

Ifo Employment Barometer for Germany

Results of the Ifo Business Survey for January 2012

Employment Barometer Rises Slightly

The Ifo Employment Barometer for German trade and industry rose slightly again in January, after falling significantly last month. The positive trend in the German employment market continues into the first month of 2012.

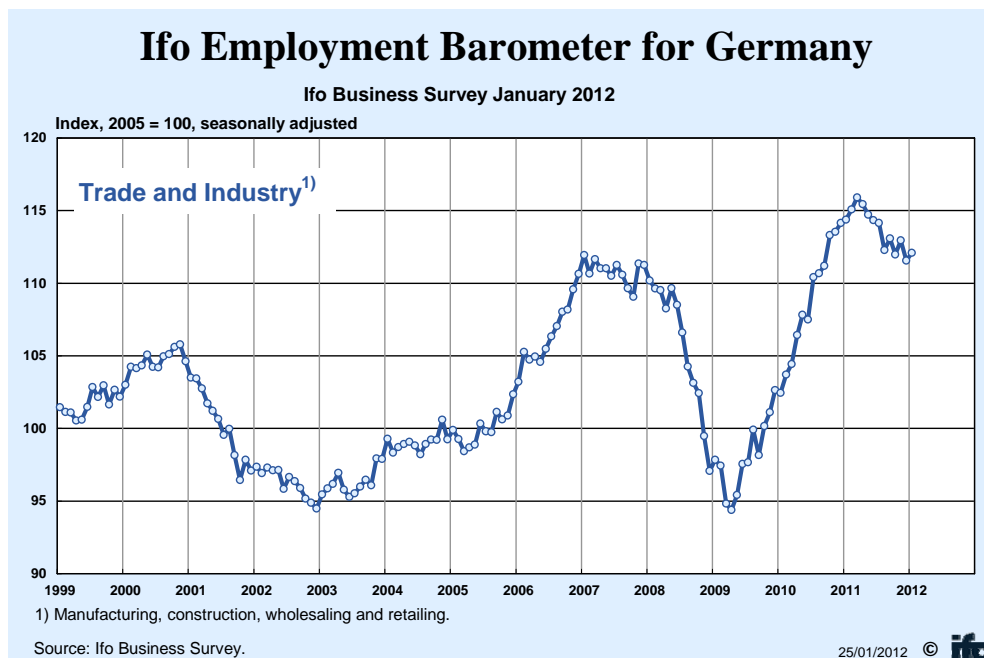
In manufacturing personnel planning looks more positive again, following three successive falls in the employment barometer. In the capital goods sector in particular there are still plans to significantly increase staff numbers. Mechanical engineering companies see a substantial need for additional staff. After pursuing a rather reticent staffing policy at the end of last year, a greater number of automotive manufacturers now wish to look for additional staff. The employment barometer also rose in the construction sector. Retailers and wholesalers, on the other hand, reported a more cautious approach to recruiting additional staff.

Germany (Index value, 2005 = 100, seasonally adjusted)

Month/Year	01/11	02/11	03/11	04/11	05/11	06/11	07/11	08/11	09/11	10/11	11/11	12/11	01/12
Index	114.4	115.1	115.9	115.4	114.7	114.3	114.1	112.3	113.1	112.0	113.0	111.6	112.1

Source: Ifo Business Survey

For long time-series in Excel format consult www.ifo.de/langereihen.



Legend: The Ifo Employment Barometer is based on ca. 7.000 monthly responses from businesses in manufacturing, construction, wholesaling and retailing. The companies are asked to report on their **employment plans** for the coming three months. They can describe their plans for the number of employees for the coming six months as "increasing", "stable", or "decreasing". The **balance** value of the plans is the difference in the percentage shares of the responses "increasing" and "decreasing". To calculate the **index value** the balances are normed to the average for the year 2000.

The Ifo Employment Barometer is calculated exclusively for the *Financial Times Deutschland*.