



South African Reserve Bank

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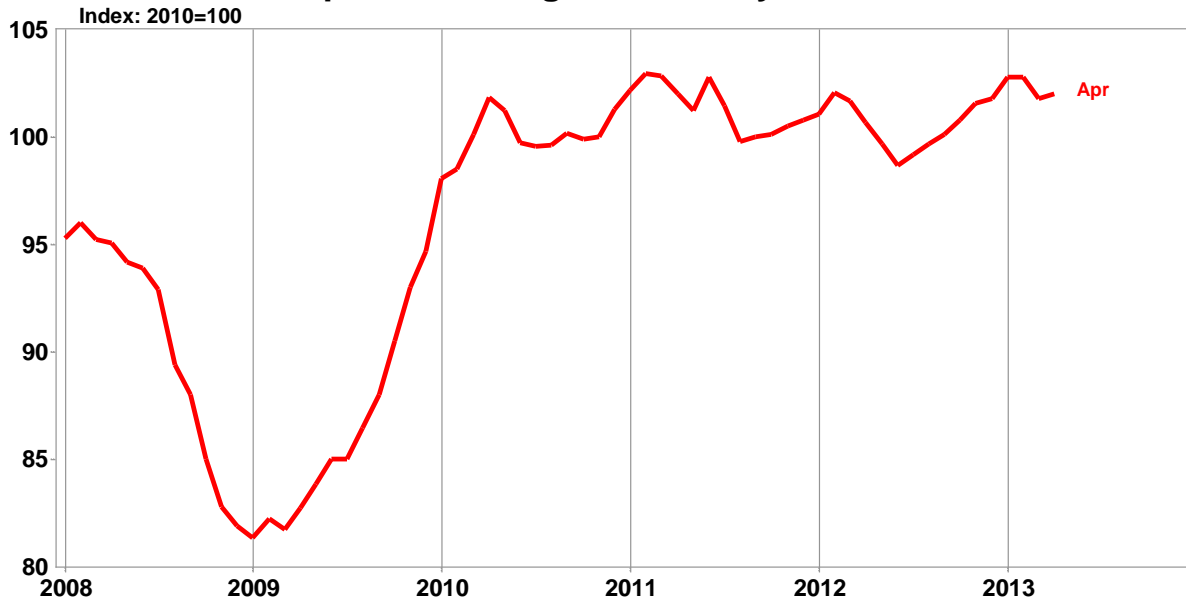
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Composite business cycle indicators for South Africa

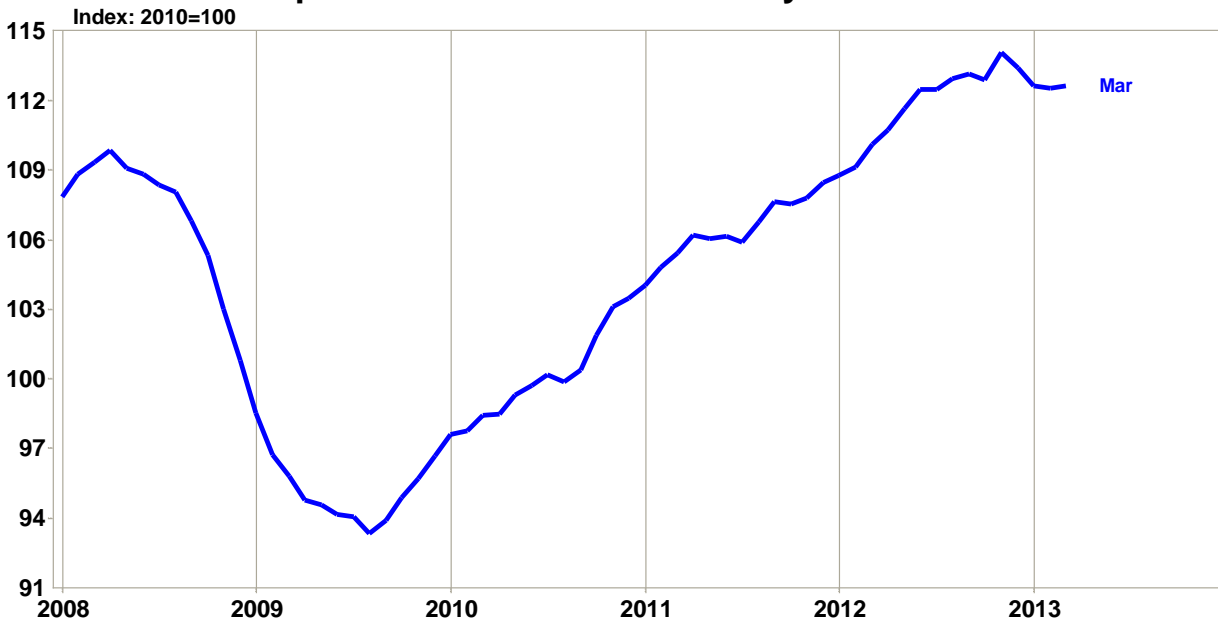
- The composite **leading** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0,2 per cent in April 2013 compared with the preceding month. Four of the ten component time series that were available for April 2013 increased, while seven decreased. The largest positive contributions in April came from an increase in the number of residential building plans passed, as well as an acceleration in the twelve-month rate of increase in job advertisement space. The major negative contributions to the movement in the composite leading indicator in April came from a deceleration in the twelve-month percentage increase in the number of new passenger vehicles sold, followed by a decrease in the BER's volume of domestic orders in the manufacturing sector.
- The composite **coincident** business cycle indicator *increased* marginally by 0,1 per cent on a month-to-month basis in March 2013.
- The composite **lagging** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0,4 per cent on a month-to-month basis in March 2013.

The next release is scheduled for 23 July 2013, 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: 2010 = 100	2012				2013			
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Leading indicator <i>12-month percentage change</i>	100,1 <i>0,1</i>	100,8 <i>0,7</i>	101,5 <i>1,0</i>	101,8 <i>1,0</i>	102,8 <i>1,7</i>	102,8 <i>0,7</i>	101,8 <i>0,1</i>	102,0 <i>1,3</i>
Coincident indicator <i>12-month percentage change</i>	113,2 <i>5,1</i>	112,9 <i>5,0</i>	114,1 <i>5,8</i>	113,4 <i>4,5</i>	112,7 <i>3,6</i>	112,6 <i>3,1</i>	112,6 <i>2,3</i>	- -
Lagging indicator <i>12-month percentage change</i>	100,0 <i>1,2</i>	99,6 <i>0,2</i>	100,3 <i>0,9</i>	99,9 <i>1,2</i>	100,2 <i>0,5</i>	100,9 <i>1,6</i>	101,3 <i>2,7</i>	- -

Table 2 Component time series of the composite leading business cycle indicator and their contribution to the April 2013 data point:

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

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