



Confidence Indicators almost Unchanged in April

Manufacturing

Manufacturing confidence was unchanged. Some production growth is expected but order books are well below average.

Finnish manufacturing confidence was unchanged in April. The confidence indicator stayed at -7 points (revised figure -7 in March). Confidence is currently weaker than its long-term average (+2). Production is expected to increase slightly during late spring and summer but order books are clearly smaller than normal. Stocks of final goods are slightly above long-term normal.

Construction

Construction confidence is at a low level. Order books are clearly below normal.

Construction confidence indicator stayed almost intact at a low level in April. Its latest balance figure is -29 points (-28 points in March). Confidence is well below its long-term average (-7). Order books have stayed clearly smaller than normal and personnel is expected to decrease in the near future.

Services

Service sector confidence indicator stayed below its long-term average but some sales growth is expected.

The service sector confidence indicator stayed below its long-term average in April. It scored 0 points (+1 point in March) while its long-term average is +14. Sales figures were roughly unchanged in April but slight growth is forecast for the coming few months. Nevertheless, service companies' assessment of the overall business situation has declined somewhat during spring 2014.

Retail trade

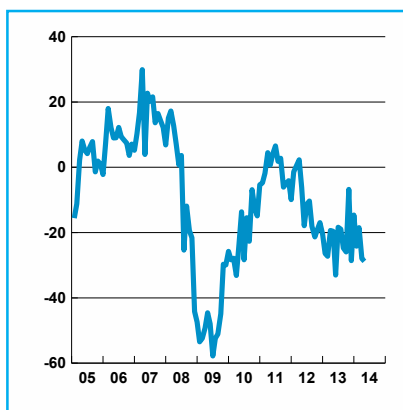
Retail trade confidence improved slightly but sales outlook is still cautious.

Finnish retail trade confidence improved slightly from the low levels in the first quarter of 2014. The latest indicator figure is -2 points (revised figure -5 in March). Confidence is weaker than long-term average (0 points). Sales volumes have declined further but weak growth is predicted for the next months.

Industrial Confidence Indicator



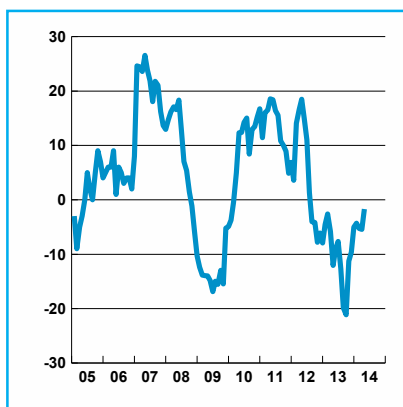
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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EK Business Surveys

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