



## South African Reserve Bank

**For further information regarding this release, please contact:**

Kgopotso Moagi: +27 (12) 399 6376 [Kgopotso.Moagi@resbank.co.za](mailto:Kgopotso.Moagi@resbank.co.za)

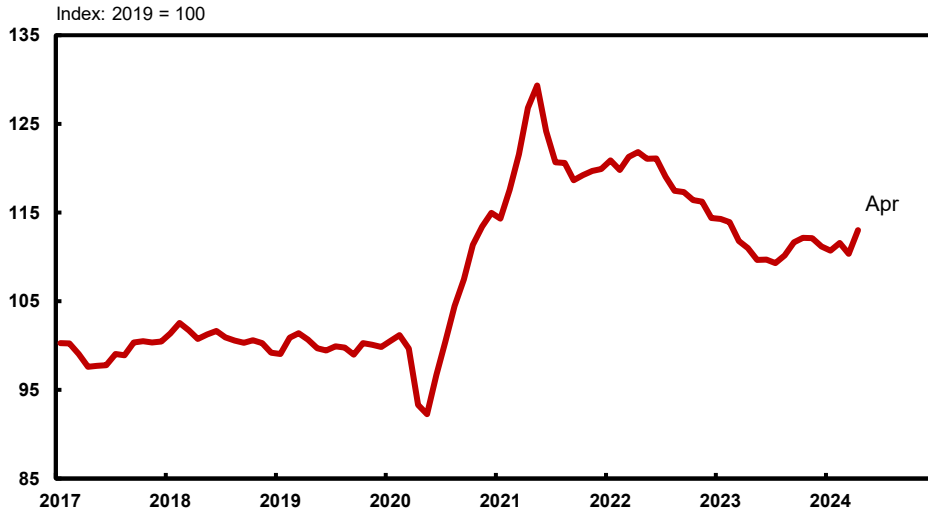
**FOR RELEASE: 09:00 A.M., Tuesday, 25 June 2024**

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

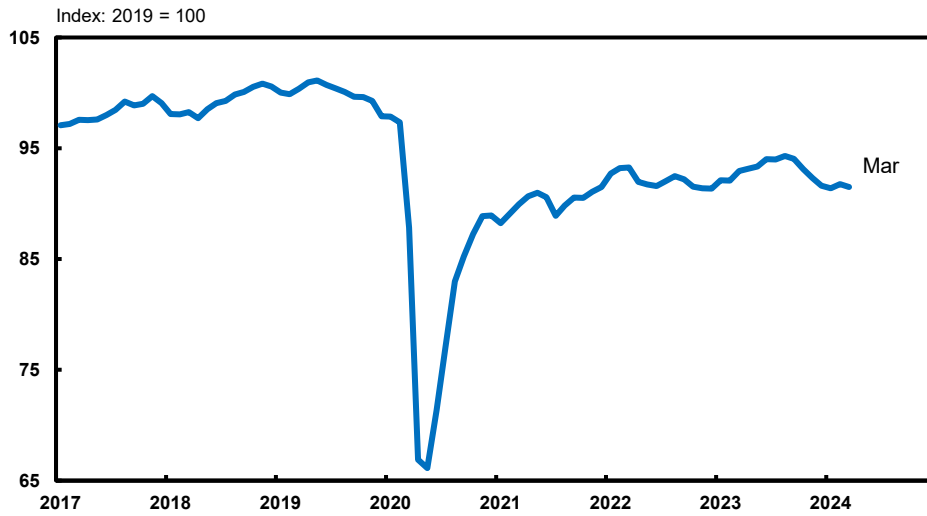
- The composite **leading** business cycle indicator *increased* by 2.4% in April 2024 as increases in eight of the ten available component time series outweighed decreases in the remaining two. The largest positive contributors were an acceleration in the six-month smoothed growth rate in job advertisement space and an increase in the number of residential building plans approved. The only negative contributors were decreases in both the average hours worked per factory worker and the volume of orders in the manufacturing sector.
- The composite **coincident** business cycle indicator *decreased* by 0.3% in March 2024 due to a decrease in industrial production.
- The composite **lagging** business cycle indicator *decreased* by 1.6% in March 2024.

**The next release is scheduled for 23 July 2024, at 09:00 A.M.**

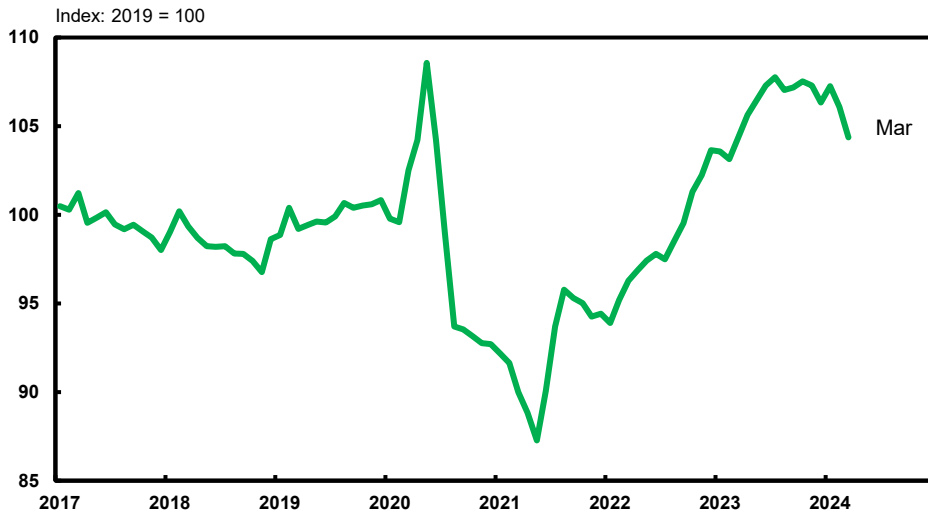
### Composite leading business cycle indicator



### Composite coincident business cycle indicator



### Composite lagging business cycle indicator



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

Indices: 2019 = 100	2023					2024			
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Leading indicator	110.2	111.6	112.2	112.1	111.2	110.7	111.6	110.4	113.0
Monthly percentage change	0.8	1.3	0.5	0.0	-0.8	-0.4	0.8	-1.1	2.4
12-month percentage change	-6.2	-4.8	-3.7	-3.5	-2.8	-3.1	-2.0	-1.3	1.8
Coincident indicator	94.3	94.0	93.1	92.3	91.6	91.4	91.8	91.5	-
Monthly percentage change	0.3	-0.3	-1.0	-0.8	-0.8	-0.2	0.4	-0.3	-
12-month percentage change	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.0	0.3	-0.8	-0.3	-1.6	-
Lagging indicator	107.0	107.2	107.5	107.3	106.3	107.3	106.1	104.4	-
Monthly percentage change	-0.7	0.1	0.3	-0.2	-0.9	0.9	-1.1	-1.6	-
12-month percentage change	8.6	7.7	6.2	4.9	2.6	3.6	2.9	0.0	-

\* The composite business cycle indicators are revised continuously following revisions to underlying component time series data.

**Table 2 Component time series of the composite leading business cycle indicator and their contribution to the April 2024 data point:**

<b>Positive contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)</b>
Job advertisements: The Sunday Times (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Number of building plans approved: Flats, townhouses & houses larger than 80m <sup>2</sup>
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
RMB/BER* Business Confidence Index
Real M1 (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Number of new passenger vehicles sold (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Composite leading business cycle indicator for South Africa's major trading-partner countries (percentage change over 12 months)
<b>Negative contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)</b>
BER*: Average hours worked per factory worker in manufacturing (half weight)
BER*: Volume of orders in manufacturing (half weight)
<b>Unavailable component series</b>
Gross operating surplus as a percentage of gross domestic product

\* Bureau for Economic Research, Stellenbosch University