

Press Release

Zurich, 28 January 2022, 9 a.m.

KOF Economic Barometer: Outlook remains favourable

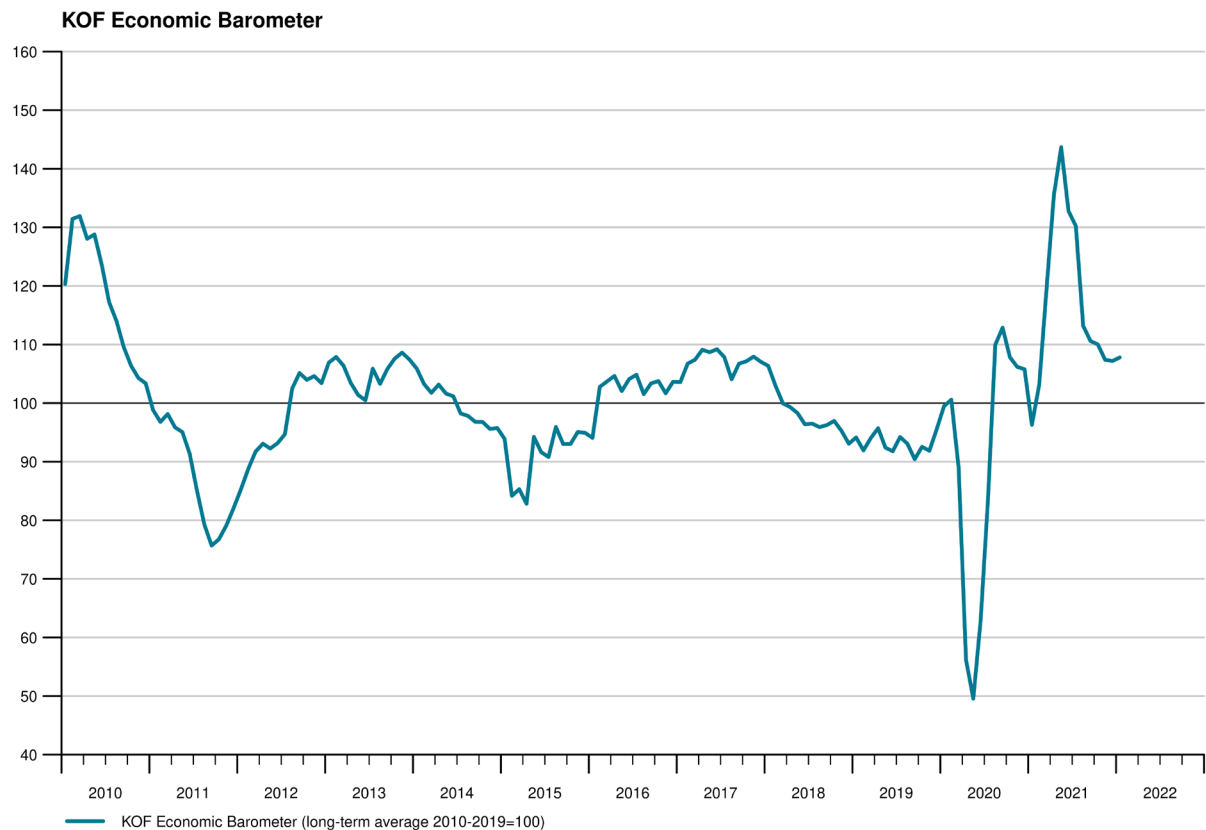
The KOF Economic Barometer moved only very little in January. It increased slightly again after an even smaller decline in the previous month. This means that the barometer value has hardly changed since November. Presently, the economic outlook is above average, although the omicron wave could still have a negative impact.

The KOF Economic Barometer rises by 0.6 points to 107.8 in January from 107.2 in the previous month (revised from 107.0 in the December release). The outlook continues to be above average and significantly better than in January 2021. However, the current level of the economic barometer does not reach the high values from spring and summer of last year.

The various subgroups of the barometer are developing unevenly. The outlook has improved for consumer spending and for financial and insurance service providers. The outlook also tends to brighten for the accommodation and food service activities, although further development in this sector in particular is likely to be subject to the intensity and duration of the omicron wave. The bundles of indicators for the service sectors, manufacturing and foreign demand suggest a less positive development than in the previous month.

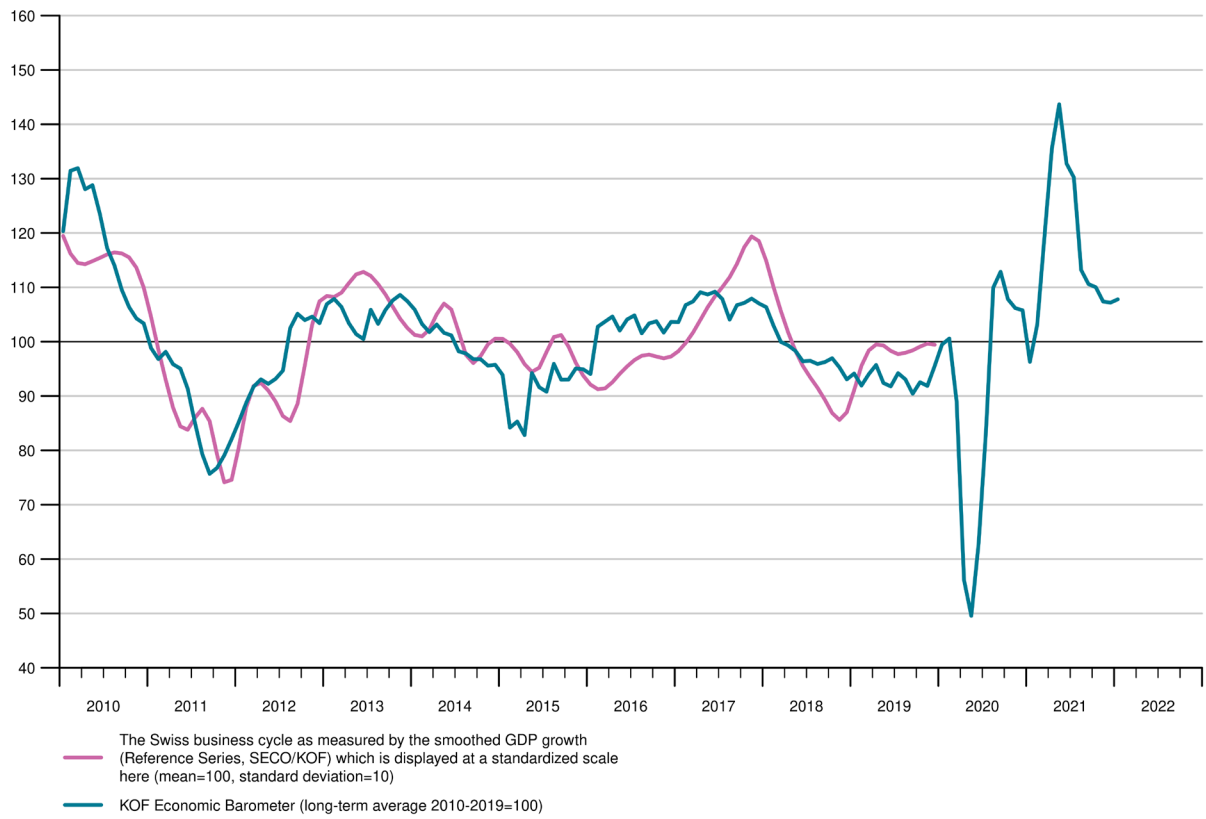
In the goods production sector (manufacturing and construction), indicators for almost all sub-aspects of business activity are weakening, especially for profit development, production activity and capacity utilisation. This broad downward movement is countered by the indicators for the competitive situation and employment development.

Within manufacturing, the indicators for the food, beverages and tobacco sector, the wood, glass, stone and earth sector and for manufactures of machinery and equipment point to a less dynamic development. The outlook for the chemicals, pharmaceuticals and plastics sector has hardly changed.

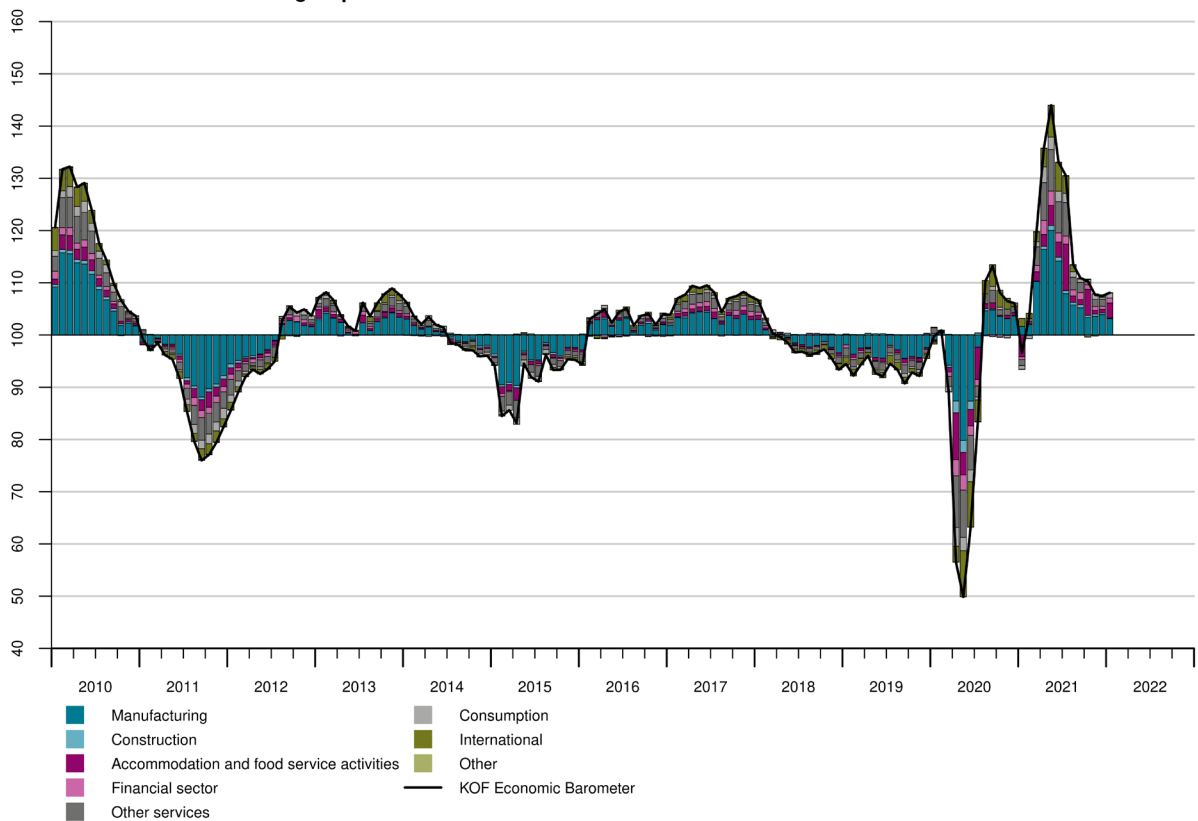


Month	Current level	Level previous month
Jan 2021	96.3	96.3
Feb 2021	103.1	103.1
Mar 2021	119.5	119.4
Apr 2021	135.5	135.4
May 2021	143.7	143.6
Jun 2021	132.8	132.7
Jul 2021	130.2	130.2
Aug 2021	113.2	113.2
Sep 2021	110.6	110.6
Oct 2021	110.0	110.1
Nov 2021	107.4	107.5
Dec 2021	107.2	107.0
Jan 2022	107.8	

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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