

# Confidence Indicators February 2014

To be released on 27 February 2014 at 9.00 a.m.



## Slightly Better Confidence Indicators in February

### Manufacturing

Manufacturing confidence has improved slightly but business situation is still weak. However, some production growth is expected.

Finnish manufacturing confidence improved somewhat to -8 points in February (revised figure -11 in January). Confidence is nevertheless below its long-term average (+2). Production is expected to increase slightly during the next few months. Order books are clearly smaller than normal. Stocks of final goods shrank to average levels.

### Construction

Construction confidence was almost unchanged. Order books are well below normal.

Construction confidence indicator gained one point in February. It scored -23 points (revised figure -24 in January). Confidence is weaker than its long-term average (-7). Order books have stayed clearly below normal and personnel is expected to decrease during the next few months.

### Services

Service sector confidence indicator improved somewhat in February.

Service sector confidence indicator rose to +5 points in February from the revised figure of +2 points one month earlier. Its long-term average is +14. Sales growth was rather slow but some growth is expected for the coming months, too. However, companies' assessment of the overall business situation has worsened slightly during the last few months.

### Retail trade

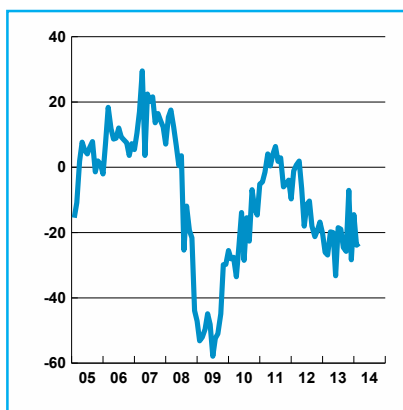
Retail trade confidence is still weak. However, the confidence indicator gained two points in February.

Finnish retail trade confidence improved slightly. The latest indicator figure is -7 points (-9 in January). Confidence is still weaker than long-term average (0 points). Sales volumes have continued their decline and no growth is forecast for the coming months.

Industrial Confidence Indicator



Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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#### EK Business Surveys

EK Business Surveys are a part of the Joint Harmonised EU Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys. They are co-financed by the European Union. Business surveys have been carried out in Finland since 1966.

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