

# Activity Index and Export Managers Index – a Swedish case study

Seminar: The Role of NSO in the Production of Leading, Composite and Sentiment indicators

Monica Nelson Edberg

Chief Economist



[facebook.com/statisticssweden](https://facebook.com/statisticssweden)



[@SCB\\_nyheter](https://twitter.com/SCB_nyheter)



[statistiska\\_centralbyran\\_scb](https://instagram.com/statistiska_centralbyran_scb)



# Background

- Leading indicators has existed for many years
- Simple or complex indicators ?
- Demand for indicators has risen recently
- Sweden has been working with many types of leading indices
- Two examples are presented below



# The Activity Index (AI)

- Design to provide an early outcome of GDP
- Composite indicator
- Model-based – ARIMA model/regression + own judgement
- Based on existing statistics
- Underlying indicators (industrial production, employment, working hours, foreign trade)
- Introduced in 1993



# The Activity Index (AI)



Source: Statistics Sweden

Data up to and including December 2009

# Risks and Opportunities AI

- First estimate usually good indicator for GDP
  - Revision connected to problems
  - User's complaint increased in 2000
  - Own judgement and effects of seasonal adjustment difficult to understand for users
- 
- Revisions too large in relation to GDP
  - Assessment of AI led to stop publishing



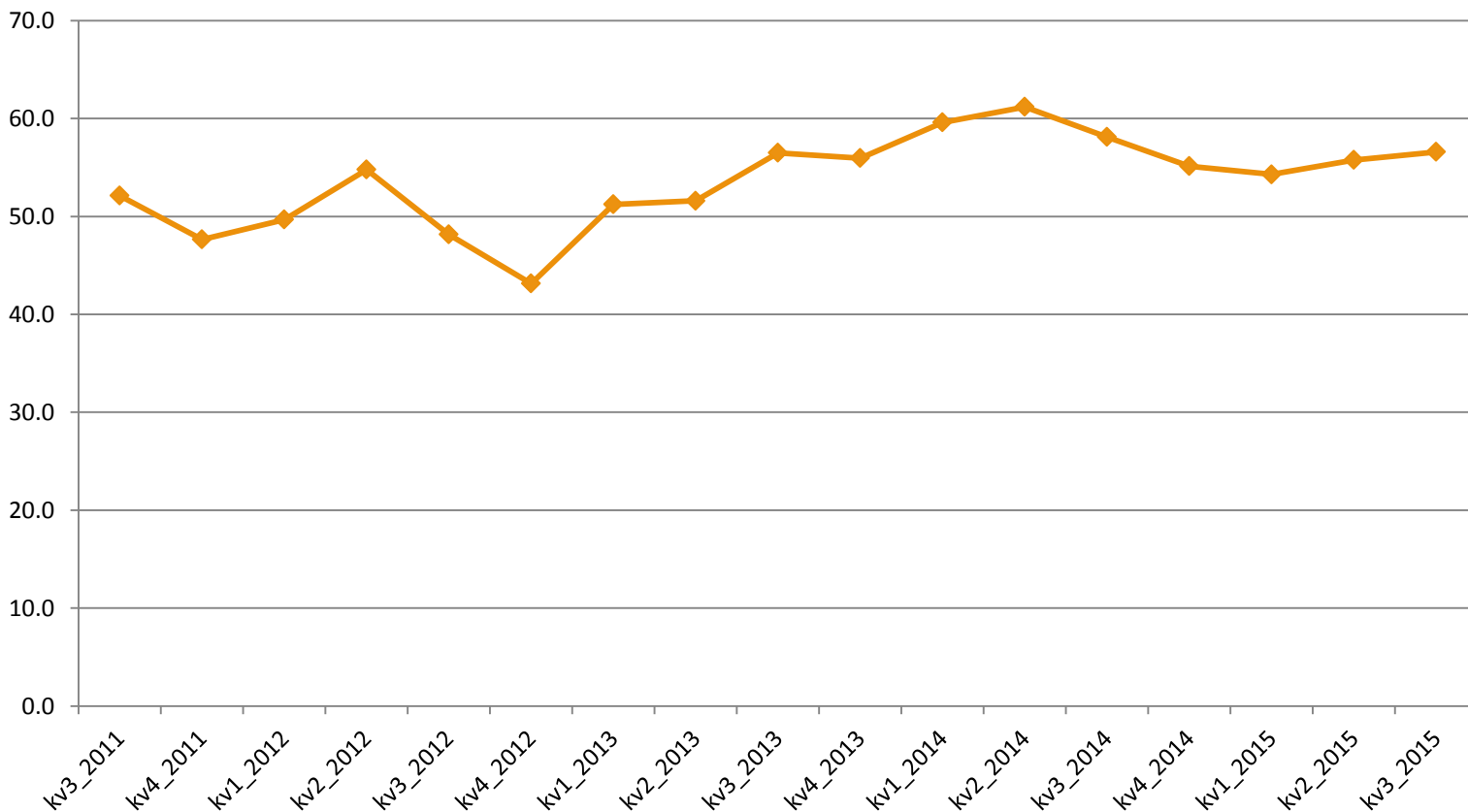
# Export managers Index (EMI)

- Simple Interview Survey
- 225 companies
- Export managers
- Similar til PMI, but weighted values
- Collection of data done by Statistics Sweden
- Analysis performed by Business Sweden
- Timely indicator
- Highly transparant at data-set is published



# Export managers Index (EMI)

EMI index



# EMI – risk and Opportunities

- High transparent indicator
- Timeliness
- Disadvantage of low responsrate as export managers are busy people
- Export of services may be hard to get correctly



# Conclusions

- EMI have a higher flexibility and are more user-friendly as index
- EMI – sentiment index
- AI – good result at start
- AI – composite /complex index , har to explain to users

