

The Business Pulse rose for a third consecutive month in July 2020 to 63.4 (this was 7.5 higher than June's reading but down 19.8 on a year ago). With the country now in phase three of the re-opening roadmap, firms in all four sectors reported an improvement in trading conditions this month. Some caution on the part of consumers, along with mounting speculation about a delay to the move to the fourth phase, looks to have tempered expectations for further near-term gains however. Retailers and firms in industry and services were a bit more downbeat about prospects for business activity over the next three months, with the latter also scaling back their hiring plans for the period ahead.

KEY POINTS

- Business Pulse rises in July
- Construction Pulse leads the way
- Services Pulse bringing up the rear

BUSINESS PULSE

JULY 2020

63.4

+7.5 on previous index reading

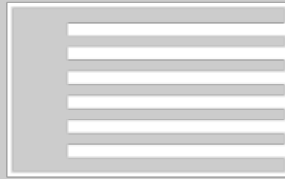
”The rebound in business sentiment continued in July, with the sectoral Pulses all up on the month.”

Dr Loretta O’Sullivan

Group Chief Economist

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SECTOR SNAPSHOT



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economic pulse