



## South African Reserve Bank

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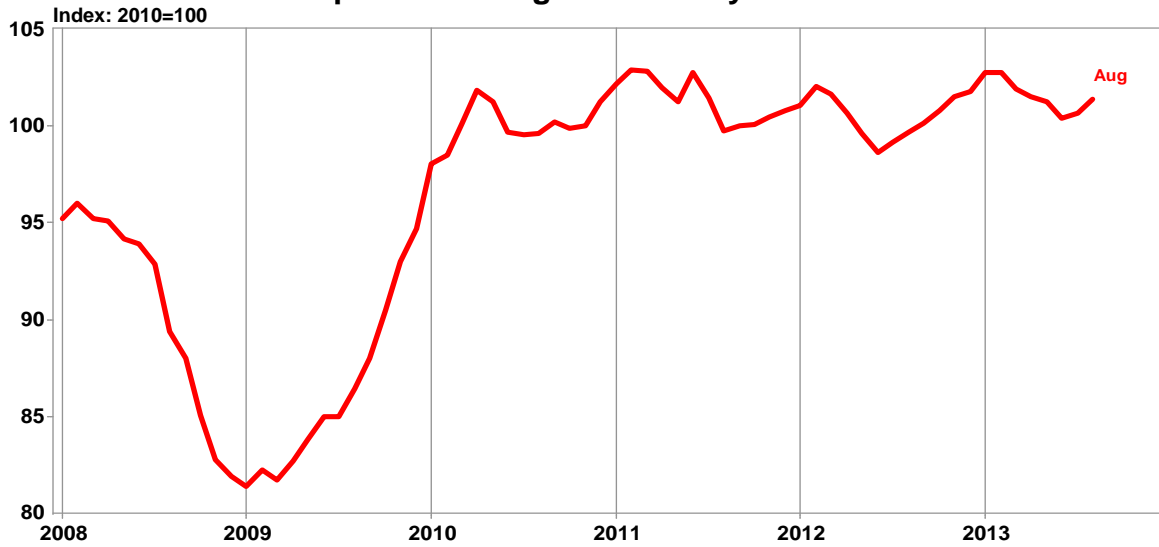
**FOR RELEASE: 09:00 A.M., Tuesday, 22 October 2013**

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

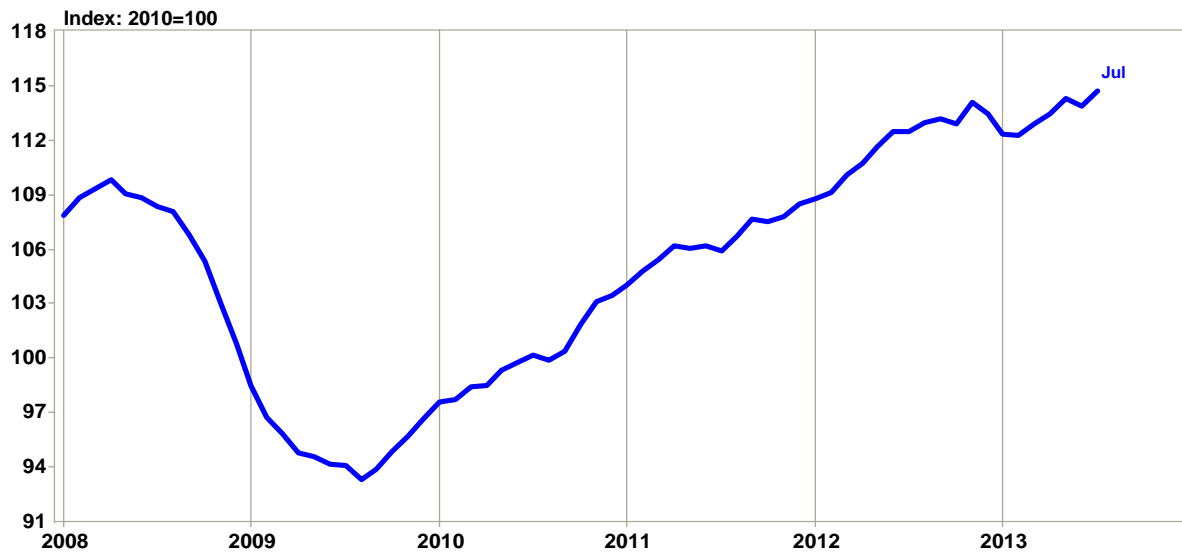
- The composite **leading** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0,7 per cent in August 2013 compared with the preceding month. Seven of the eleven component time series that were available for August 2013 increased, while four decreased. The major positive contributions in August came from an increase in the number of residential building plans passed, as well as an increase in the prices of all classes of shares traded on the JSE. The largest negative contributions to the movement in the composite leading indicator in August came from a deceleration in the twelve-month percentage change in the number of new passenger vehicles sold, followed by a deterioration in the BER's Business Confidence Index.
- The composite **coincident** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0,7 per cent on a month-to-month basis in July 2013.
- The composite **lagging** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0,8 per cent on a month-to-month basis in July 2013.

**The next release is scheduled for 26 November 2013, at 09:00 A.M.**

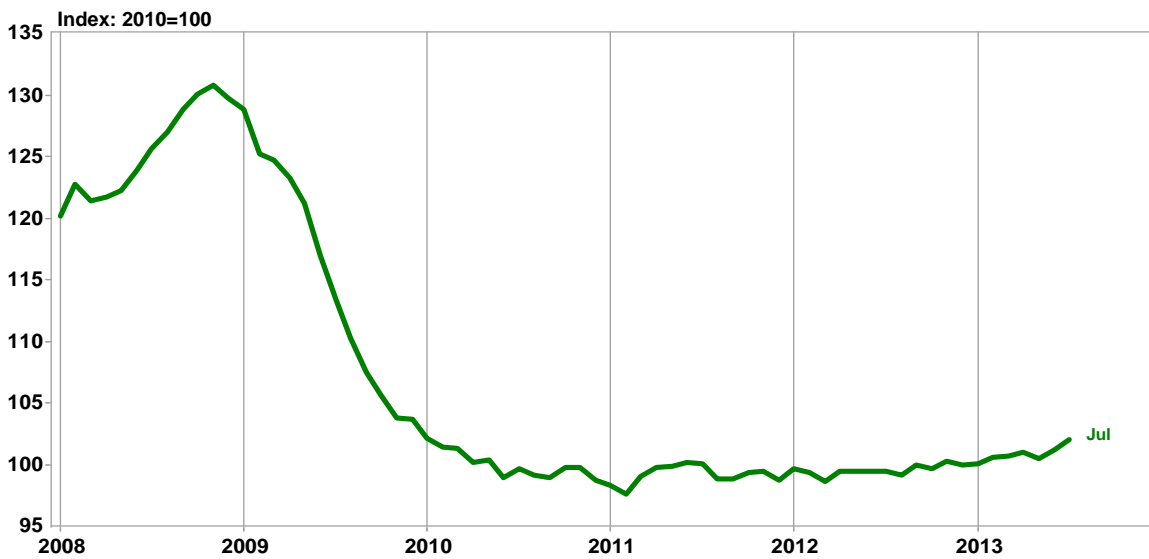
### Composite leading business cycle indicator



### Composite coincident business cycle indicator



### Composite lagging business cycle indicator



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

Indices: 2010 = 100	2013							
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Leading indicator	102,8	102,8	101,9	101,5	101,3	100,4	100,7	101,4
12-month percentage change	1,7	0,7	0,3	0,8	1,6	1,8	1,5	1,7
Coincident indicator	112,3	112,3	112,9	113,5	114,3	113,9	114,7	-
12-month percentage change	3,3	2,9	2,5	2,5	2,3	1,3	2,0	-
Lagging indicator	100,1	100,6	100,7	100,9	100,5	101,2	102,0	-
12-month percentage change	0,4	1,3	2,1	1,5	1,1	1,8	2,7	-

**Table 2 Component time series of the composite leading business cycle indicator and their contribution to the August 2013 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>
Index of prices of all classes of shares traded on the JSE
Interest rate spread: 10-year government bonds minus 91-day Treasury bills
BER*: Average hours worked per factory worker in manufacturing (half weight)
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)
Commodity price index for South Africa's main export commodities (US dollar based)
<b>Negative contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)</b>
Number of new passenger vehicles sold: (percentage change over 12 months)
BER*: Business Confidence Index
Real M1 (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Job advertisements: The Sunday Times (percentage change over 12 months)
<b>Unavailable component series</b>
Gross operating surplus as a percentage of gross domestic product

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