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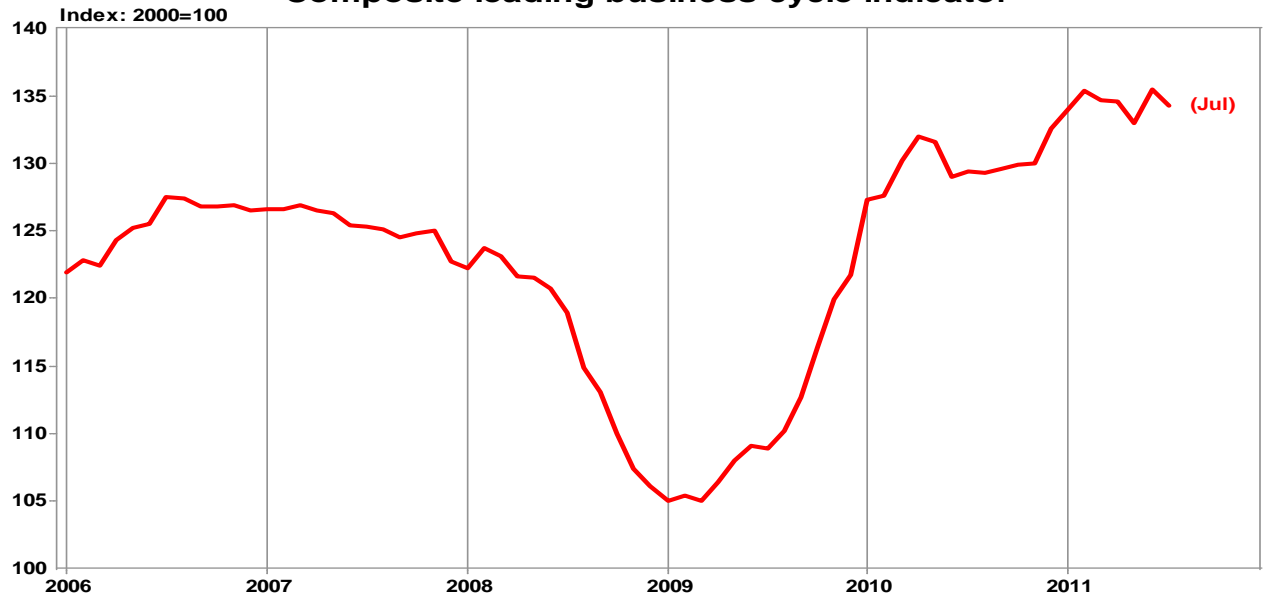
FOR RELEASE: 09:00 A.M., Tuesday, 20 September 2011

Composite business cycle indicators for South Africa

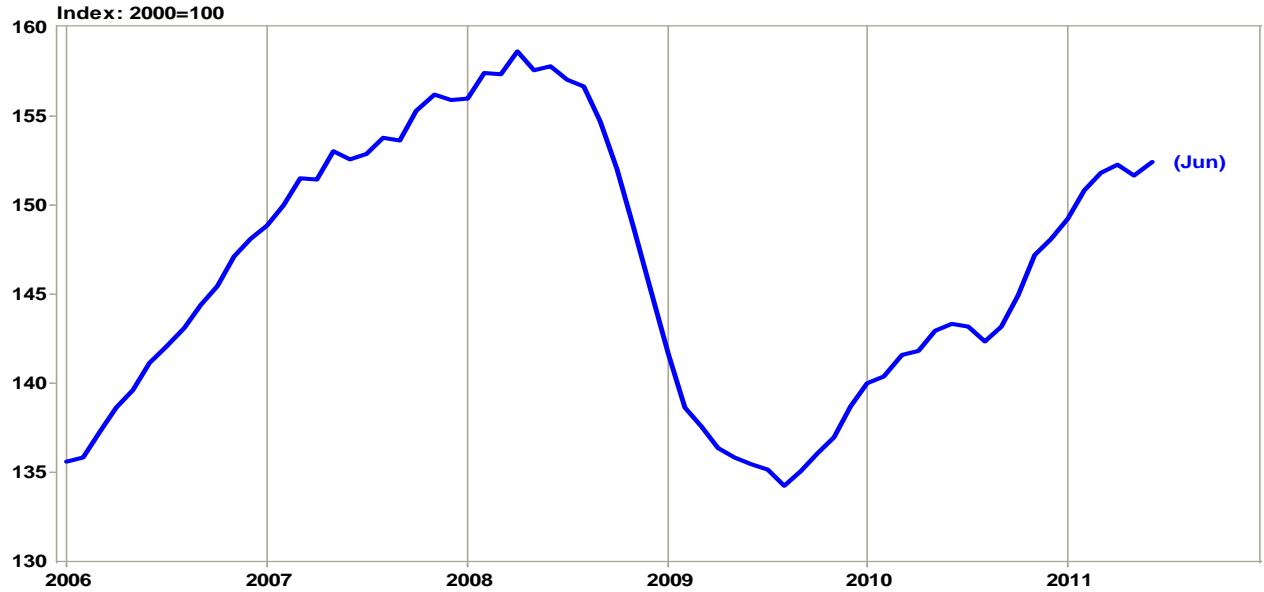
- The composite **leading** business cycle indicator *decreased* by 0,9 per cent in July 2011 compared with the preceding month. Six of the ten component time series that were available for July 2011 decreased, while four increased. The major negative contributors to the movement in the leading indicator in July were the twelve-month percentage change in job advertisement space and the business confidence index. The largest positive contribution came from the six-month smoothed growth rate in the real M1 money supply, followed by the prices of all classes of shares traded on the JSE.
- The composite **coincident** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0,5 per cent in June 2011 compared with the preceding month, resuming its upward trend.
- The composite **lagging** business cycle indicator *increased* by 1,5 per cent in June 2011 compared with the preceding month.

The next release is scheduled for 25 October 2011, at 09:00 A.M.

Composite leading business cycle indicator



Composite coincident business cycle indicator



Composite lagging business cycle indicator

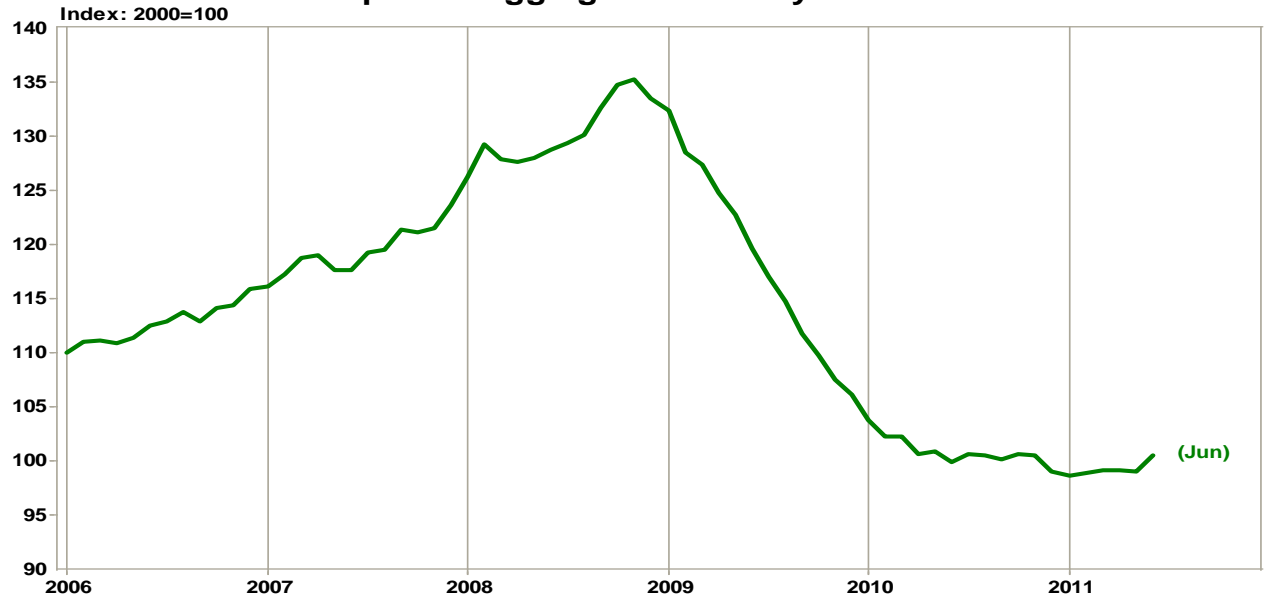


Table 1 Summary of the composite business cycle indicators

Indices: 2000 = 100	2010	2011						
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Leading indicator	132,6	134,0	135,4	134,7	134,6	133,1	135,5	134,3
<i>12-month percentage change</i>	8,9	5,3	6,0	3,5	1,9	1,1	5,0	3,8
Coincident indicator	148,1	149,2	150,8	151,8	152,3	151,7	152,5	-
<i>12-month percentage change</i>	6,8	6,6	7,4	7,2	7,4	6,2	6,4	-
Lagging indicator	99,0	98,7	98,8	99,1	99,2	99,0	100,5	-
<i>12-month percentage change</i>	-6,7	-4,8	-3,4	-3,1	-1,4	-1,9	0,6	-

Table 2 Component time series of the composite leading business cycle indicator and their contribution to the July 2011 data point:

Positive contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)
Real M1 (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Index of prices of all classes of shares traded on the JSE
Commodity price index for South Africa's main export commodities (US dollar based)
Interest rate spread: 10-year government bonds minus 91-day Treasury bills
Negative contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)
Job advertisements: The Sunday Times (percentage change over 12 months)
BER*: Business confidence index
BER*: Average hours worked per factory worker in manufacturing (half weight)
Number of new passenger vehicles sold: (percentage change over 12 months)
BER*: Volume of orders in manufacturing (half weight)
Composite leading business cycle indicator of South Africa's major trading-partner countries (percentage change over 12 months)

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