

Press Release

Zurich, 3 May 2016, 10.30 a.m.

Results of the KOF Business Tendency Surveys, April 2016

Companies' Business Situation More Relaxed

In April 2016, the Business Situation Indicator for the Swiss private economy has risen for the third consecutive time. Companies are gradually recovering from the faltering start to the year. However, the situation remains less favourable than before the suspension of the Swiss franc's minimum exchange rate at the beginning of 2015. Significant change is not expected in the coming six months. The Swiss economy is following a slow path to recovery.

Business situation by region

The Business Situation Indicator has risen in most regions. In Central Switzerland, the Zurich region and Espace Mittelland, the favourable business situation has taken another significant step forward. Ticino also caught up to some degree. While the situation in East Switzerland has hardly changed, North West Switzerland and the Lake Geneva region have suffered setbacks.

Development by economic sector

In April, the business situation developments in the different industries were not homogeneous. Wholesalers, hotel and catering companies as well as manufacturers reported a better business situation than before. Among the manufacturers, export oriented companies recorded the biggest improvement. The construction industry, project engineering and the other service providers saw a slight deterioration in their situation. On top of this, the situation among financial service providers is now also less favourable than in the preceding month.

The current KOF Business Tendency Surveys of April 2016 were conducted among close to 4,500 companies in industry, construction and the main service sectors. The response rate was approximately 57 per cent.

Detailed results from KOF Business Tendency Surveys can be found here:

<http://kof.ethz.ch/en/media/press-releases/k/business-tendency-surveys/> →

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