

GDP



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Why did the size of the U.S. economy increase by 3 percent on one day in mid-2013--or Ghana's balloon by 60 percent overnight in 2010? Why did the U.K. financial industry show its fastest expansion ever at the end of 2008--just as the world's financial system went into meltdown? And why was Greece's chief statistician charged with treason in 2013 for apparently doing nothing more than trying to accurately report the size of his country's economy? The answers to all these questions lie in the way we define and measure national economies around the world: Gross Domestic Product. This entertaining and informative book tells the story of GDP, making sense of a statistic that appears constantly in the news, business, and politics, and that seems to rule our lives--but that hardly anyone actually understands.

Diane Coyle traces the history of this artificial, abstract, complex, but exceedingly important statistic from its eighteenth- and nineteenth-century precursors through its invention in the 1940s and its postwar golden age, and then through the Great Crash up to today. The reader learns why this standard measure of the size of a country's economy was invented, how it has changed over the decades, and what its strengths and weaknesses are. The book explains why even small changes in GDP can decide elections, influence major political decisions, and determine whether countries can keep borrowing or be thrown into recession. The book ends by making the case that GDP was a good measure for the twentieth century but is increasingly inappropriate for a twenty-first-century economy driven by innovation, services, and intangible goods.

作者介绍:

Diane Coyle, OBE (born February 1961), is a freelance economist and a former advisor to the UK Treasury. She is a member of the UK Competition Commission and is acting Chairman of the BBC Trust, the governing body of the British Broadcasting Corporation. From September 2014 she will be a part-time professor at the University of Manchester

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评论

虽然不少topics都会是持久嘴炮战，但还是挺有助于多面思考的。

GDP简史，普及经济学常识

真·杂志文章

作者没有什么节操，但课题很重要。GDP可和当代民主制度并列，堪称20世纪最伟大的发明之一。

作为入门书是可以的，但是很多话题现在都像是炒冷饭，没什么新东西

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书评

GDP究竟是什么？它是如何产生的？又是如何被确定为国际通行的经济衡量指标的？它好在哪儿？又坏在哪儿？它会对企业和普通老百姓产生什么样的影响？英国经济学巨擘、BBC副主席黛安娜·科伊尔力透纸背之作《极简GDP史》让你一天读完300年发展史，透彻洞悉GDP如何深度影响每个人的...

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