

Press Release

Zurich, 30 May 2023, 9:00 a.m.

KOF Economic Barometer: Economic outlook continuous to darken

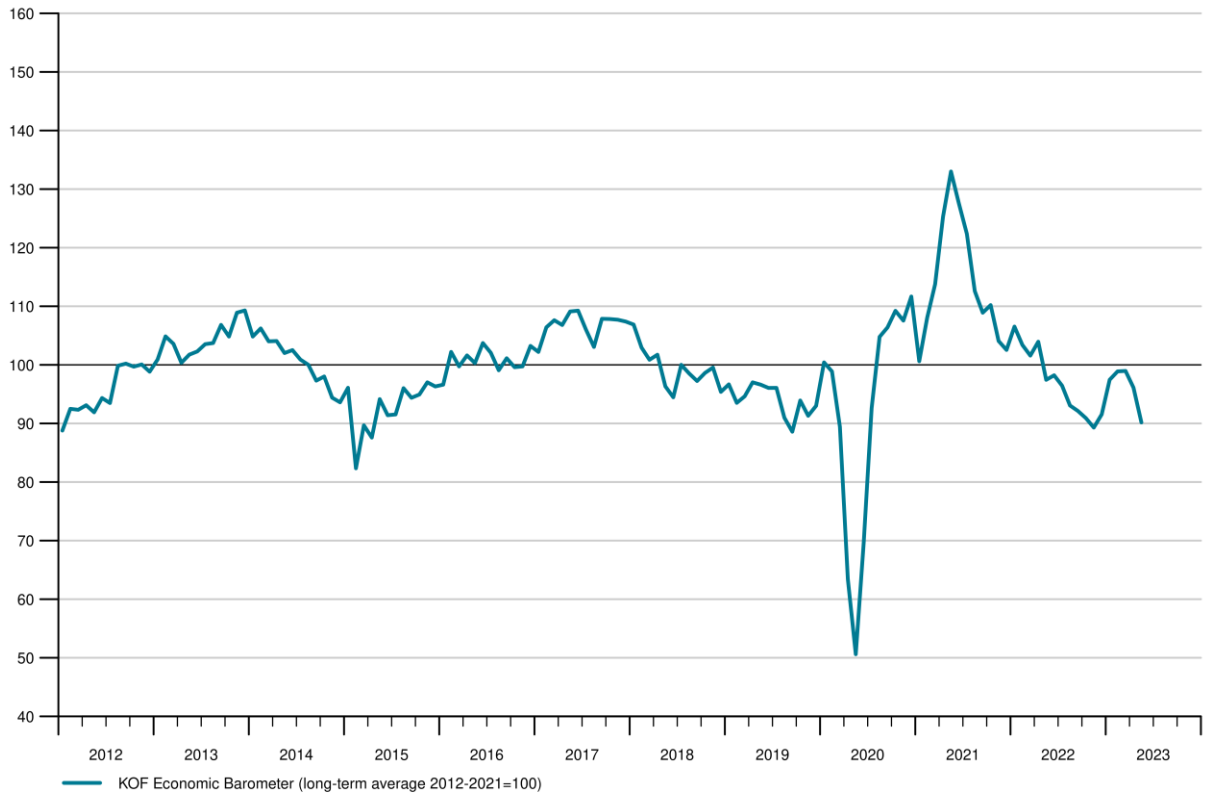
In May, the KOF Economic Barometer falls significantly and now stands at 90.2 points. This is the second time in a row that the barometer has fallen sharply. The outlook for the Swiss economy for the middle of 2023 is thus deteriorating further and remains at a below-average level.

The economic barometer stands at 90.2 points in May, 5.9 points lower than in April (revised from 96.4 to 96.1 points). The comparatively strong downward movement of the barometer is primarily driven by bundles of indicators from the manufacturing sector as well as by indicators covering financial and insurance services. Indicators covering the economic sector other services and foreign demand are also sending a negative signal. By contrast, indicators covering private consumption are slightly positive.

In the goods producing sector (manufacturing and construction), the picture is predominantly negative. The strongest negative drivers are indicators assessing the business situation and production barriers. Indicators assessing the order backlog and the competitive situation also make a negative contribution. Indicators assessing the production capacity situation made a slightly positive contribution.

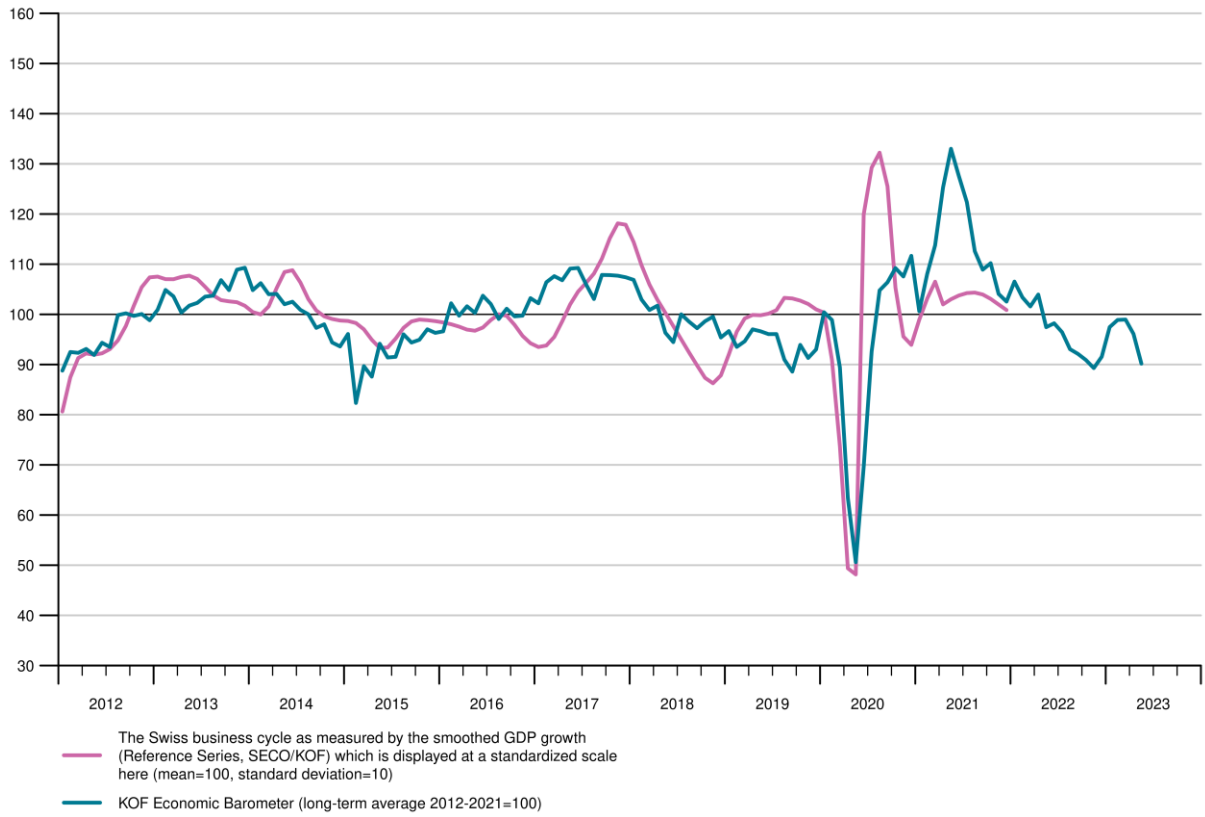
In the manufacturing sector, indicators for the machinery and vehicle manufacturing sector and for the wood and paper products sector are sending the strongest negative signal. Indicators covering the textile industry and the paper and printing sector send a weak negative signal.

KOF Economic Barometer

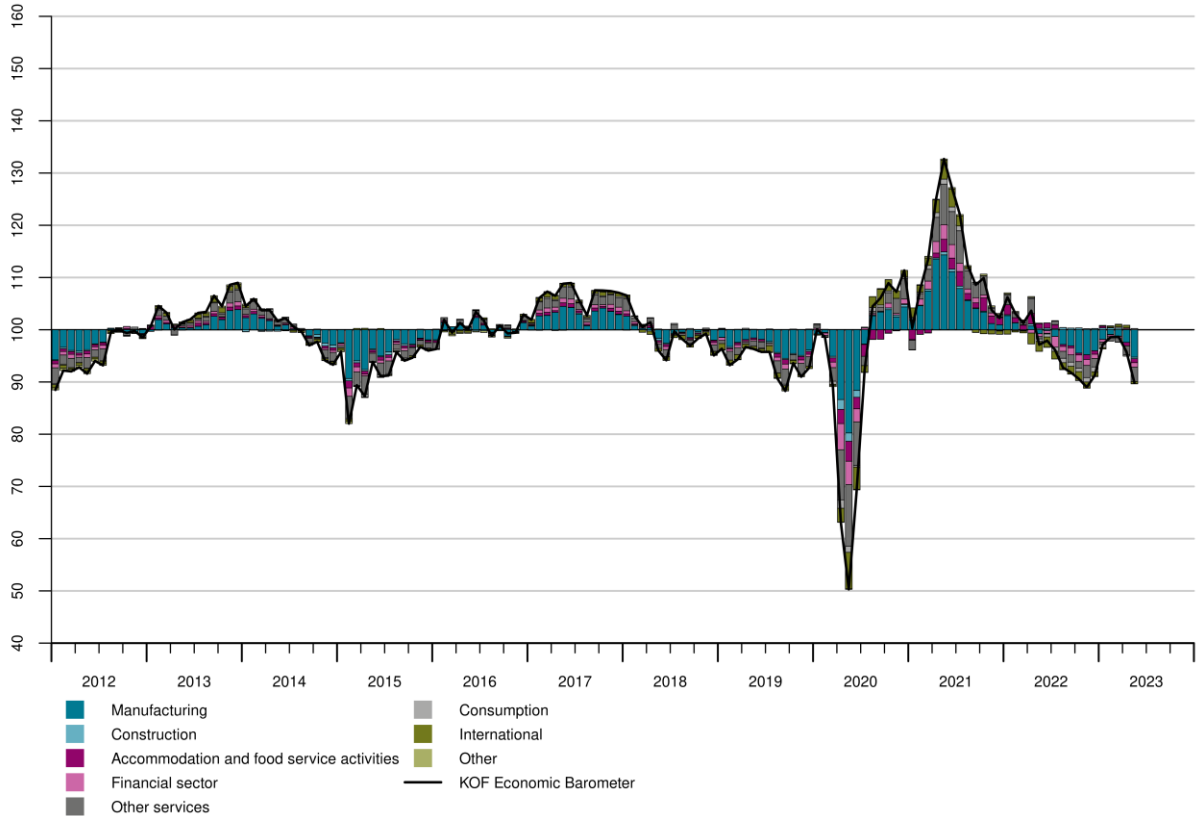


Month	Current level	Level previous month
May 2022	97.4	97.7
Jun 2022	98.2	98.3
Jul 2022	96.4	96.4
Aug 2022	93.1	93.1
Sep 2022	92.1	92.1
Oct 2022	90.9	90.9
Nov 2022	89.3	89.3
Dec 2022	91.6	91.5
Jan 2023	97.5	97.4
Feb 2023	98.9	98.9
Mar 2023	99.0	99.2
Apr 2023	96.1	96.4
May 2023	90.2	

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

Contact

Philipp Baumann | baumann@kof.ethz.ch

Mediendienste | Tel. +41 44 633 99 48 | kofcc@kof.ethz.ch