

Confidence in Finnish Industries Decreased



■ Minor Decrease in Manufacturing Confidence

In May, the manufacturing confidence indicator decreased slightly from April's revised figure. Confidence was +13 in May. The long-term average is +1. Production expectations for the coming months are still positive. Order books decreased from the previous month's level but are still above normal level. Stocks of finished goods decreased and are below the long-term average. Production capacity was fully utilized by 91 % of the respondents.

■ Confidence in Construction Declined

The construction confidence indicator scored -15 in May, which is eleven points less than in April. The indicator is below its long-term average which is -6. Companies' assessments on order books dropped from the previous month and the level is now below normal. Expectations concerning the labor market continue to weaken when seasonal adjustment is taken into account.

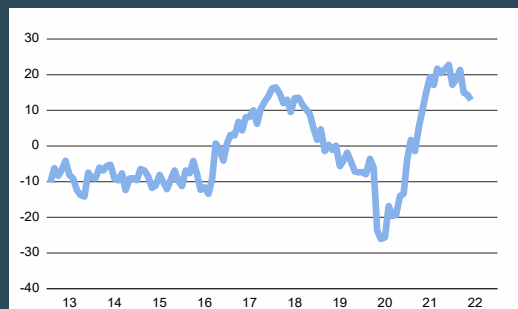
■ Minor Drop in Service Sector Sentiment

The service sector confidence indicator scored +9 points in May, which is one point less than the revised figure in April. Confidence is below the long-term average (+12). Service companies' assessments of the current business situation continue to deteriorate in May. Despite worsened business situation sales volumes increased during the previous months and the sales expectations for the coming months were still optimistic.

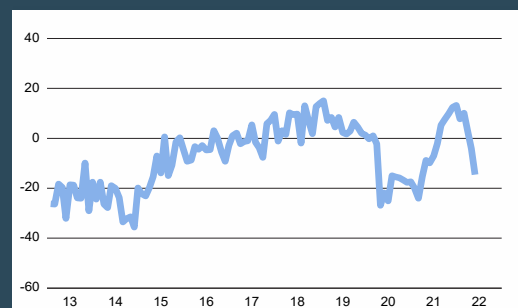
■ Retail Sector Confidence Unchanged

Retail trade confidence scored +0 in April, which is the same the figure as in April. The latest standing is close to the long-term average (-1). Sales development has been positive but the views concerning future sales figures are now pessimistic. Volumes of stocks increased minorly and are above the long-term average.

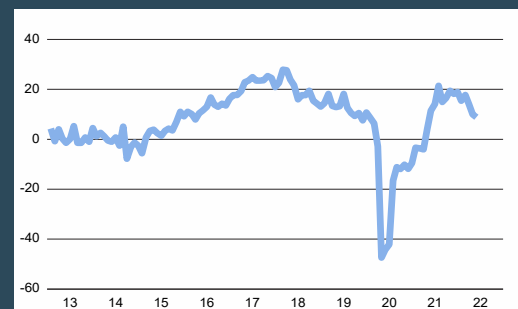
Industrial Confidence Indicator



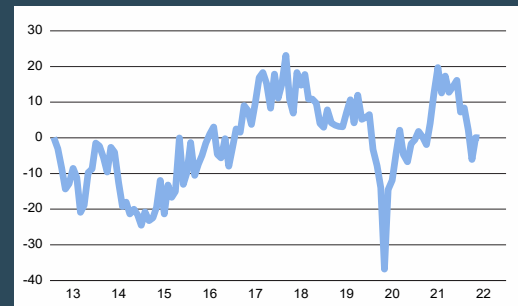
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



EK Business Surveys

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