



## South African Reserve Bank

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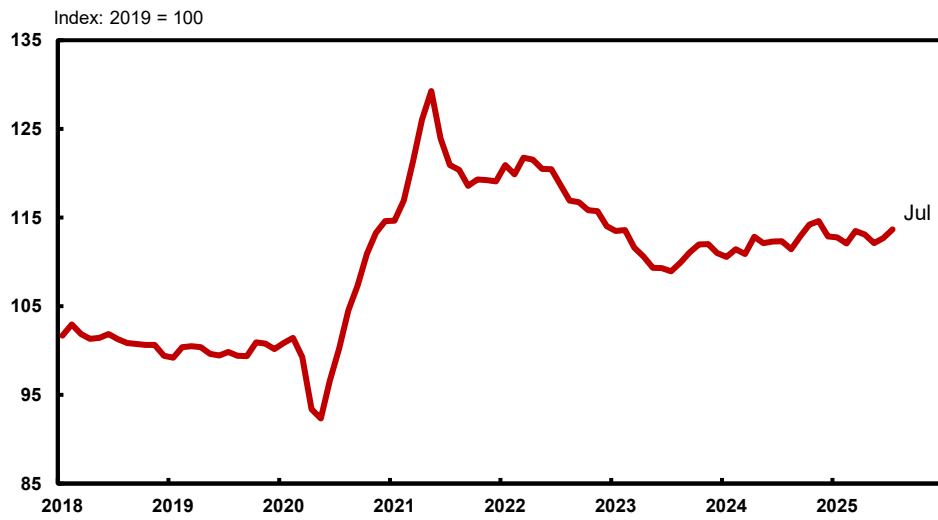
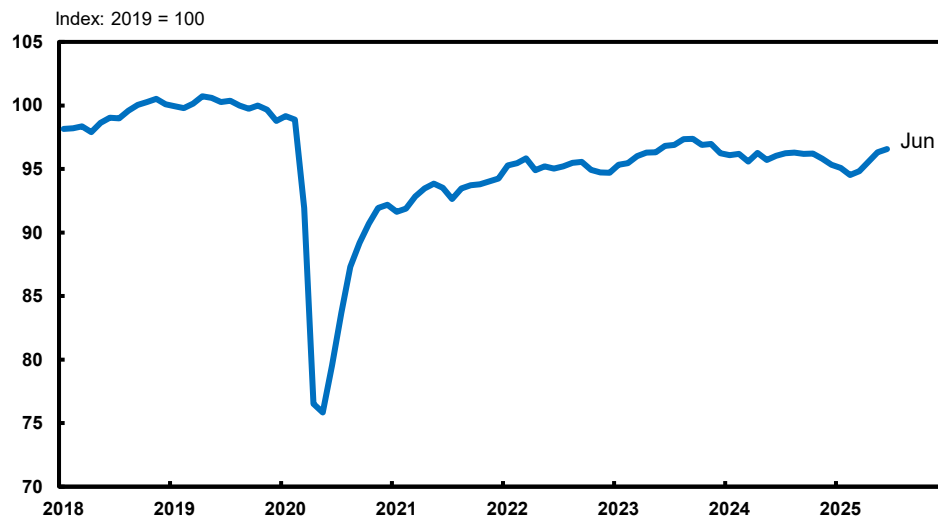
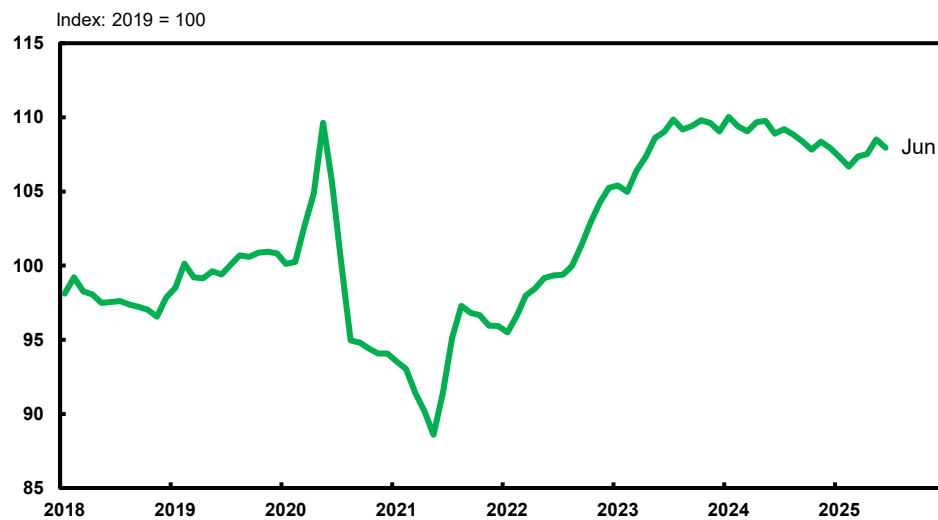
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### **Composite business cycle indicators for South Africa**

- The composite **leading** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0.9% in July 2025 as increases in 7 of the 10 available component time series outweighed decreases in the other 3 components. The largest positive contributors were an increase in South Africa's US-dollar denominated export commodity price index and an acceleration in the six-month smoothed growth rate in the number of new passenger vehicles sold. The largest negative contributors were a deceleration in the six-month smoothed growth rate in the real M1 money supply and a narrowing of the interest rate spread.
- The composite **coincident** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0.3% in June 2025 due to increases in the real value of wholesale, retail and motor trade sales as well as the industrial production index.
- The composite **lagging** business cycle indicator *decreased* by 0.5% in June 2025.

**The next release is scheduled for 21 October 2025, 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	2024		2025						
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Leading indicator	114.6	112.9	112.8	112.1	113.5	113.1	112.1	112.7	113.7
Monthly percentage change	0.4	-1.5	-0.1	-0.6	1.3	-0.4	-0.8	0.5	0.9
12-month percentage change	2.3	1.7	2.0	0.6	2.4	0.2	0.0	0.3	1.2
Coincident indicator	95.8	95.3	95.1	94.5	94.8	95.6	96.3	96.6	-
Monthly percentage change	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-0.6	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.3	-
12-month percentage change	-1.2	-1.0	-1.1	-1.7	-0.8	-0.7	0.6	0.5	-
Lagging indicator	108.4	107.9	107.3	106.7	107.4	107.5	108.5	107.9	-
Monthly percentage change	0.5	-0.4	-0.6	-0.6	0.7	0.1	0.9	-0.5	-
12-month percentage change	-1.1	-1.0	-2.5	-2.5	-1.5	-2.0	-1.1	-0.9	-

\* 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 July 2025 data point:**

<b>Positive contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)</b>
Commodity price index for South Africa's main export commodities (US dollar based)
Number of new passenger vehicles sold (six-month smoothed growth rate)
BER*: Volume of domestic orders in manufacturing (half weight)
Job advertisements: The Sunday Times and Pnet (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Number of building plans approved: Flats, townhouses & houses larger than 80m <sup>2</sup>
BER*: Average hours worked per factory worker in manufacturing (half weight)
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>
Real M1 (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Interest rate spread: 10-year government bonds minus 91-day Treasury bills
RMB/BER* Business Confidence Index
<b>Unavailable component series</b>
Gross operating surplus as a percentage of gross domestic product

\* Bureau for Economic Research, Stellenbosch University