

Press Release

Zurich, 29 October 2021, 9:00 a.m.

KOF Economic Barometer: Recovery continues

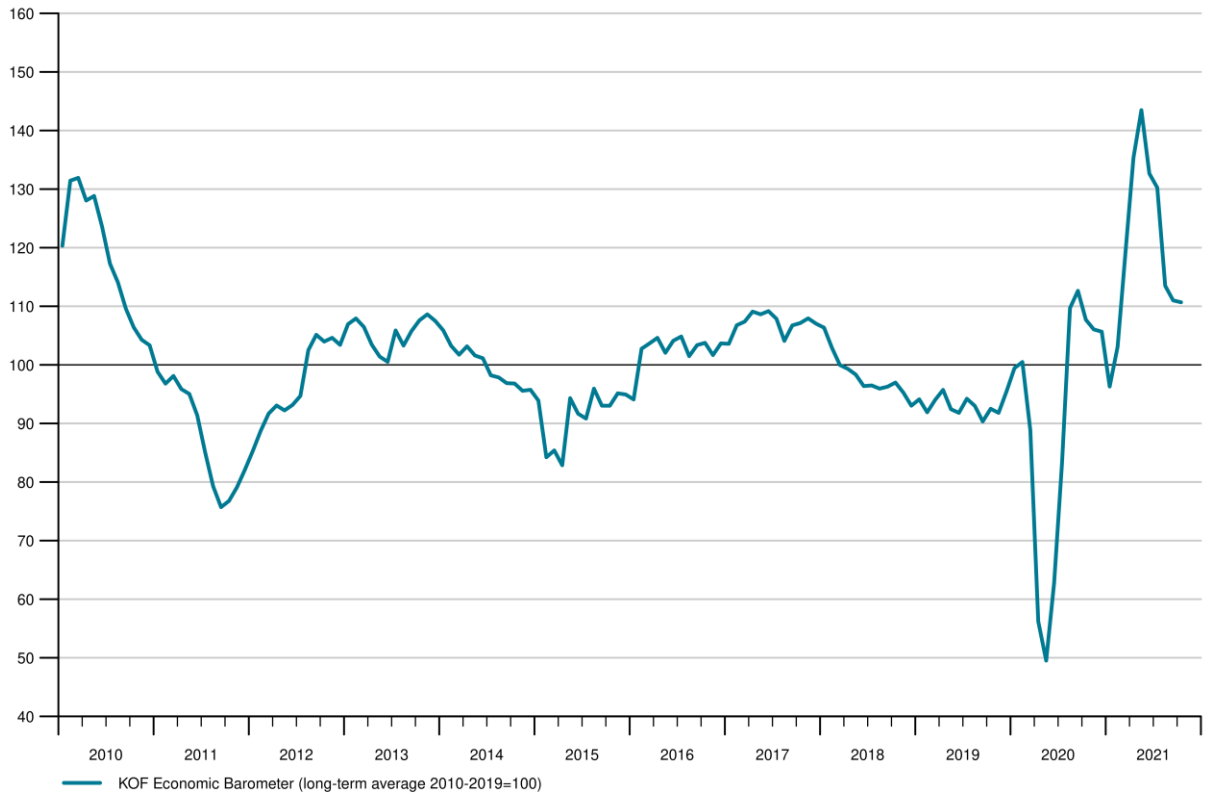
The KOF Economic Barometer remains virtually unchanged in October. After repeated weakenings from a historically high level in the summer of this year, the Barometer has stabilised for the time being at 110.7 points. It is thus once again well above its long-term average. The prospects for the Swiss economy until the end of 2021 remain positive, given that the containment of the virus continues.

The KOF Economic Barometer stands at 110.7 points in October, 0.3 points lower than in September (revised from 110.6 to 111.0 points). This month, the development of the barometer is driven by opposing forces in the movements of the underlying indicator bundles. Indicator bundles of the food and beverage industry have improved clearly and are contrasted by declines in indicator bundles of manufacturing, the economic sector other services, foreign demand and the financial and insurance services, resulting in an almost unchanged overall movement.

In the goods producing sector (manufacturing and construction) the indicators for almost all sub-sectors of business activity are weakening. In particular, the assessment of the general business situation, the employment outlook and the assessment of order backlog is gloomier. By contrast, the assessment of the situation for intermediate goods and inventories remains virtually unchanged.

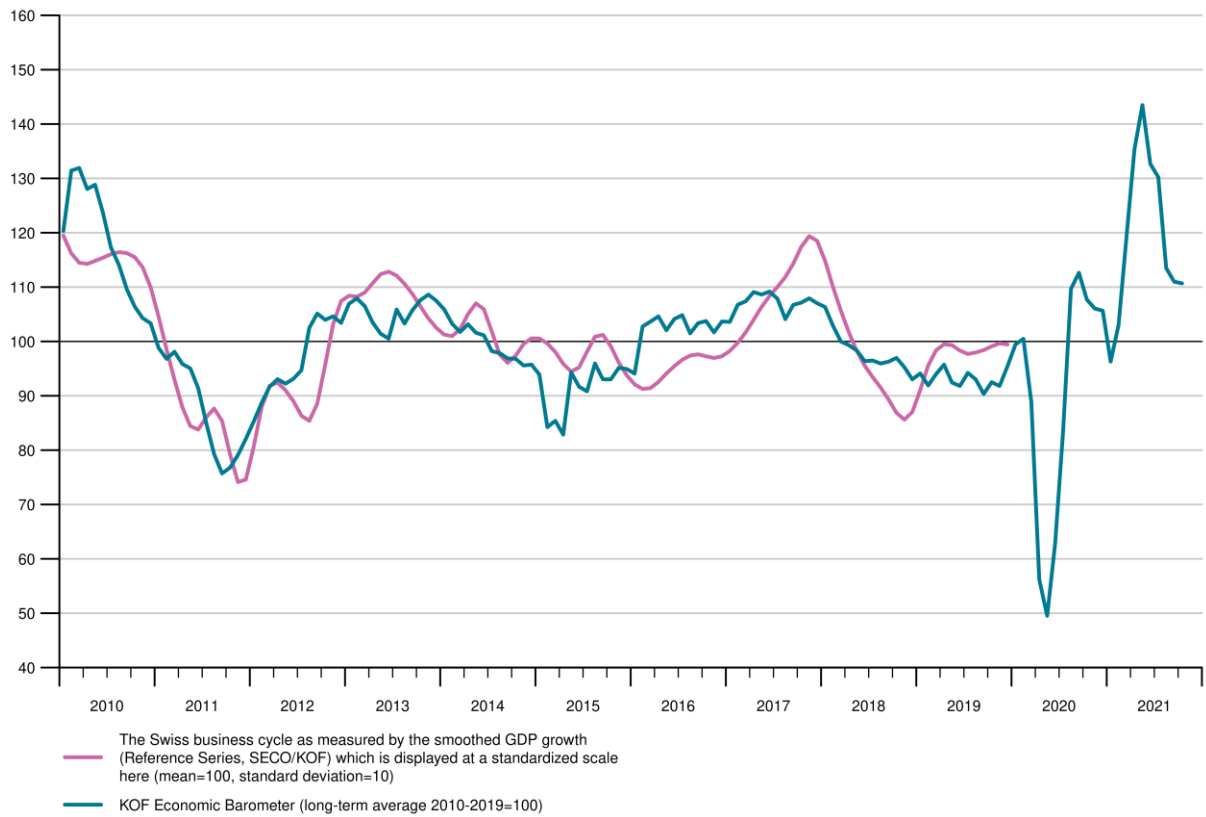
Even though above-average values continue to be achieved, within the manufacturing sector, almost all the industries represented in the barometer are weakening. This is particularly pronounced in the mechanical engineering and vehicle manufacturing sector, followed by the chemicals, pharmaceuticals and plastics sector and the textile industry. By contrast, indicators from the paper and printing sector point to a slight improvement.

KOF Economic Barometer

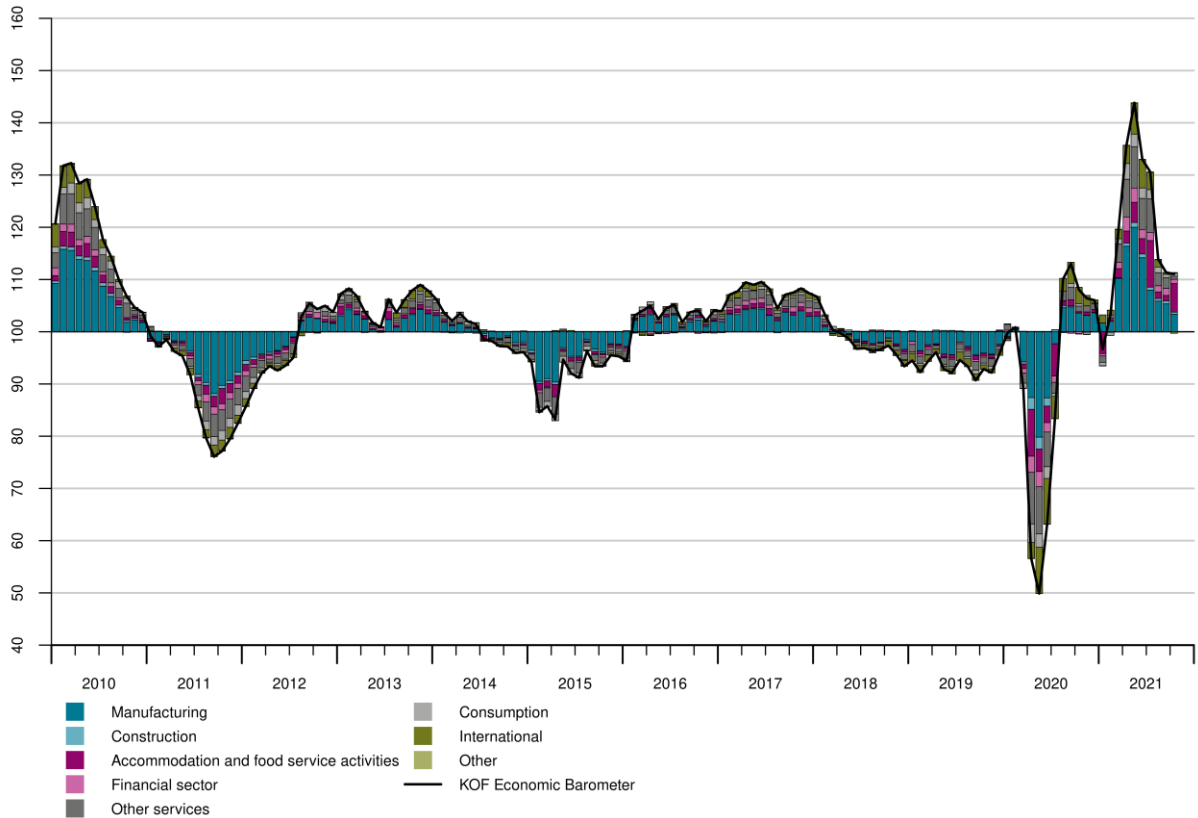


Month	Current level	Level previous month
Oct 2020	107.7	107.7
Nov 2020	106.0	106.0
Dec 2020	105.7	105.7
Jan 2021	96.3	96.3
Feb 2021	103.1	103.1
Mar 2021	119.3	119.4
Apr 2021	135.4	135.4
May 2021	143.5	143.6
Jun 2021	132.7	132.7
Jul 2021	130.2	130.2
Aug 2021	113.5	113.5
Sep 2021	111.0	110.6
Oct 2021	110.7	

KOF Economic Barometer and Reference Series



Contribution of variable groups to the KOF Economic Barometer



This graph shows the 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 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 result in the value of the KOF Economic Barometer.

Detailed information regarding the KOF Economic Barometer:

www.kof.ethz.ch/en/forecasts-and-indicators/indicators/kof-economic-barometer.html/

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