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Abstract

The development of methodologies that enable the diagnosis of the current state and trend of economic activity is particularly important to improve the decision-making process in economic policy. This paper proposes a new weekly indicator of economic activity for Colombia, covering the period between February 2000 and May 2022. This indicator is the result of a mixed-frequency dynamic factor model that uses 32 weekly (10), monthly (19) and quarterly (3) variables. Our results suggest that the indicator adequately captures the main economic cycles in the period of analysis, prominent among which is the recent crisis generated by the Covid-19 pandemic. We also find that, given the lags in publication of data, the ability of the indicator to diagnose the state of economic activity improves as more information is available.