

Gateway work – Economics

Microeconomics

Microeconomics is the study of individuals and firms and the decision that they make and what impact this will have on wider society and other firms.

E-travel

Due to increasing concerns about climate change, many consumers and firms are moving the production and purchase of electric or e-vehicles including e-cars, e-scooters and e-bikes. This will have many benefits for a range of industries, but will also cause significant challenges and difficulties for others

Why has there been a growth in e-bike sales during lockdown?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-57279844>

How soon will electric cars take over the automobile market? Why might it be sooner than we think?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-57253947>

Why is it the end of the road for petrol stations?

What role can the petrol station buildings/staff play in the future?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-57416829>

What are the problems with e-scooters?

How are councils and government trying to overcome this?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-birmingham-57430956>

Macroeconomics

Macroeconomics is the study of the UK economy and the governments management of it as well and its position within the global economy.

The UK Economy

The UK economy, as well as other economies around the world have been badly affected by the credit crunch of 2008 and the recent pandemic. As a result of these economic shocks we have seen, at times, high levels of unemployment, rising inflation, shrinking of the economy (GDP) and higher prices for certain imports affecting the UK's balance of payments. These areas form the basis of the UK governments macroeconomic objectives.

<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/speech/2008/the-credit-crunch-and-the-uk-economy.pdf?la=en&hash=C551C87DC09F31FA1E057F046766C0E65EC9A8CE>

How has unemployment been affected?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-54520521>

What about economic growth during the 2008 credit crunch?

<https://www.macrotrends.net/countries/GBR/united-kingdom/gdp-growth-rate>

How has the UK economy performed in terms of inflation from 2000 - 2021?

The target rate for inflation in the UK is 2% (plus or minus 1%). What periods in the last 20 years did the economy perform poorly? What was happening at this time?

<https://www.rateinflation.com/inflation-rate/uk-historical-inflation-rate/>

Describe the main changes of the balance of payment recently. When did the UK last trade in a surplus?

<https://tradingeconomics.com/united-kingdom/balance-of-trade>