

Confidence in Finnish Industries Remained Stable



■ Manufacturing Confidence Almost Unchanged

In November, the manufacturing confidence indicator increased one point from October's figure. Confidence was -14 in November. The long-term average is +1. Production expectations for the coming months are still pessimistic. Order books remained at weak levels. Stocks of finished goods were a little bit above the long-term average. Production capacity was fully utilized by 61 % of the respondents.

■ Sentiment in Construction Stable

The construction confidence indicator scored -16 in November, which is the same figure as in October. The indicator is clearly below its long-term average which is -6. Companies' assessments on order books improved minorly but the level is still clearly below the normal. Expectations concerning the labor market weakened. Seasonally adjusted workforce numbers are expected to decrease from the current levels during the next few months.

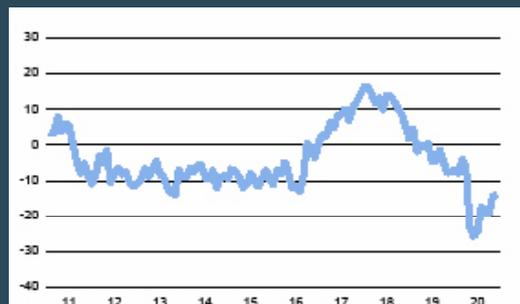
■ Confidence in Service Sector Remained Weak

The service sector confidence indicator scored -11 points in November, which is exactly the same figure than in October. Confidence is well below the long-term average (+12). Service companies' assessments of the current business situation continued to weaken. Sales volumes have decreased during the previous months and the sales expectations for the coming months were cautious.

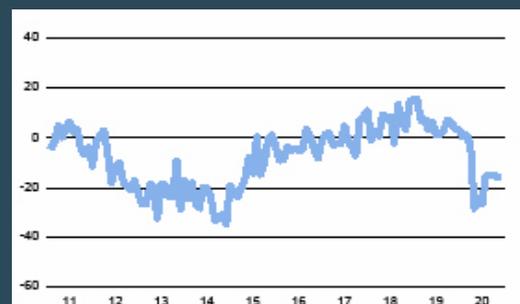
■ Retail Sector Improves Minorly

Retail trade confidence gained four points in November from October revised figure. The latest standing is -3, which is now slightly below the long-term average (-1). Sales development was mildly positive in November but the views concerning future sales figures were still very weak. Volumes of stocks stayed near the long-term average.

Industrial Confidence Indicator



Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



EK Business Surveys

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