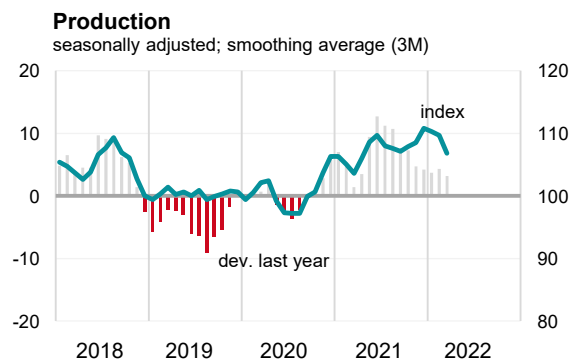


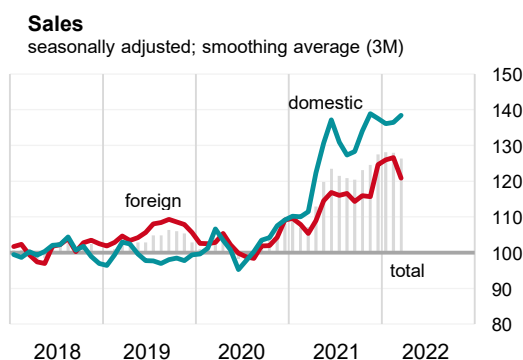
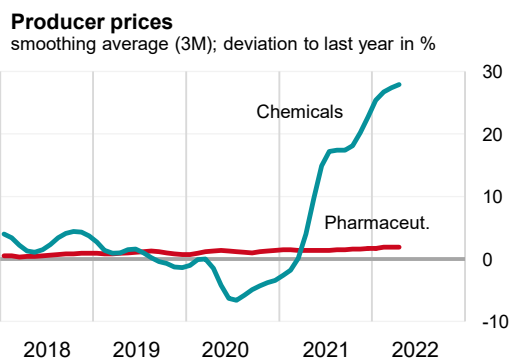
On the economic situation in March 2022

In March 2022, producer prices and, as a result, sales in the chemical-pharmaceutical industry in Hesse are still significantly higher year-on-year. However, the economic momentum is increasingly ebbing away, especially in production and employment in the classic chemical sectors.

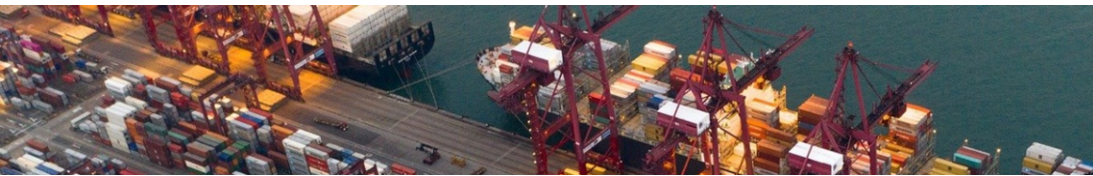


In March **production** has developed only slightly dynamically. Compared to February, it increased slightly by a seasonally adjusted 0.8 percent, but stagnated compared to the previous year. Chemical production fell by 7.1 percent year-on-year, while pharmaceutical production increased significantly by 9.9 percent. However, the cumulative production up to March was 3.2 percent above the level of the corresponding period last year.

Producer prices were again well above the level of the previous year at 16.6 percent in March. Above all, the prices for chemical products rose sharply here by 27.4 percent. The corresponding price increase for pharmaceutical products, on the other hand, was rather moderate at 2.0 percent. Compared to February, prices rose by 1.2 percent. This resulted in a cumulative increase of 16.5 percent up to March.

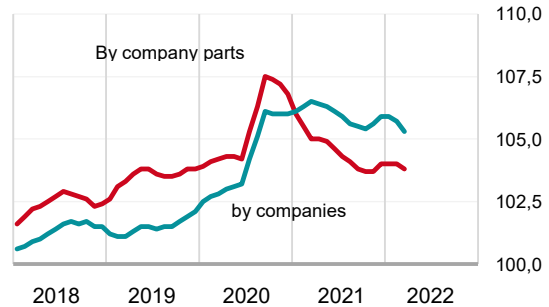


In March, **sales** grew 12.9 percent year-on-year. Domestic sales growth was 20.8 percent, foreign business grew by 9.3 percent. Compared to February, total sales increased by 17.8 percent. Cumulatively up to and including March, total sales have so far increased by 17.5 percent compared to the previous year.

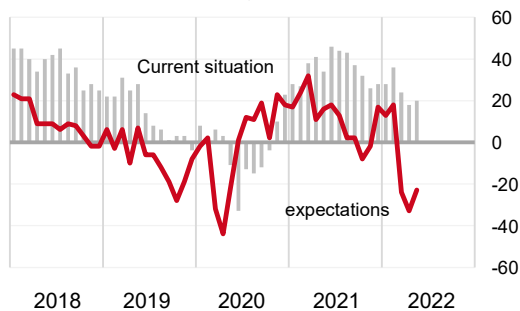


The **number of employees** in March fell by 1.3 percent year-on-year compared to the previous year. The pharmaceutical industry showed a noticeable increase of 8.5 percent; traditional chemistry recorded a significant decrease of 7.0 percent. This is primarily due to special statistical effects caused by official statistics shifting companies within the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors during the year.

Employment
seasonally adjusted; smoothing average (3M)



ifo-business situation and expectations
balance of positive and negative answers



The assessment of the current **ifo business situation** improved slightly at federal level in May 2022 compared to the previous month from 18 to 20 points. **Business expectations** also brightened somewhat, from -33 to -23 points. However, this means that more companies are assuming that business will be worse over the next six months in comparison to companies who expect an improvement.

Key figures at a glance for March 2022
Chemical-pharmaceutical industry in Hesse

	prev. month	prev. year	cumulated
Production	+0,8%	-0,1%	+3,2%
Prices	+1,2%	+16,6%	+16,5%
Sales	+17,8%	+12,9%	+17,5%
Domestic	+13,1%	+20,8%	+23,7%
Foreign	+20,4%	+9,3%	+14,3%
Employment	+0,2%	-1,3%	-1,1%