Taiwan Business Indicators in December 2013

Press Release

National Development Council (NDC)

January 27, 2014

In December 2013, the Taiwan Business Indicators showed that the economic recovery was quite obvious, and the economic situation turned to stable. Among the indicators compiled by the National Development Council (NDC), the trend-adjusted leading index increased by 0.39%, the trend-adjusted coincident index increased by 0.51% from the previous month, and the overall monitoring indicator flashed the "green" signal.

1. Leading Indicators: With revised data, the composite leading index stood at 104.48, up by 0.51% from November 2013. Its trend-adjusted index increased by 0.39% to 101.80. Among the seven indicators making up the trend-adjusted index, the index of export orders, net accession rate of employees on payrolls of industry and services, real monetary aggregates M1B, and TAIEX average closing price had positive cyclical movements from the previous month, while building permits, the TIER manufacturing sector composite indicator, and SEMI book-to-bill ratio had negative cyclical movements.
2. Coincident Indicators: With revised data, the coincident index stood at 103.27, up by 0.62% from November 2013. Its trend-adjusted index increased by 0.51% to 100.61. Among the seven indicators making up the trend-adjusted index, real machineries and electrical equipments imports, sales of trade and food services, the industrial production index, the index of producer’s shipment for manufacturing, and real customs-cleared exports had positive cyclical movements from the previous month, while electric power consumption and nonagricultural employment had negative cyclical movements.
3. Lagging Indicators: With revised data, the lagging index stood at 99.56, down by 0.73% from November 2013. Its trend-adjusted index decreased by 0.84% to 96.99. All six indicators making up the trend-adjusted index had negative cyclical movements from previous month, which were the manufacturing unit output labor cost index, the inventories to sales ratio for manufacturing, loans and investments of monetary financial institutions, the unemployment rate (inverted), regular employees on payrolls in industry and services, and the interbank overnight call-loan rate.
4. The Monitoring Indicators: The total score in December increased by three points to 24, flashing the “green” signal for the first month. Among the nine components, the industrial production index and the TIER manufacturing sector composite indicator each changed its individual light signal from “yellow-blue” to “green”, the imports of machineries and electrical equipments changed its individual light signal from “green” to “yellow-red”, the index of producer’s shipment for manufacturing changed its individual light signal from “blue” to “yellow-blue”, each gained one point. The TAIEX average closing price lost one point the change its individual light signal from “yellow-red” to “green”. The light signals for the rest of four components remained unchanged.

**T~~ The next release is scheduled for February 27 2014 ~~T**

# **Table 1 Leading Indicators**

Seasonally adjusted

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 2013 |
| Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| **Composite Index** | 101.81 | 102.10 | 102.51 | 102.98 | 103.46 | 103.96 | 104.48 |
| Change from preceding month (%) | 0.17 | 0.28 | 0.40 | 0.46 | 0.47 | 0.48 | 0.51 |
| Trend adjusted index | 99.86 | 100.03 | 100.32 | 100.66 | 101.02 | 101.40 | 101.80 |
| Change from preceding month (%) | 0.05 | 0.17 | 0.29 | 0.34 | 0.36 | 0.37 | 0.39 |
| **Components** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Index of export orders (2011=100) | 102.9 | 103.4 | 105.6 | 108.3 | 109.7 | 114.2 | 118.7 |
| Real monetary aggregates M1B (NT$ billion) | 12,521  | 12,627  | 12,661  | 12,668  | 12,759  | 12,865  | 12,946  |
| TAIEX average closing price (1966=100)\* | 7,989  | 8,102  | 7,932  | 8,193  | 8,366  | 8,237  | 8,431  |
| Net accession rate of employees on payrolls of industry and services \*\* (%) | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.14 | 0.19 | 0.14 | 0.29 | 0.12p |
| Building permits \*\*\* (1,000m2) | 2,325  | 2,947  | 3,320  | 3,501  | 3,291  | 2,325  | 2,918  |
| SEMI Book-to-Bill Ratio | 1.10 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 0.97 | 1.05 | 1.11 | 1.02 |
| The TIER manufacturing sector composite indicator (2006=100) | 97.51 | 98.40 | 98.78 | 97.99 | 96.20 | 95.81 | 98.71 |

Note：1. p = Preliminarily estimated.

2. \* TAIEX average closing price is not seasonally adjusted.

\*\* Net accession rate is equal to accession rate minus separation rate.

\*\*\* Including only housing, mercantile, business and service, industry warehousing.

# **Table 2 Coincident Indicators**

Seasonally adjusted

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 2013 |
| Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| **Composite Index** | 100.87  | 101.01  | 101.25  | 101.60  | 102.06  | 102.63  | 103.27  |
| Change from preceding month (%) | 0.16  | 0.14  | 0.23  | 0.35  | 0.46  | 0.56  | 0.62  |
| Trend adjusted index | 98.94  | 98.97  | 99.08  | 99.32  | 99.66  | 100.10  | 100.61  |
| Change from preceding month (%) | 0.04  | 0.03  | 0.12  | 0.24  | 0.34  | 0.44  | 0.51  |
| **Components** | 　 |  |  |  |  |  | 　 |
| Industrial production index (2011=100) | 99.7  | 100.5  | 100.3  | 100.5  | 100.8  | 101.6  | 103.9  |
| Electric power consumption (billion kWh) | 12.24  | 11.78  | 11.88  | 11.91  | 11.78  | 11.88  | 11.65  |
| Index of producer’s shipment for manufacturing (2011=100) | 97.3  | 97.1  | 99.4  | 98.1  | 99.3  | 99.2  | 99.7p |
| Sales of trade and food services (NT$ billion) | 1,185  | 1,185  | 1,186  | 1,196  | 1,206  | 1,217  | 1,228  |
| Nonagricultural employment (thousand persons) | 10,418  | 10,416  | 10,421  | 10,440  | 10,452  | 10,463  | 10,471  |
| Real customs-cleared exports (NT$ billion) | 806.6  | 772.7  | 784.0  | 783.8  | 792.3  | 779.6  | 799.1  |
| Real machineries and electrical equipments imports (NT$ billion) | 216.3  | 206.5  | 194.3  | 218.0  | 209.8  | 208.4  | 247.0  |

# **Table 3 Lagging Indicators**

Seasonally adjusted

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 2013 |
| Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| **Composite Index** | 102.52  | 102.17  | 101.80  | 101.38  | 100.90  | 100.29  | 99.56  |
| Change from preceding month (%) | -0.31  | -0.34  | -0.37  | -0.41  | -0.47  | -0.61  | -0.73  |
| Trend adjusted index | 100.56  | 100.10  | 99.62  | 99.10  | 98.52  | 97.81  | 96.99  |
| Change from preceding month (%) | -0.42  | -0.45  | -0.48  | -0.52  | -0.58  | -0.72  | -0.84  |
| **Components** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unemployment rate\* (%) |  4.17  |  4.18  |  4.19  |  4.18  |  4.17  |  4.15  |  4.12  |
| Regular employees on payrollsin industry & services (thousand persons) |  6,842  |  6,847  |  6,855  |  6,864  |  6,875  |  6,887  |  6,893p  |
| The manufacturing unit output labor cost index(2006=100) | 84.0  | 83.6  | 84.5  | 82.1  | 85.9  | 84.1  | 78.2p  |
| Interbank overnight call-loan rate\*\*(percent per annum) |  0.386  |  0.386  |  0.386  |  0.386  |  0.387  |  0.386  |  0.387  |
| Loans and investments of monetary financial institutions (NT$ billion) | 26,153  |  26,346  |  26,411  |  26,532  |  26,616  |  26,764  |  26,703  |
| Inventories to sales ratio for manufacturing (%) | 67.4  | 68.6  | 66.4  | 67.5  | 66.6  | 67.0  | 66.9p  |

Note： \* This series is inverted while aggregating composite lagging index.

 \*\* Interbank overnight call-loan rate is not seasonally adjusted.

2004.3(P) 2005.2(T) 2008.3(P) 2009.2(T)



Note: Shaded areas represent recessions.

 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

**Figure 1 Composite Leading Index**



2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

**Figure 2 Trend-adjusted Composite Leading Index**

 2004.3(P) 2005.2(T) 2008.3(P) 2009.2(T)

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 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

**Figure 3 Composite Coincident Index**

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 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

**Figure 4 Trend-adjusted Composite Coincident Index**

 2004.3(P) 2005.2(T) 2008.3(P) 2009.2(T)

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2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

**Figure 5 Composite Lagging Index**

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2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

**Figure 6 Trend-adjusted Composite Lagging Index**



**Figure 7 Total scores in the Past Year**

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**Figure 8 Monitoring Indicators**