

## Ifo Employment Barometer for Germany

Results of the Ifo Business Survey for February 2008

### Favourable employment outlook continues

After declining in January, the Ifo Employment Barometer for German Industry and Trade remained stable in February. The indicator thus clearly remains in positive territory and points to a continuingly large hiring propensity.

In manufacturing, despite reduced confidence in the business outlook, hiring plans remain expansive on the whole. Also in wholesaling, the willingness to hire persists. In the light of an improved business outlook, retailers have revised their hiring plans upwards. In construction, however, a slight decline in employment is expected.

### Germany (Index value, 2000 = 100, seasonally adjusted)

Month/Year	02/07	03/07	04/07	05/07	06/07	07/07	08/07	09/07	10/07	11/07	12/07	01/08	02/08
<b>Index</b>	106.4	106.8	105.7	106.5	106.3	106.6	106.3	104.9	104.4	107.0	106.8	105.6	105.6



**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*.