

The Bank of Ireland Economic Pulse stood at 88.3 in December 2018. The index, which combines the results of the Consumer and Business Pulses, was down 1.6 on last month and 0.6 lower than a year ago.

2018 was a year of two halves, with consumer confidence high and business sentiment strengthening in the opening months buoyed by the expanding domestic and global economies, but reversing course in the closing months amid heightened international trade tensions and Brexit uncertainty. On the latter, a draft deal is now on the table but as it will be difficult to get it through the UK Parliament, it failed to lift the mood in December.

KEY POINTS

- Economic Pulse down in December
- Second lowest reading in series' history
- Consumer and Business Pulses give up ground

ECONOMIC PULSE

DECEMBER 2018

88.3

-1.6 on previous index reading

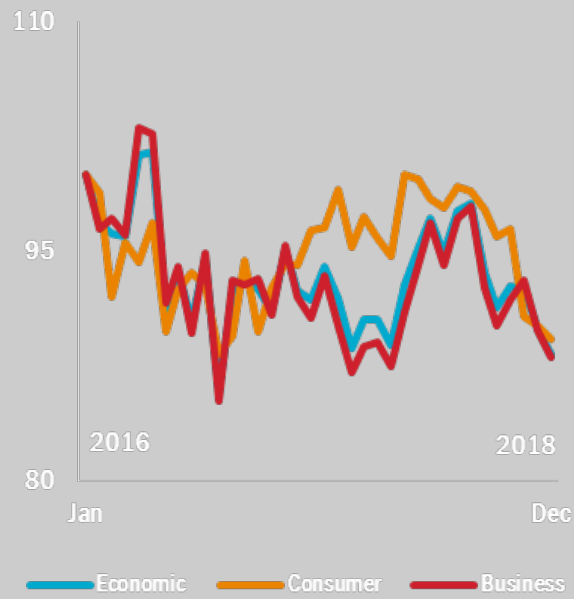
“The Economic Pulse ended 2018 on a soft note, with both consumer and business sentiment down in December.”

Dr Loretta O’Sullivan

Group Chief Economist

Bank of Ireland

PULSE TRENDS



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MAKING THE ECONOMIC PULSE



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