

Press Release

Zurich, 7 August 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Results of KOF Business Tendency Surveys, July 2017

Overall Positive Business Situation despite Setbacks

In July, the KOF Business Situation Indicator for the Swiss private economy declined slightly. However, given that the indicator had risen consecutively six times before, the overall business situation is still good. Since the beginning of the year, the challenging situation of the Swiss companies has eased off substantially. Enterprises have a more confident outlook on their future business development than at the beginning of the year. The Swiss economy is picking up speed.

Development by economic sector

Broken down by sector, the business situation in July was highly heterogeneous. The main winner is the hotel and catering industry which breathed a big sigh of relief. Wholesalers also reported a substantial improvement, while the business situation in the construction, project engineering and manufacturing industries hardly changed in July. In contrast, financial and insurance service providers as well as other service providers reported a continuation of their positive business situation despite a slight slowdown. Retailers seems to find it difficult to climb out of the trough and have recently been describing a less favourable business situation.

Business situation by region

From a regional perspective, the business situation in the main regions according to the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) also followed different developments. While the business situation in Ticino managed to catch up to some degree, the Lake Geneva region declined. The indicator rose both in Espace Mittelland and Eastern Switzerland, but went down in the Zurich region and in Central Switzerland. In North West Switzerland, the business situation remained unchanged.

The results of the current KOF Business Tendency Surveys of July 2017 are based on the answers of over 4,500 companies in industry, construction and the main service sectors. The response rate was approximately 56 per cent.

Detailed results from KOF Business Tendency Surveys can be found online via:

<https://www.kof.ethz.ch/en/news-and-events/media/press-releases/2017/08.html/> →

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