

The Bank of Ireland Economic Pulse came in at 68.6 in February 2021. The index, which combines the results of the Consumer and Business Pulses, was up 7.0 on last month but 17.8 lower than a year ago.

With the Government announcing that Level 5 restrictions would remain in place till early March and implementation difficulties in respect of the new trading arrangements with the UK, households and firms were downbeat about the here and now this month. They sounded a more positive note on the outlook for the economy and commerce however, helped by the deployment of COVID-19 vaccines with more due to arrive.

KEY POINTS

- Economic Pulse rises in February
- Consumer and business confidence both up
- Expectations components drive the improvement

ECONOMIC PULSE

FEBRUARY 2021

68.6

+7.0 on previous index reading

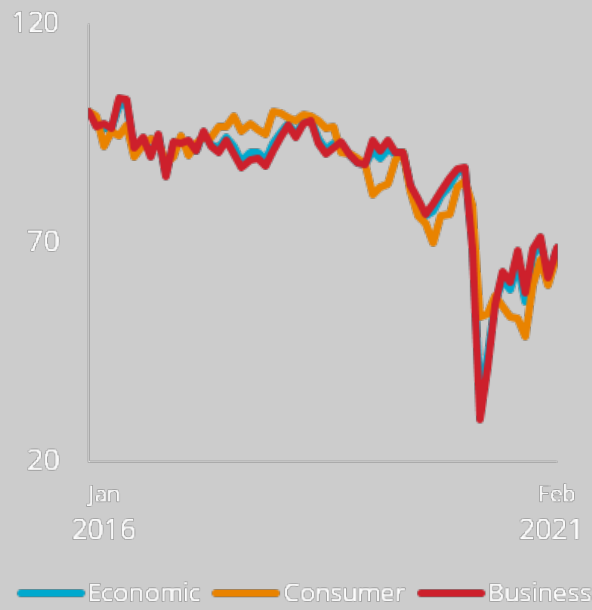
“Economic sentiment rose this month as vaccine-related optimism offset lockdown fatigue and post-Brexit headaches.”

Dr Loretta O’Sullivan

Group Chief Economist

Bank of Ireland

PULSE TRENDS



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MAKING THE ECONOMIC PULSE



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economic pulse