

## ifo Employment Barometer Rises

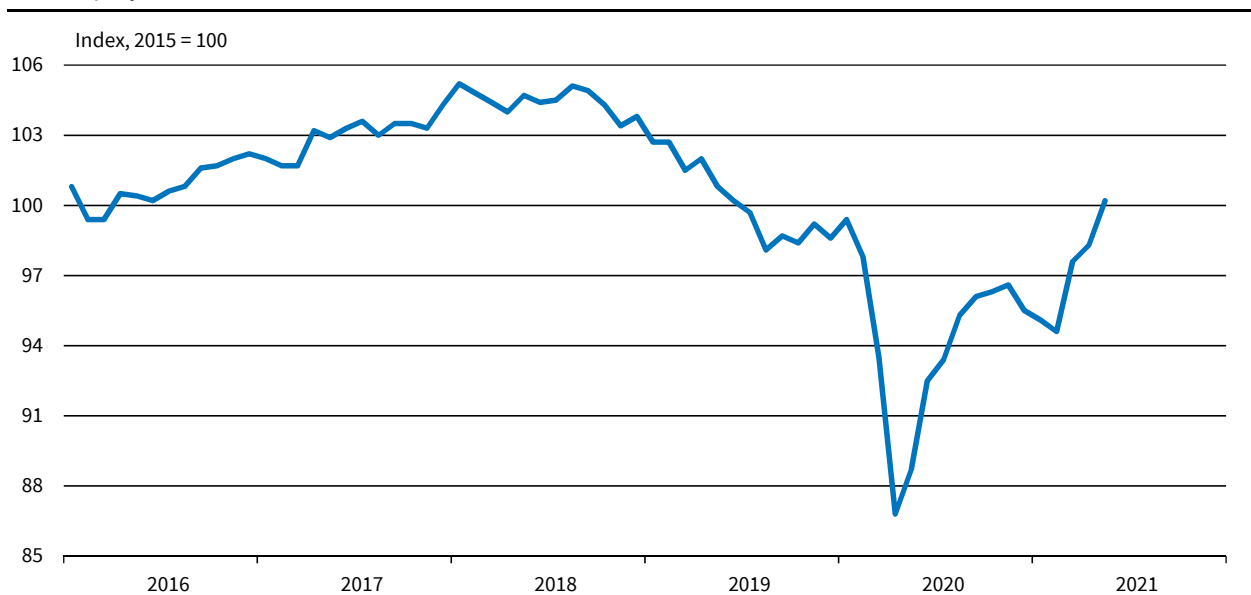
**Munich, May 27, 2021 – German companies are planning to hire more employees. The ifo Employment Barometer rose to 100.2 points in May after measuring 98.3 points in April. This is its highest value since June 2019. Progress with vaccinations and the prospect of reopening the economy are having a positive effect on the labor market.**

In manufacturing, the willingness of companies to hire new employees has risen steadily since its low point in May 2020. The need for new employees is particularly high in the electrical and electronics industries. In the service sector, the indicator surged. Logistics companies and IT service providers are looking for new personnel. In trade, prospects of reopening the economy are reflected in cautious optimism with regard to the hiring of new staff. There is also a slight trend toward the recruitment of additional staff in the construction industry.

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### ifo Employment Barometer Germany<sup>a</sup>

Seasonally adjusted



<sup>a</sup> Manufacturing, service sector, trade, and construction.

Source: ifo Business Survey, May 2021

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### ifo Employment Barometer Germany (Index, 2015 = 100, seasonally adjusted)

Month/year	05/20	06/20	07/20	08/20	09/20	10/20	11/20	12/20	01/21	02/21	03/21	04/21	05/21
Barometer	88.7	92.5	93.4	95.3	96.1	96.3	96.6	95.5	95.1	94.6	97.6	98.3	100.2

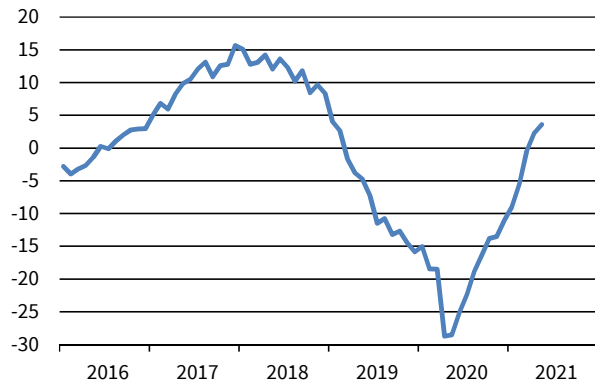
Source: ifo Business Survey

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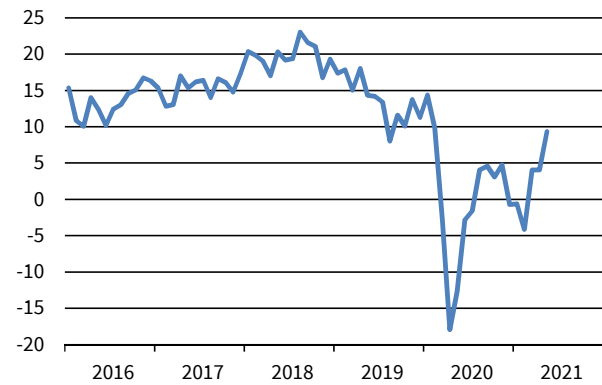
## ifo Employment Barometer by Sector

Balances, seasonally adjusted

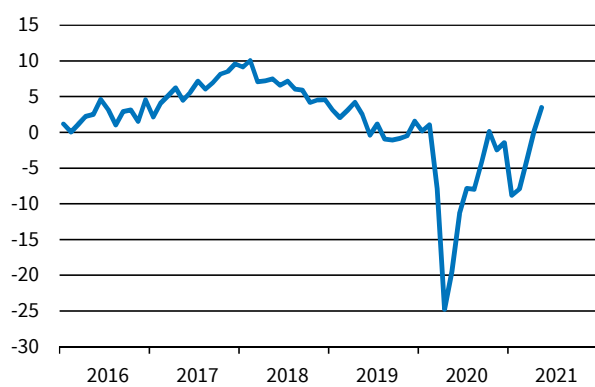
### Manufacturing



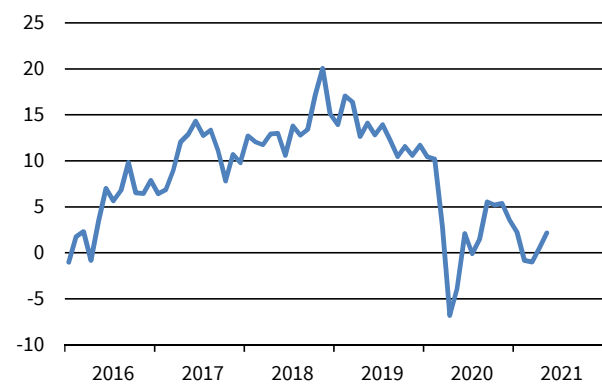
### Service sector



### Trade



### Construction



Source: ifo Business Survey, May 2021

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## ifo Employment Barometer by Sector (Balances, seasonally adjusted)

Month/year	05/20	06/20	07/20	08/20	09/20	10/20	11/20	12/20	01/21	02/21	03/21	04/21	05/21
<b>Manufacturing</b>	-28.5	-25.1	-22.4	-18.8	-16.3	-13.8	-13.5	-11.0	-9.0	-5.5	-0.4	2.3	3.6
<b>Service sector</b>	-12.7	-2.8	-1.6	4.0	4.6	3.1	4.8	-0.7	-0.6	-4.2	4.0	4.0	9.3
<b>Trade</b>	-19.5	-11.4	-7.9	-8.0	-4.1	0.2	-2.5	-1.4	-8.8	-7.9	-3.9	0.2	3.5
<b>Construction</b>	-3.9	2.1	-0.1	1.5	5.6	5.2	5.4	3.5	2.2	-0.8	-1.0	0.5	2.2

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Source: ifo Business Survey

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For long time series in Excel format, please see [www.ifo.de/en/umfragen/time-series](http://www.ifo.de/en/umfragen/time-series).

The ifo Employment Barometer is based on around 9,000 monthly responses from businesses in manufacturing, construction, wholesaling, retailing, and the service sector. 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 their projections is the difference in the percentage shares of the responses “increasing” and “decreasing.” To calculate the **index value** the balances are normalized to the average for the year 2015.

The ifo Employment Barometer is calculated exclusively for *Handelsblatt*.