

# Press Release

Zurich, 30 June 2020, 9a.m.

## KOF Economic Barometer: First Positive Signals

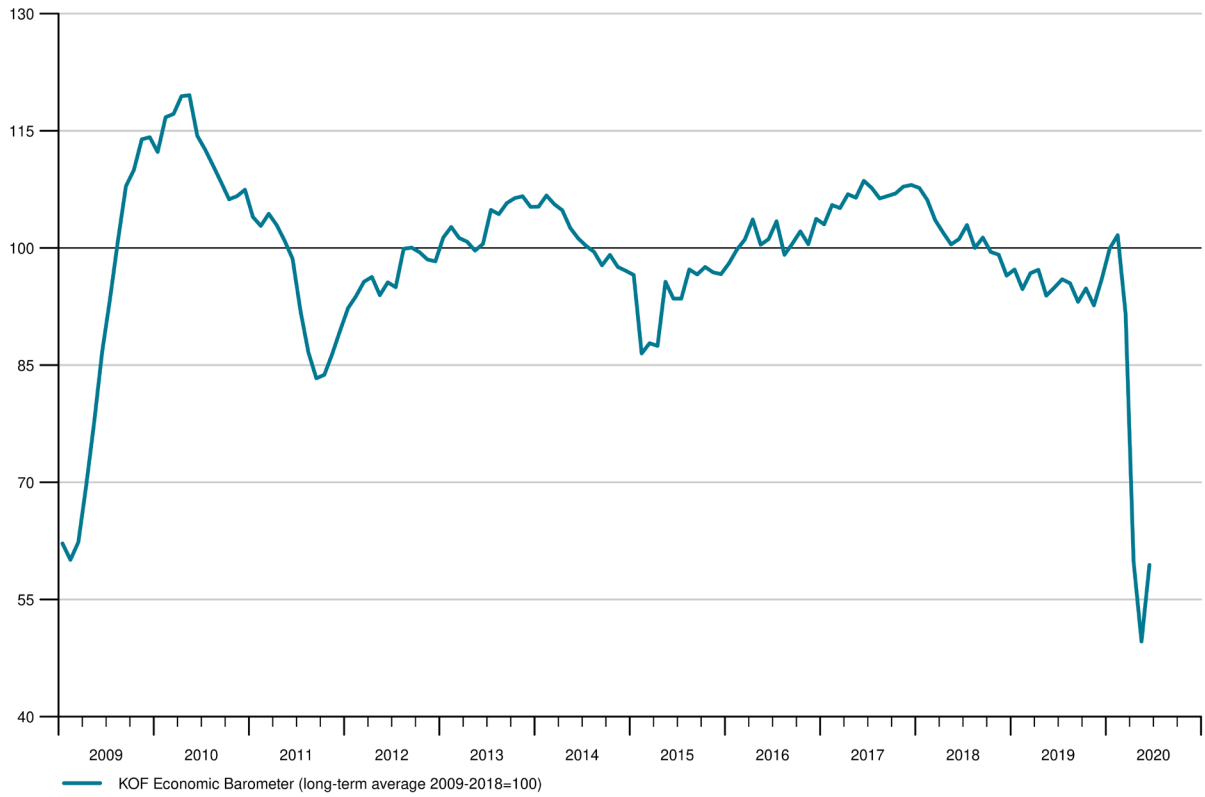
**The KOF Economic Barometer increases significantly in June. After the sharp declines of the last three months, the barometer is thus rising again for the first time. However, with a value comparable to April, the barometer is still considerably below its long-term average. As a result, the prospects of the Swiss economy are very subdued, but brightening up somewhat compared to the previous months.**

The KOF Economic Barometer rises by 9.8 points in June, from 49.6 (revised from 53.2) to 59.4. The negative tendencies of the indicator groups of the individual sectors, which had led to a halving of the barometer value since the beginning of the year, now seem to have been halted. The outlook for the manufacturing sector remains at a very low level, but is brightening up the strongest compared to the other sectors. Also starting from a very low level, the sets of indicators from other services and construction are sending slightly more positive signals. By contrast, the prospects for the hospitality industry and those of consumers remain bleak.

Within the manufacturing sector, all sub-indicators point in an upward direction. The outlook for the metal industry, which has slumped sharply in previous months, is now brightening up most strongly compared to other sectors. In a comparable manner, indicators from the mechanical engineering industry, the wood, glass, stone and earth industry, the electrical industry and the textile and clothing industry are sending a somewhat more positive signal. By contrast, the outlook for the chemical, pharmaceutical and plastics industry remains virtually unchanged.

The incipient trend reversal, starting from a historically low level, within the good producing sector (manufacturing and construction) is mainly due to indicators for the assessment of order backlogs, production and the overall business situation. The assessment of intermediate goods also contributes to the somewhat brighter development of the good producing sector.

### KOF Economic Barometer

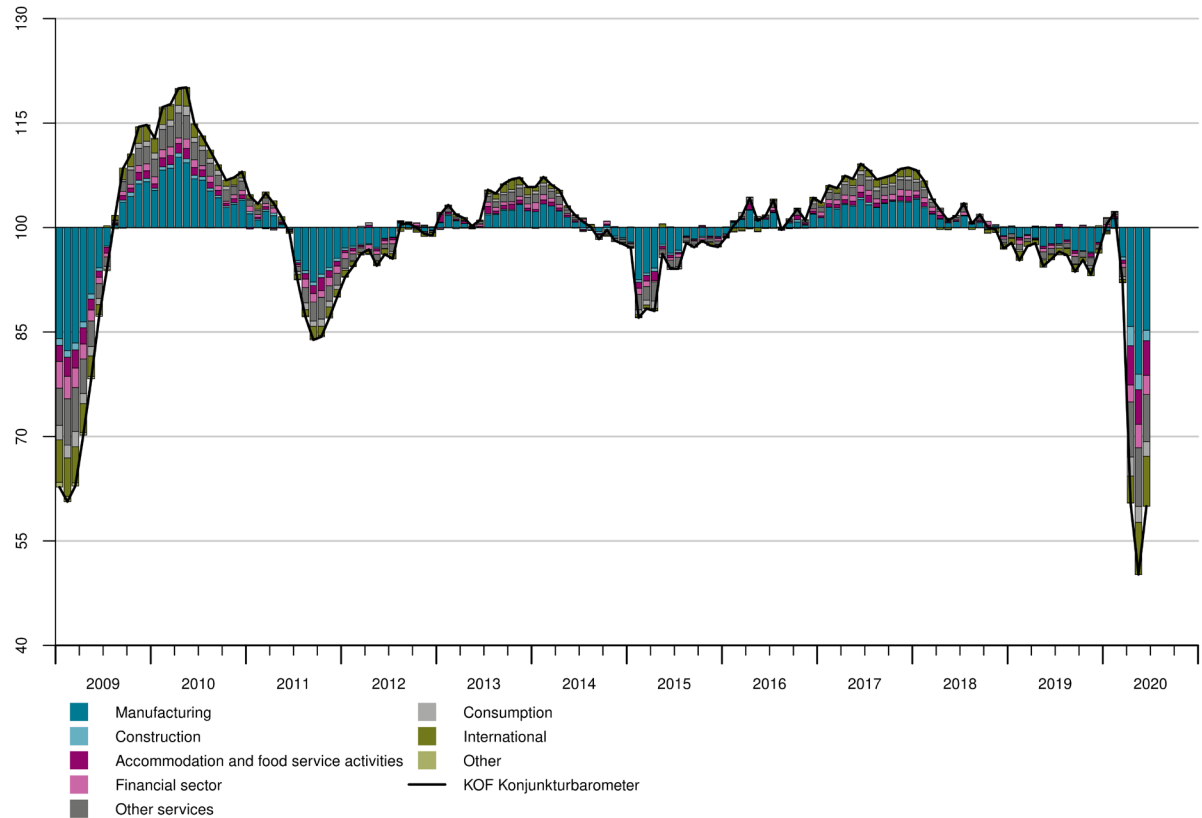


Month	Current level	Level previous month
Jun 2019	94.9	94.9
Jul 2019	96	96
Aug 2019	95.5	95.4
Sep 2019	93.1	93.1
Oct 2019	94.8	94.8
Nov 2019	92.6	92.6
Dec 2019	96.1	96.1
Jan 2020	100	100
Feb 2020	101.6	101.7
Mar 2020	91.5	91.5
Apr 2020	59.9	59.7
May 2020	49.6	53.2
<b>Jun 2020</b>	<b>59.4</b>	

### KOF Economic Barometer and Reference Series



### Contribution of variable groups to the KOF Economic Barometer



Deviations of the variable groups from the long-term group mean, which is standardized at 100. The variables included in the KOF Economic Barometer are divided into groups. The group values are calculated from the weighted group totals calculated with the individual variable weights. Example: A group value of 102.0 means that the weighted group total deviates upwards by 2.0 from the group average. A contribution of 98.0 means that the weighted group total deviates downwards by -2.0 from the group average. The total deviations of all groups from their respective group average plus 100 results in the value of the KOF Economic Barometer.

**More detailed information regarding the KOF Economic Barometer:**

[www.kof.ethz.ch/en/forecasts-and-indicators/indicators/kof-economic-barometer.html/](http://www.kof.ethz.ch/en/forecasts-and-indicators/indicators/kof-economic-barometer.html/)

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