

Discussion 1

Econ 100B, Summer 25 (Session 2)

1. GDP as a measure

Read the following World Finance article, and then answer the following questions in your post:

- (a) In your own words, summarize the key points of the article.
- (b) GDP is often viewed as a “summary statistic” for what? What does it actually measure? What are some things that GDP does not capture?
- (c) Despite the indicators you mentioned *not* captured by GDP, do you think there is still a correlation between GDP and happiness/well-being? Is it a strong correlation?
- (d) Often times, even a small decline in GDP quarter-over-quarter is enough to make headline news. Do you think that declines in GDP should be a cause for concern? At what point does it become concerning?
 - i. Similarly, given what you know about the world as it stands now, how important do you think GDP is? Are there other, potentially more pressing, concerns other than continued growth quarter-over-quarter?

2. Please also respond to at least one other student’s post.