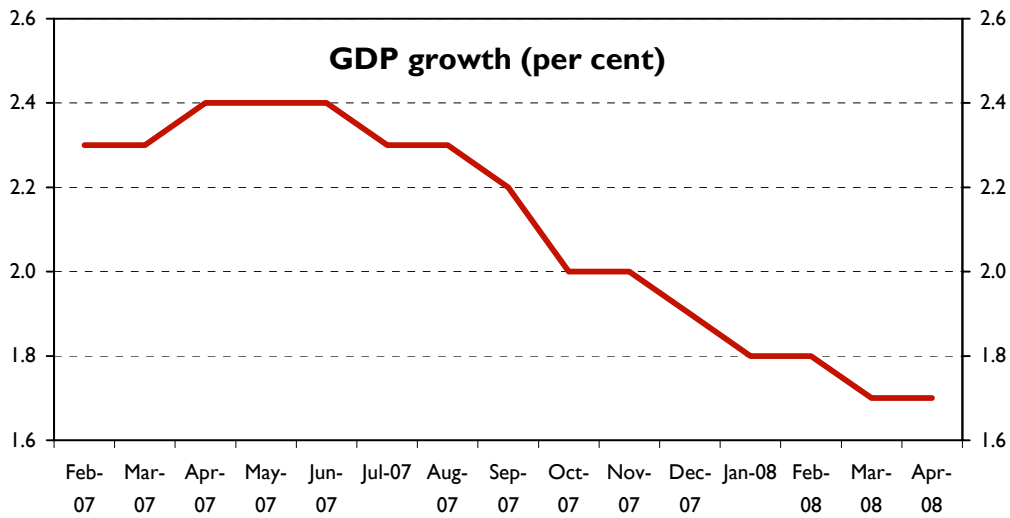
Table 5 - 2009: Growth in prices and monetary indicators (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		CPI (Q4)	RPI (Q4)	RPIX (Q4)	Average earnings	Sterling index (Q4) (Jan 2005=100)	Official Bank rate (Q4, %)	Oil price (Brent, \$/bbl)	M4
City forecasters									
ABN AMRO	Apr *	2.0	3.0	2.6	3.4	-	5.00	101.9	-
Bank of America	Apr *	-	2.6	2.5	3.4	-	4.50	85.0	9.2
Barclays Capital	Feb	2.3	2.9	2.9	3.3	98.4	4.75	-	-
BNP Paribas	Mar	1.9	2.2	2.0	3.9	-	4.00	-	-
Capital Economics	Apr *	1.7	2.2	2.4	4.2	86.1	3.50	80.0	6.0
Citigroup	Mar	2.2	2.8	2.4	4.2	92.3	4.42	95.0	-
Commerzbank	Apr *	2.4	2.7	2.7	4.0	98.0	4.50	86.5	4.8
Credit Suisse	Apr *	1.7	2.4	2.1	-	-	4.75	-	-
Daiwa Institute of Research	Apr *	1.5	1.1	2.4	3.8	100.8	4.50	87.0	-
Daiwa Securities SMBC	Mar	2.0	-	-	-	-	4.50	-	-
Deutsche Bank	Apr *	1.7	2.3	-	3.7	92.5	4.50	-	6.5
Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fortis Bank	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	2.0	2.0	-	4.4	95.0 j	-	90.0	9.3 j
Hermes	Apr *	2.0	2.1	2.0	4.3	99.0	4.00	-	8.0
HSBC	Apr *	1.6	2.2	1.9	3.2	-	3.50	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	1.9	2.3	2.3	4.2	-	3.75	-	-
Ingenious Securities	Apr *	2.4	2.9	3.1	4.4	94.8	4.75	-	8.7
J P Morgan	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lehman Brothers	Apr *	1.6	1.8	1.8	3.7	-	4.00	83.0	-
Lloyds TSB	Apr *	2.1	2.6	2.7	4.7	-	5.00	85.0	9.0
Lombard Street	Mar	1.3	1.9	-	-	-	4.50	-	7.8
MacroEcon.com	Apr *	3.3	3.9	3.8	-	-	6.40	72.0	13.2
Morgan Stanley	Apr *	2.4	2.8	2.4	4.3	90.8	5.25	-	-
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	1.9	1.9	2.4	3.9	91.1	4.50	95.0	-
Schroders Investment Management	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	1.8	-	-	4.0	-	4.75	-	-
UBS	Mar	1.6	2.3	2.5	3.8	-	4.25	-	-
Non-City forecasters									
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	3.3	3.7	3.9	4.4	91.3	5.60	97.0	6.0
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.0 k	2.4 k	2.0 k	4.5 n	99.1 k	5.00 ks	58.2	-
CBI	Apr *	1.9	2.5	2.5	4.0	96.3	4.50	85.0 ii	-
CEBR	Apr *	2.0	2.7	-	3.7	-	3.50	-	-
Economic Perspectives	Apr *	2.7	2.5	2.3	3.5	90.0	4.00	90.0	8.0
Experian Business Strategies	Apr *	1.7	2.2	1.9	3.2	97.6	4.50	76.1	-
EIU	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Global Insight	Apr *	1.8	2.3	2.3	4.1	-	4.00	84.2	7.7
ITEM Club	Feb	1.9	2.7	2.4	4.7	92.0	5.00	80.0	5.8
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	-	-	2.3	2.9	108.9 r	5.00	-	-
Moody's Economy	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Feb	1.9	2.6 k	2.3 k	4.0 r	95.5 r	5.00	75.4 v	-
Oxford Economics	Apr *	1.8	2.8	2.4	4.5	96.2	4.50	84.5	3.1
EC	Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OECD	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Apr *	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months									
Independent		2.0	2.5	2.5	3.9	94.2	4.52	85.0	7.4
New (marked *)		2.1	2.5	2.5	3.9	94.2	4.45	86.6	7.4
City		2.0	2.4	2.5	3.9	94.4	4.50	87.3	8.1
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months									
Highest		3.3	3.9	3.9	4.7	100.8	6.40	101.9	13.2
Lowest		1.3	1.1	1.8	2.9	86.1	3.50	58.2	3.1
Median		1.9	2.5	2.4	4.0	93.7	4.50	85.0	7.8
HM Treasury	Mar	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

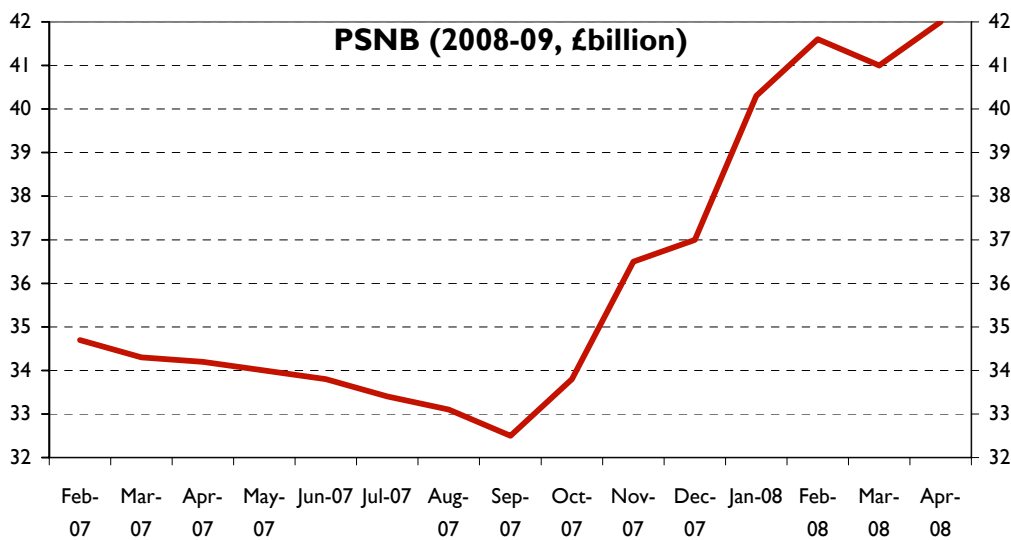
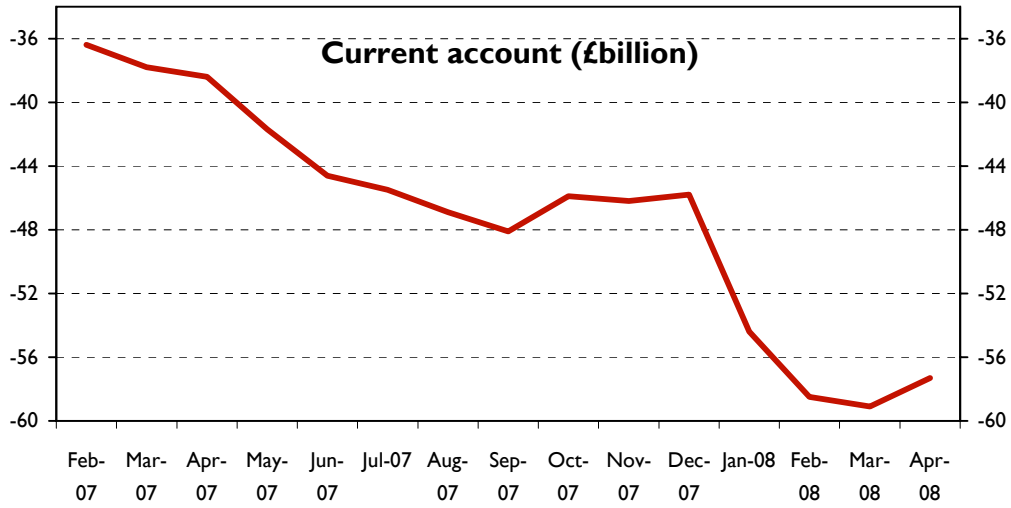
Table 6 - 2009: Growth in other selected variables (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		Real household disposable income	Employment growth	Claimant unemployment (Q4,millions)	Manufacturing output	World trade in manufactures	Current account (£bn)	PSNB (£bn 2009-10)
City forecasters								
ABN AMRO	Apr *	2.2	0.2	1.79 a	2.0	6.9	-52.8	51.3
Bank of America	Apr *	-	-	-	3.4	7.0	-23.6	44.0
Barclays Capital	Feb	2.2	0.8	0.83	2.1	-	-43.9	37.0
BNP Paribas	Mar	-	-0.3	-	-	-	-79.0	43.0
Capital Economics	Apr *	2.2	-0.9	1.00	1.0	6.5	-40.0	50.0
Citigroup	Mar	2.3	0.7	1.07	0.8	-	-52.6	51.1
Commerzbank	Apr *	2.6	-0.1	0.94	-0.4	6.5 w	-49.3	42.0
Credit Suisse	Apr *	-	-	-	-	-	-	45.0
Daiwa Institute of Research	Apr *	2.4	0.2	1.20	1.0	6.3	-38.3	43.9
Daiwa Securities SMBC	Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deutsche Bank	Apr *	-	-	0.92	0.4	-	-62.5	35.0
Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fortis Bank	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	-	0.0	1.69 a	1.4	-	-17.1	41.2
Hermes	Apr *	2.0	0.0	1.00	0.0	8.0	-38.0	-
HSBC	Apr *	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	-	-	1.10	0.9	-	-55.0	41.0
Ingenious Securities	Apr *	2.2	0.1	0.98	0.8	-	-71.1	49.1
J P Morgan	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lehman Brothers	Apr *	1.3	-0.7	-	-0.9	-	-69.4	45.0
Lloyds TSB	Apr *	-	0.7	0.96	1.2	7.5	-50.0	40.0
Lombard Street	Mar	1.7	0.7	-	-	-	-42.7	-
MacroEcon.com	Apr *	3.2	0.8	0.81	-	-	-	43.0
Morgan Stanley	Apr *	1.7	0.3	-	0.1	-	-	43.5
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	2.1	-0.1	0.94	1.3	4.1	-51.3	36.8
Schroders Investment Management	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	-	-	-	-	-	-58.0	40.0
UBS	Mar	-	-	1.00	0.1	-	-45.0	43.8
Non-City forecasters								
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	-	0.8	0.72	-1.6	8.4	-89.1	50.4
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.9	0.4	1.00 k	0.7	3.0 hh	-43.3	33.7 kcc
CBI	Apr *	1.8	0.0	0.80	0.4	3.5	-64.6	46.0
CEBR	Apr *	-	0.2	0.98	-0.4	-	-	41.1
Economic Perspectives	Apr *	0.8	-0.6	1.20	-0.8	4.0	-35.0	50.0 cc
Experian Business Strategies	Apr *	1.4	0.1	0.99	0.4	2.7	-88.0	31.7
EIU	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Global Insight	Apr *	2.5	-0.2	1.01	0.8	-	-45.7	42.2
ITEM Club	Feb	2.6	0.8	1.01	2.5	6.0	-41.0	46.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	-	-	1.31	-	-	-44.5	36.4
Moody's Economy	Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Feb	3.5	0.5	1.01 k	2.5	7.2 w	-55.9	34.3
Oxford Economics	Apr *	2.5	0.4	0.98	1.3	6.3	-42.3	45.7
EC	Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OECD	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Apr *	-	0.3	-	-	5.8	-4.4	3.2 kg
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months								
Independent		2.2	0.2	0.99	0.8	5.9	-51.3	42.7
New (marked *)		2.1	0.0	0.97	0.6	5.8	-51.8	43.4
City		2.2	0.2	0.98	0.9	6.6	-49.5	43.3
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months								
Highest		3.5	0.8	1.31	3.4	8.4	-17.1	51.3
Lowest		0.8	-0.9	0.72	-1.6	2.7	-89.1	31.7
Median		2.2	0.2	0.98	0.8	6.3	-49.3	43.0
HM Treasury	Mar	2 to 2½	-	-	1¼ to 2¼	7¼ w	-71	38

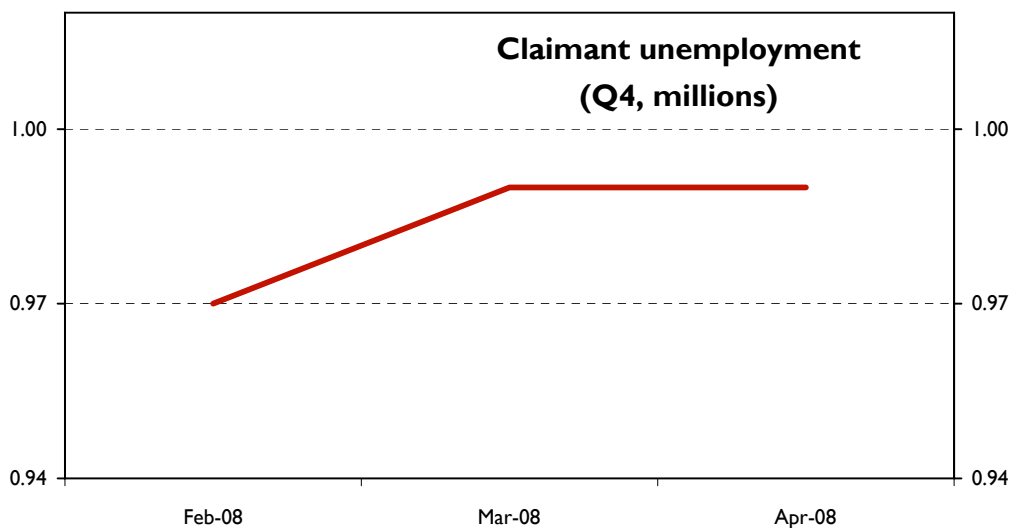
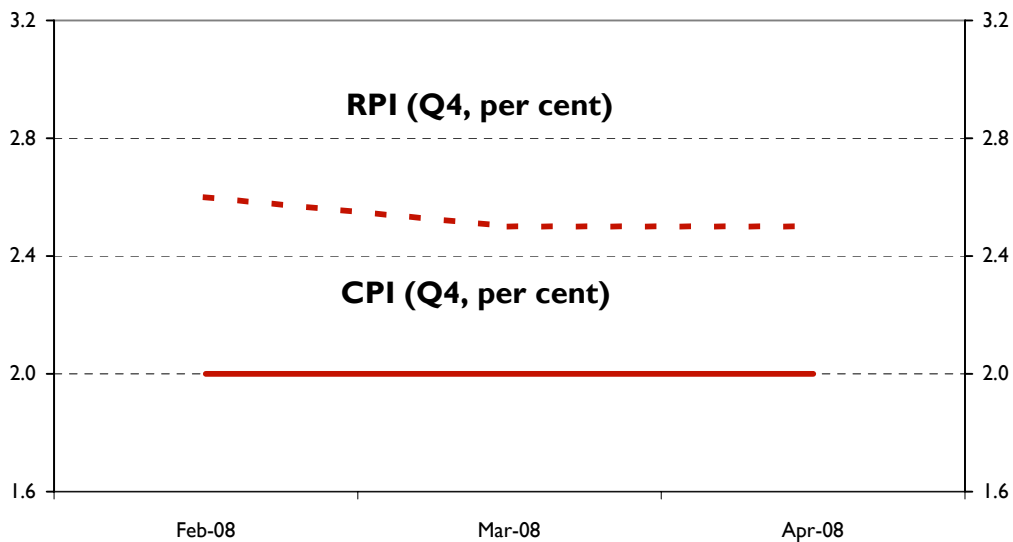
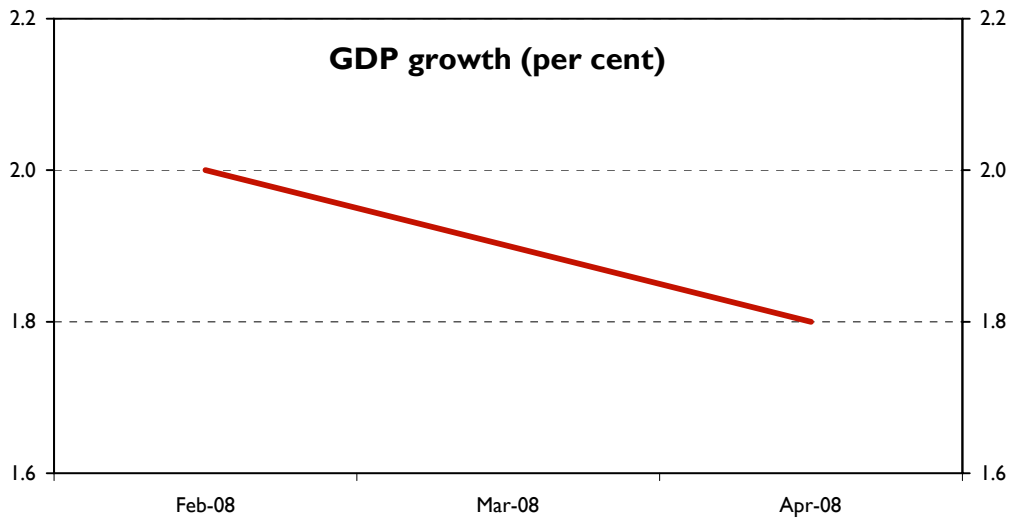
Average of independent forecasts for 2008; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation and claimant unemployment



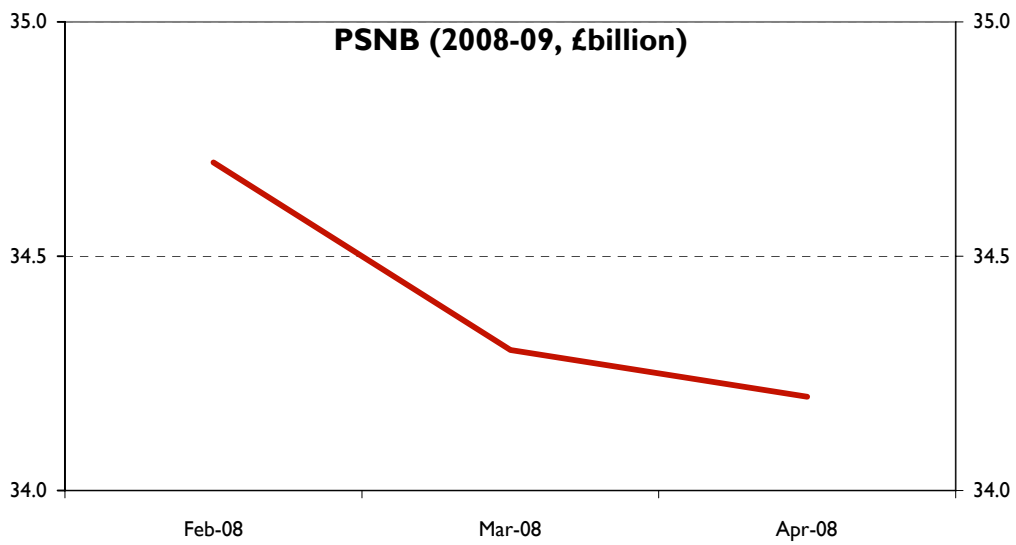
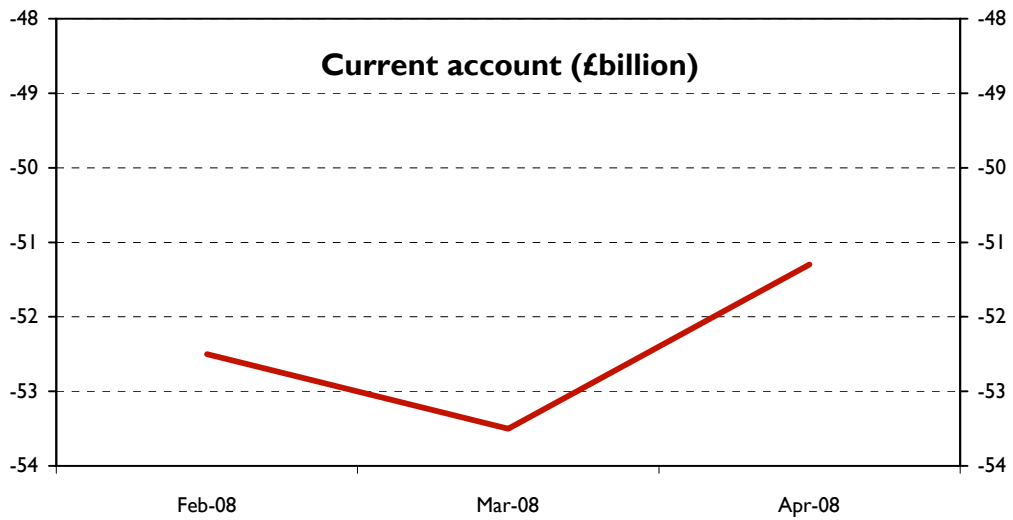
Average of independent forecasts for 2008; Current account and PSNB (2008-09)



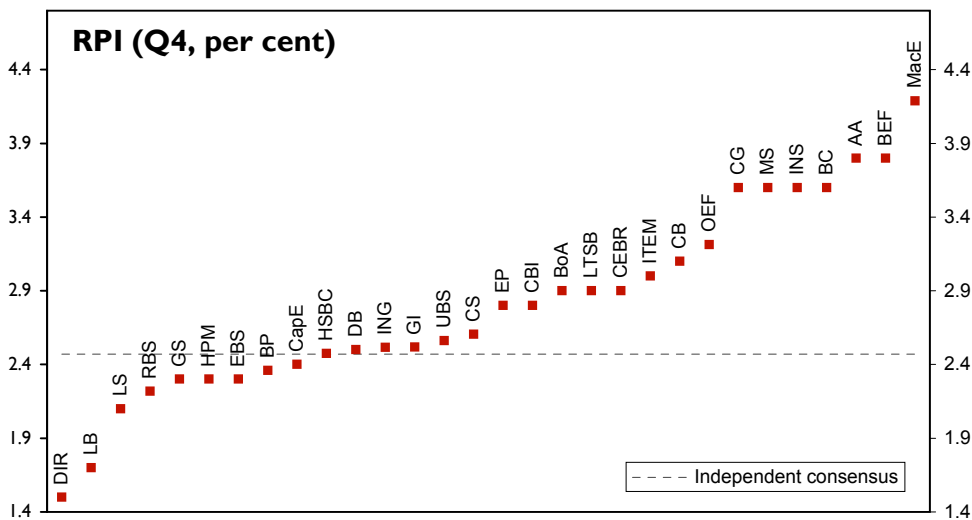
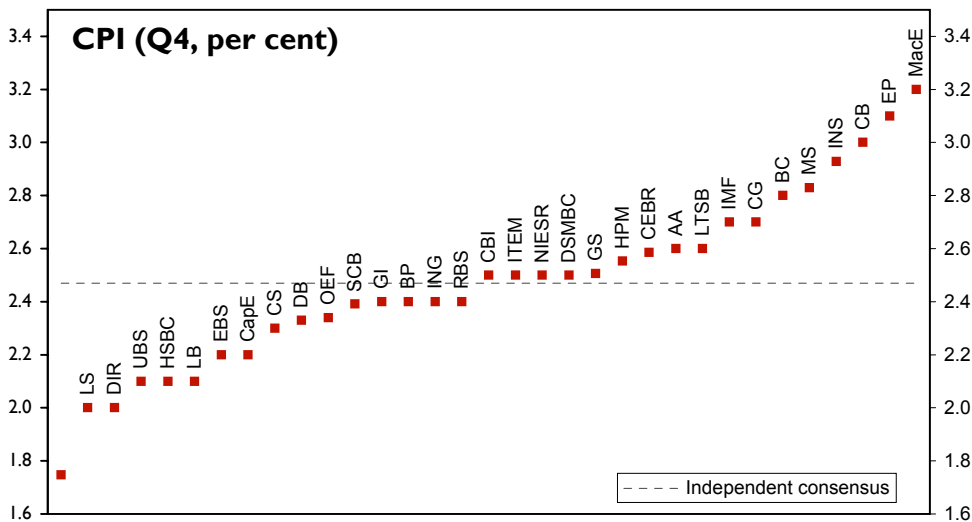
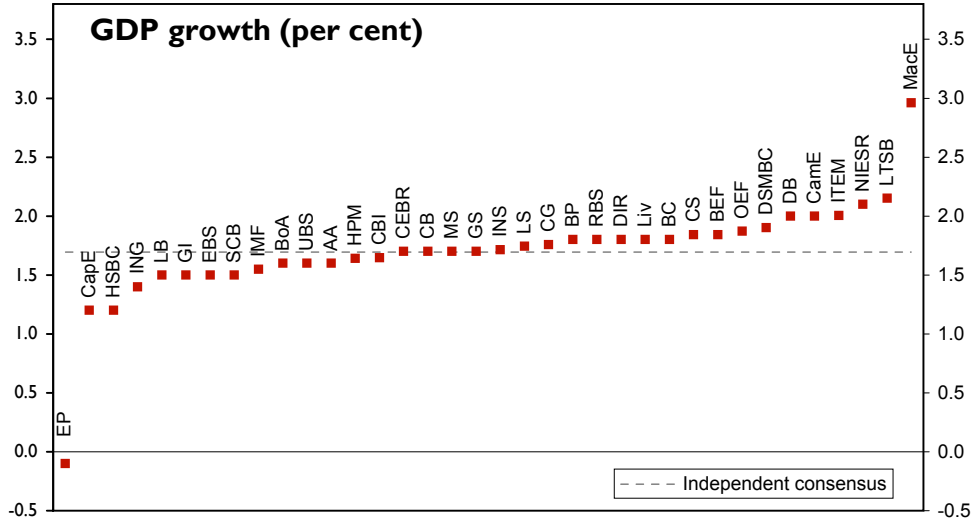
Average of independent forecasts for 2009; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation and claimant unemployment



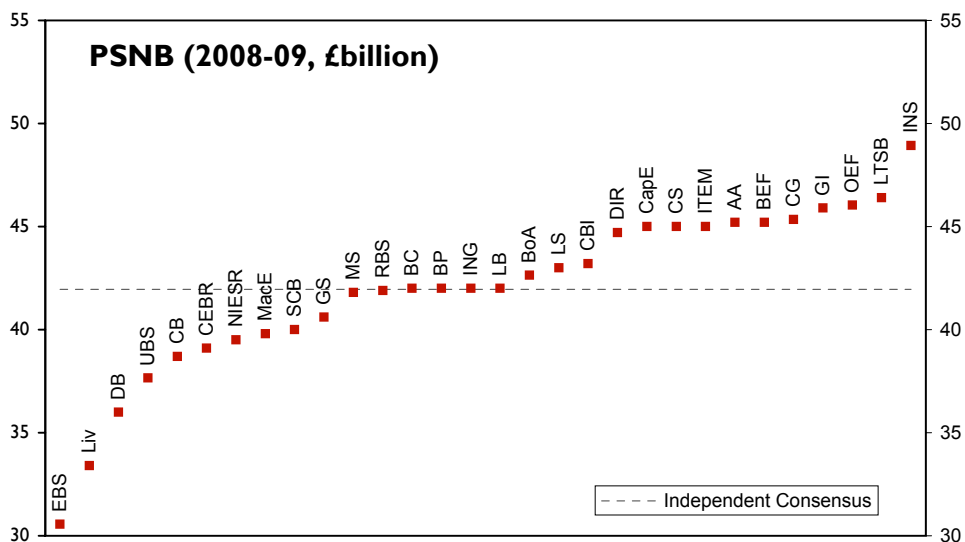
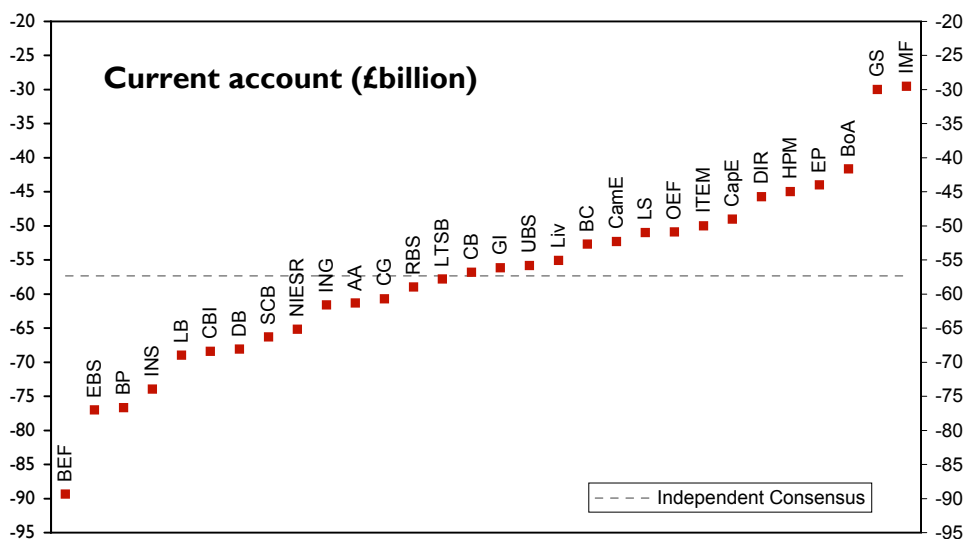
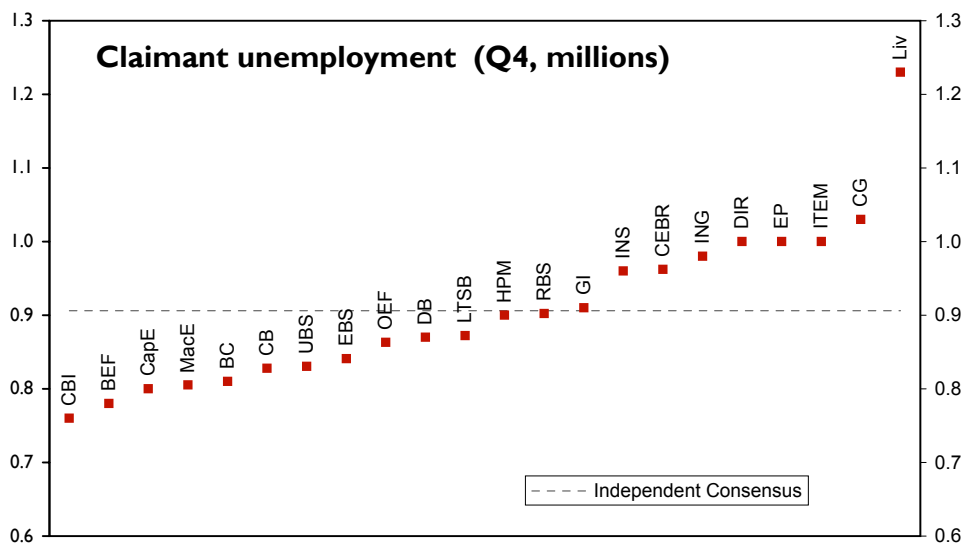
Average of independent forecasts for 2009; Current account and PSNB (2009-10)



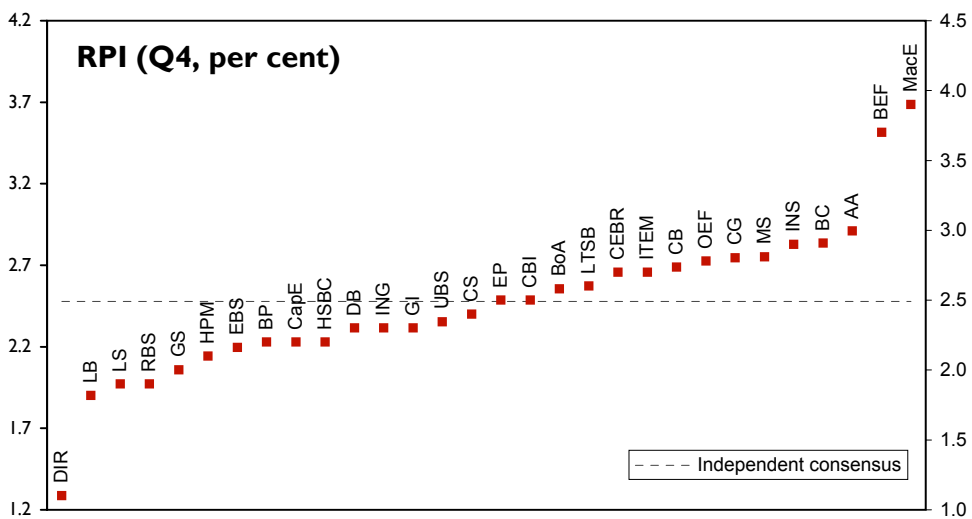
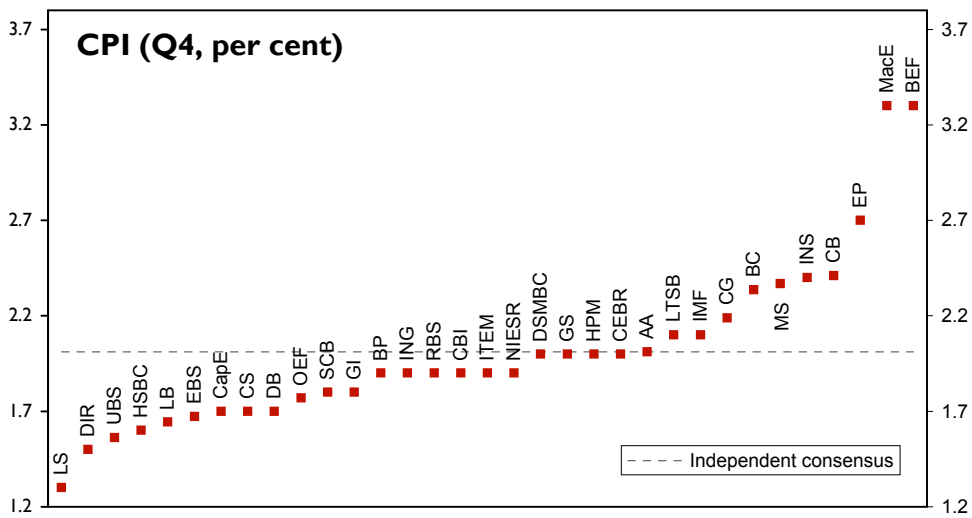
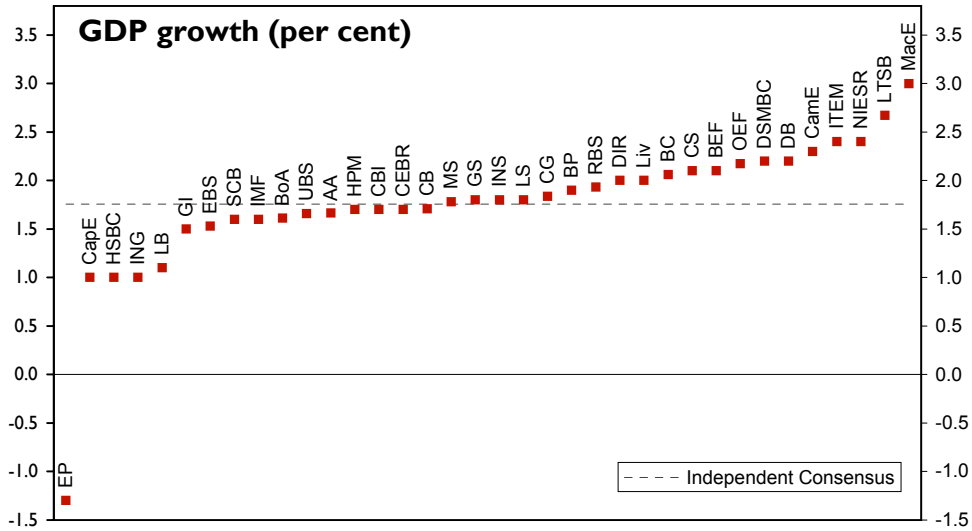
Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2008; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation made in last 3 months



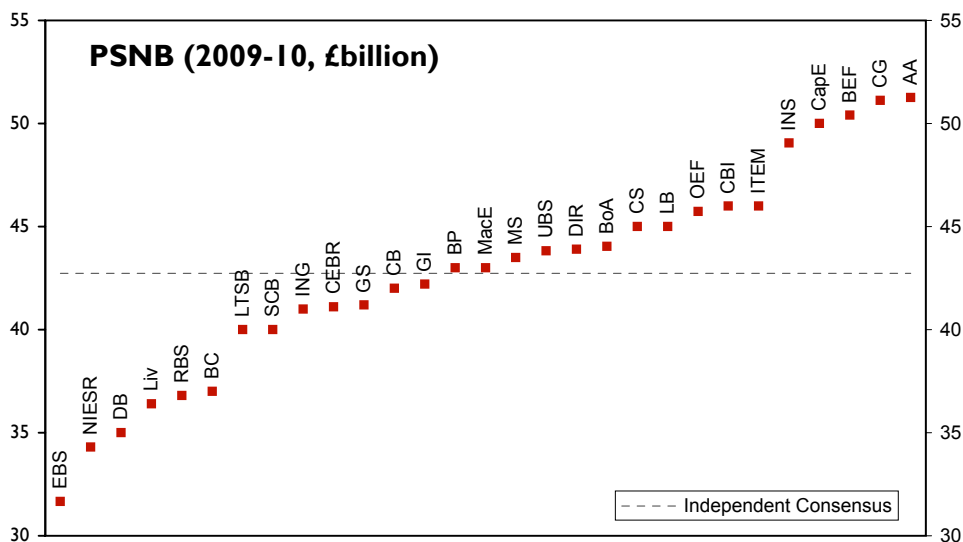
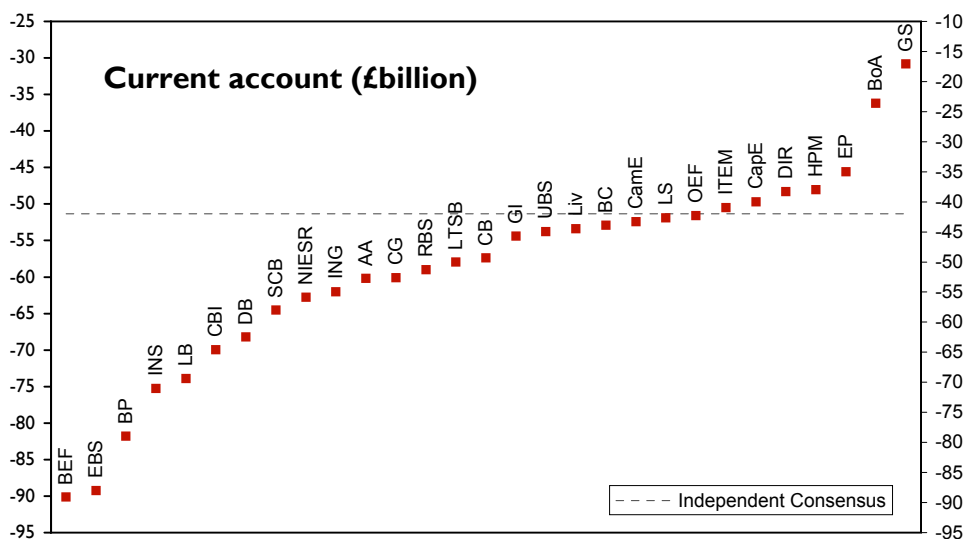
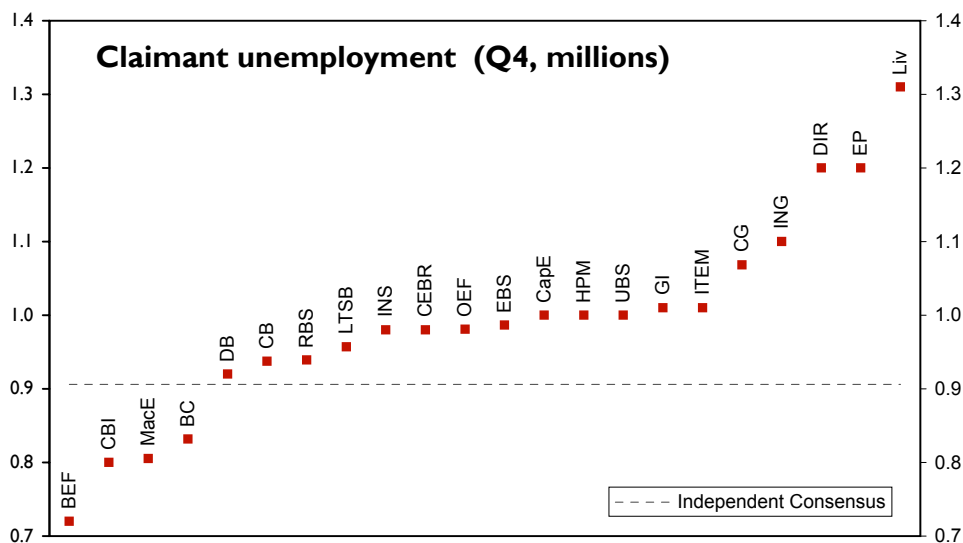
**Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2008;
Claimant unemployment, current account and PSNB (2008-09)
made in last 3 months**



Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2009; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation made in last 3 months



**Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2009;
Claimant unemployment, current account and PSNB (2009-10)
made in last 3 months**



Annex I: Forecasting institutions referred to in charts and tables

AA	ABN AMRO
BoA	Bank of America
BC	Barclays Capital
BEF	Beacon Economic Forecasting
BP	BNP Paribas
CamE	Cambridge Econometrics
CapE	Capital Economics
CG	Citigroup
CBI	Confederation of British Industry
CEBR	Centre for Economics and Business Research
CB	Commerzbank
CS	Credit Suisse First Boston
DIR	Daiwa Institute of Research
DSMBC	Daiwa Securities SMBC
DB	Deutsche Bank
DKW	Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein
EBS	Experian Business Strategies (previously BSL)
EC	European Commission
EIU	Economist Intelligence Unit
EP	Economic Perspectives
FB	Fortis Bank
GI	Global Insight (previously DRI-WEFA)
GS	Goldman Sachs
HSBC	HSBC Global Research
HPM	Hermes Pension Management
ING	ING Financial Markets
INS	Ingenious Securities
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ITEM	ITEM Club
JPM	JP Morgan Chase
LB	Lehman Brothers
Liv	Liverpool Macro Research
LTSB	Lloyds TSB
LS	Lombard Street Research
MacE	MacroEcon.com
MoE	Moody's Economy (previously Economy.com)
MS	Morgan Stanley
NIESR	National Institute of Economic and Social Research
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OEF	Oxford Economic Forecasting
RBS	Royal Bank Of Scotland Global Banking & Markets
S	Schroders Investment Management
SCB	Standard Chartered Bank
UBS	UBS
WLB	WestLB

Annex 2: Data definitions

GDP	National accounts, Table C2, Code ABMI
Private consumption	Households + NPISH, National accounts, Table C2, Code ABJR+HAYO
General government consumption	National accounts, Table C2, Code NMRY
Gross fixed investment	National accounts, Table C2, Code NPQT
Change in inventories (2003, £bn)	National accounts, Table C2, Code CAFU
Domestic demand	National accounts, Table C2, Code YBIM
Exports (goods and services)	National accounts, Table C2, Code IKBK
Imports (goods and services)	National accounts, Table C2, Code IKBL
CPI (Q4)	Consumer Price Indices release, Table I, Code D7G7
RPI (Q4)	Consumer Price Indices release, Table I, Code CZBH
RPIX (Q4)	Consumer Price Indices release, Table I, Code CDKQ
Headline average earnings	Labour market statistics, Table I5, Code LNNC
Sterling index (Q4, Jan 2005=100)	Bank of England Monetary and Financial statistics division Code BK67
Official Bank Rate (Q4)	(Previously Bank of England repo rate (Q4)), Code BEDR
Oil price (\$ per barrel)	Brent crude, annual average
M4 growth	Bank of England Monetary and Financial statistics division Code VQJW, calendar year (previously financial year)
RHDI	National accounts, Table J2, Code NRJR
Employment growth	Workforce jobs, Labour market statistics, Table 4, Code DYDC
Claimant unemployment (Q4, mn)	Labour market statistics, Table I0, Code BCJD
Manufacturing Output	National accounts, Table B1, Code CKYY
World trade in manufactures	
Current account (£bn)	Balance of payments release, Table A, Code HBOP
Public Sector Net Borrowing	Public sector finances release, Table PSF I / Public sector accounts, Table PSAT I, Code ANNX

Annex 3: Notation used in tables

a	ILO unemployment - millions
b	underlying consumers expenditure deflator
c	non-durable consumption
d	current and capital expenditure, including stockbuilding
e	private sector investment, stockbuilding and durable consumption
f	investment and stockbuilding combined
g	as a percentage of GDP
h	contribution to GDP growth - percentage points
l	growth in hourly earnings
j	end period
k	calendar year
m	average of UK Brent, Dubai, and West Texas Intermediate crude spot oil prices
n	compensation of employees per head
o	consumer price deflator to Q4
p	calculated from general government financial deficit figures adjusted for privatisation proceeds
q	forecast growth rates for Q4
r	different definitions - refer to forecasters for details
s	3 month interbank rate
u	general government current and capital expenditure plus stockbuilding
v	average of spot price of Brent crude and Dubai light crude
w	world trade in goods and services
x	claimant unemployment rate
z	OECD real imports of goods and services
aa	ILO unemployment rate
bb	households only
cc	PSNCR (formerly PSBR)
dd	harmonized index of consumer prices - HICP
ee	general government financial balance
ff	gross disposable income deflated by implicit price of private consumption
gg	compensation of employees (code DTWM)
hh	world GDP
ii	OPEC average
jj	industrial output
kk	final domestic demand
ll	GDP deflator
nn	excluding MTIC-related activity
pp	percentage change on a year earlier
qq	budget deficit as percentage of GDP
rr	employee jobs (code BCAJ)
ss	financial year end
tt	external trade balance

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