

Level: INTRODUCTORY

Analysing Economic Statistics

Venue: Institute of Financial Services - Malta

Objectives

The programme focuses on the contents and relevance of key economic statistics published by the National Statistics Office, Eurostat and the European Central Bank. The purpose of the course is to familiarise participants with economic data and offer practical training on how to extract meaningful information. Explanations are supplemented by theoretical underpinnings where necessary.

Who should attend?

- Employees within the financial services dealing with economic data
- Teachers / students of business related subjects
- Graduates
- Financial journalists
- Professionals and Individuals who want to better their understanding of the Financial Press

Trainer



Malcolm Bray

Mr. Malcolm Bray has over ten years lecturing and professional training experience in the areas of economics and data analysis. He graduated in Economics and Banking & Finance from the University of Malta and read for a MSc in Economics at the University of York (UK). His main areas of interest are macroeconomic analysis and business intelligence.

Mr. Bray joined the Central Bank of Malta in 1999. He worked as senior economist, where his main responsibilities included drafting economic reports, building econometric models and producing forecasts. In 2009 he was appointed as manager within the financial stability department, responsible for the surveillance and assessment of systemic risks. Mr. Bray has been a member of a number of working groups within the European System of Central Banks. He is currently a member of the Analysis Working Group which reports to the European Systemic Risk Board.

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Part 1 – focuses on the following economic statistics:

- ⇒ Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- ⇒ Prices
- ⇒ Labour Market
- ⇒ Public Finances
- ⇒ Yield Curves

*13th January 2012
(5.00pm – 7.30pm)*

Part 2 – reviews important data characteristics and concepts including:

- ⇒ Trends and cycles
- ⇒ Structural breaks
- ⇒ Seasonality
- ⇒ Indicators
- ⇒ Sample versus Population
- ⇒ Data revisions
- ⇒ Benchmarks
- ⇒ Outliers
- ⇒ Metadata
- ⇒ Forecasts

*16th January 2012
(5.00pm – 7.30pm)*

Part 3 – explains the most appropriate data manipulation techniques including:

- ⇒ Growth rates
- ⇒ Contribution to growth
- ⇒ Annualised growth
- ⇒ Arithmetic and moving averages
- ⇒ Weighting
- ⇒ Logarithmic scales
- ⇒ Deflators
- ⇒ Base years / indices
- ⇒ Seasonal adjustment
- ⇒ Purchasing Power Standards

*17th January 2012
(5.00pm – 7.30pm)*

Other Information

- ⇒ Certificates of attendance issued to participants
- ⇒ **Venue: Institute of Financial Services – Malta
60, G'Mangia Hill,
Pieta PTA 1316**



- ⇒ This programme consists of three sessions of 2.5 hours each, offering an overview of the key economic statistics; explaining their particular characteristics whilst offering insight as to the best suited techniques to analyse such data series.
- ⇒ Coffee Breaks included

ifs Malta is an active member of the **MFSA ECC (Education Consultative Council)** – which is a forum composed of 8 other training institutions. This group meets to debate, coordinate and share information on matters relating to training and development for employees within the local financial industry. ***This programme forms part of the proposed training addressed to the local financial industry practitioners.***

The fee for this course is **€ 175 per participant**. Registration form together with payment are to be submitted to the Administration Secretary on the ***ifs*** address hereunder:

**Attn: Administration Secretary
ifs Malta
60, G'Mangia Hill,
Pieta PTA 1316**

Analysing Economic Statistics

Registration Form

Programme Fee: **€ 175** per participant

** Please write out cheques payable to the Institute of Financial Services – Malta.*

Registrant Name & Surname: _____

Organisation: _____

Registrant Job Role: _____

Billing Address: _____

Contact No.: _____ E-mail: _____

Payment Details:

- Cash
- Cheque

Cheque No: _____ Bank: _____

Drawn on: _____ / _____ / _____

Registration entitles you to become a full registered local member of the Institute of Financial Services – Malta. This membership is free of charge and is valid for a maximum period of 12 months, after which the Committee will evaluate and consider whether to extend such membership for another fixed period or for an indefinite period of time. Renewal of membership is valid for an additional period of twelve months. The local membership is subject to review by the Committee at any time.

Data Protection Notice: The Institute of Financial Services (Malta), known as “ifs Malta”, holds and processes your personal data in order to give you the full benefits of being a student; for administrative purposes and to inform you for any future ifs events, services and other related information. In instances where employers sponsor their employees for all or parts of the course/s, ifs is bound to inform such employers upon the performance and results of their relevant employees if any assessments parts are carried out. ifs Malta does not sell or give your personal data to any other third party. In the eventuality that ifs would need to give any personal data to a third party, you will on a case by case basis, be duly informed of this and you will also be given the opportunity to refuse that such data is given. You have the right to request access to, and rectification of, the personal data concerning you that is held by the ifs.