



## South African Reserve Bank

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### **Composite business cycle indicators for South Africa**

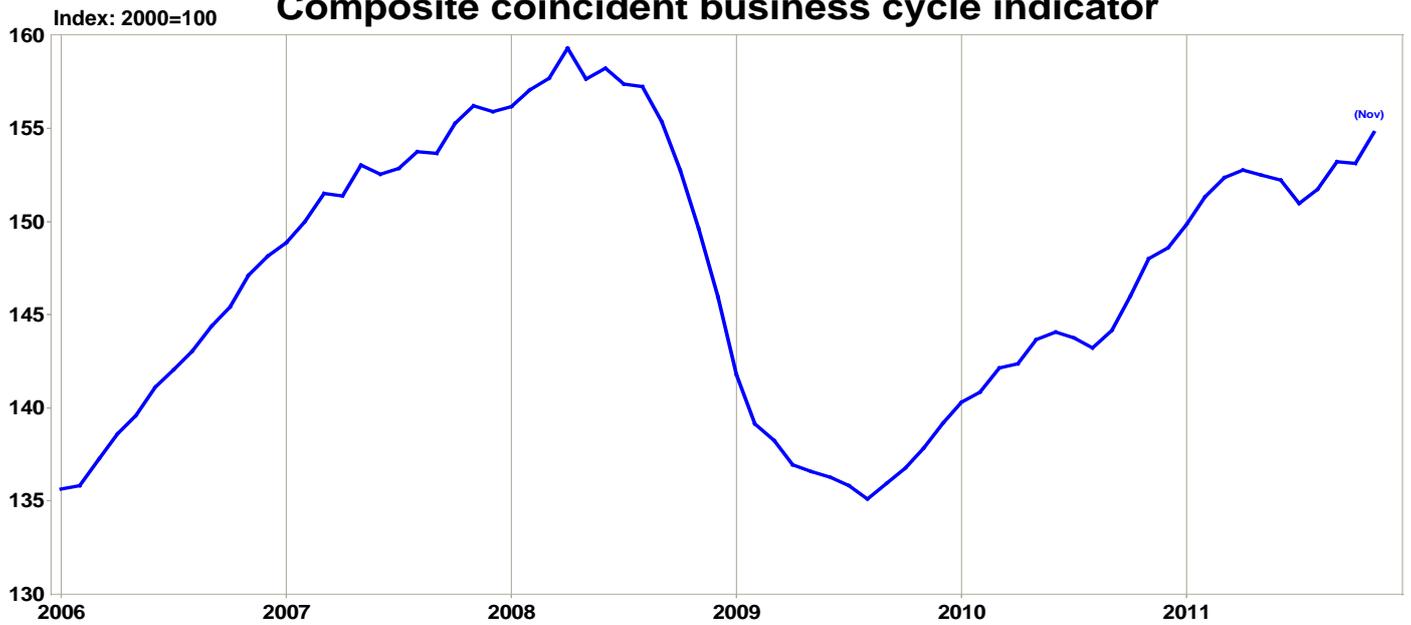
- The composite **leading** business cycle indicator *decreased* by 0,4 per cent in December 2011 compared with the preceding month. Decreases recorded in four of the ten component time series outweighed the increases recorded in the remaining six that were available for December 2011. The major negative contributors to the movement in the leading indicator in December were the twelve-month percentage change in job advertisement space and the twelve-month percentage change in the composite leading business cycle indicator of South Africa's major trading-partner countries. The largest positive contribution came from the number of residential building plans approved, followed by the twelve-month percentage change in the number of passenger vehicles sold.
- The composite **coincident** business cycle indicator *increased* by 1,1 per cent in November 2011 compared with the preceding month.
- The composite **lagging** business cycle indicator remained unchanged in November 2011.

**The next release is scheduled for 20 March 2012, at 09:00 A.M.**

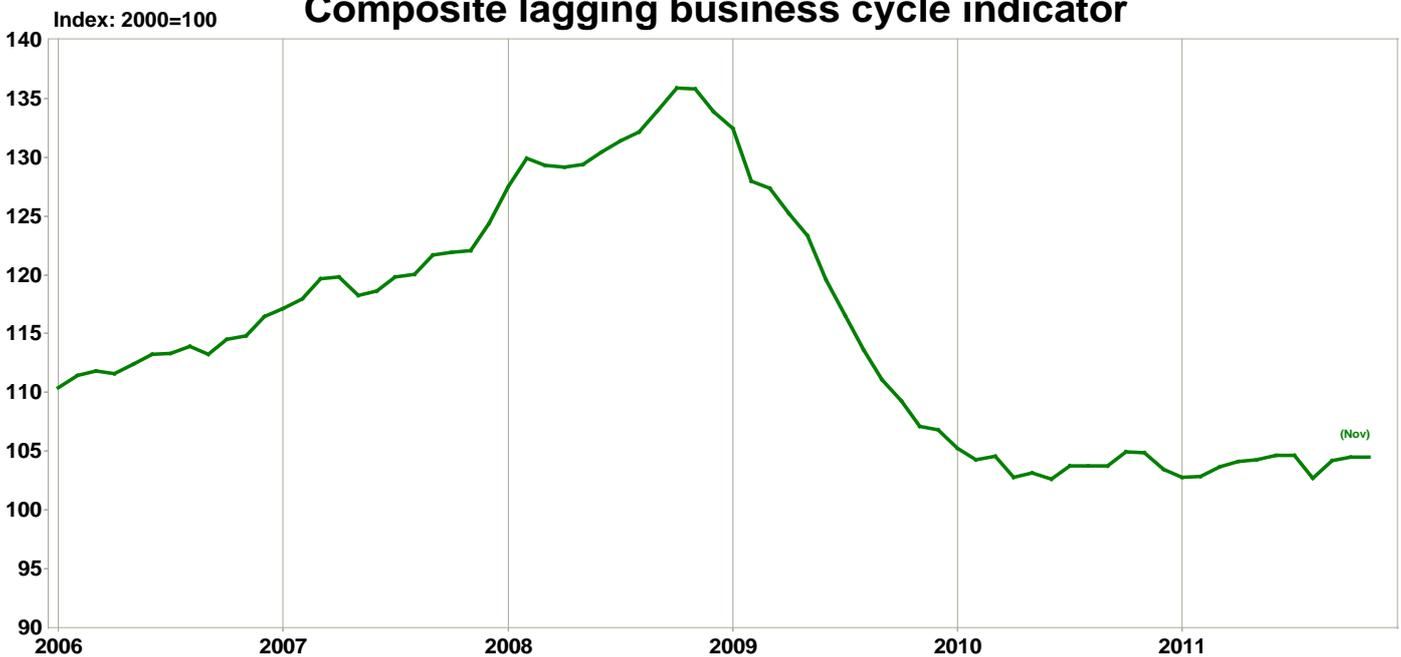
## Composite leading business cycle indicator



## Composite coincident business cycle indicator



## Composite lagging business cycle indicator



**Table 1 Summary of the composite business cycle indicators**

Indices: 2000 = 100	2011							
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Leading indicator	133.0	135.1	133.4	130.9	131.2	131.6	132.6	132.1
<i>12-month percentage change</i>	1.4	4.2	2.9	0.8	1.0	1.5	2.3	0.2
Coincident indicator	152.5	152.2	151.0	151.7	153.2	153.1	154.8	-
<i>12-month percentage change</i>	6.1	5.6	5.0	5.9	6.2	4.9	4.6	-
Lagging indicator	104.3	104.7	104.6	102.7	104.2	104.5	104.5	-
<i>12-month percentage change</i>	1.2	2.0	0.9	-1.0	0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-

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

<b>Positive contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)</b>
Number of building plans approved: Flats, townhouses & houses larger than 80m <sup>2</sup>
Number of new passenger vehicles sold: (percentage change over 12 months)
Real M1 (six month smoothed growth rate)
BER*: Volume of orders in manufacturing (half weight)
Interest rate spread: 10 year government bonds minus 91 day Treasury bills
Index of prices of all classes of shares traded on the JSE
<b>Negative contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)</b>
Job advertisements: The Sunday Times (percentage change over 12 months)
Composite leading business cycle indicator of South Africa's major trading-partner countries (percentage change over 12 months)
BER*: Average hours worked per factory worker in manufacturing (half weight)
Commodity price index for South Africa's main export commodities (US dollar based)

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