



Confidence Indicators Well Below Average

Manufacturing

Manufacturing confidence is below average despite some improvement in order books.

Finnish manufacturing confidence improved slightly up in January. The confidence indicator scored -7 points (revised figure -9 in December). Confidence is currently well below its long-term average (+1). Production growth is expected to be weak in the near future. Order books improved a little, but they are still below long-term normal.

Construction

Construction confidence indicator is at a very low level.

Finnish construction confidence turned down after some recovery one month earlier. Overall business situation is weak and personnel figures are expected to decrease. The confidence indicator fell to -28 points in January (revised figure -17 in December) while its long-term average is -8.

Services

Service sector confidence remained roughly unchanged at rather modest levels.

The service sector confidence indicator stayed unchanged at a level below average. It scored -3 points in January (-2 in December) while its long-term average is +13. The overall business situation has continued to deteriorate but some sales growth is expected for the next few months.

Retail trade

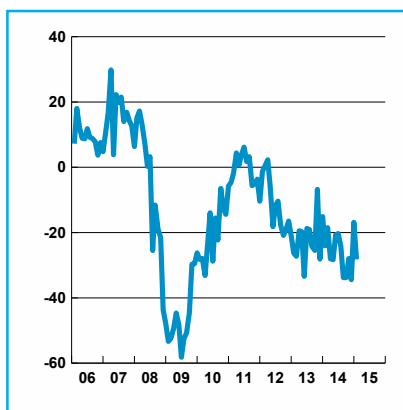
Retail trade confidence is still very weak.

Finnish retail trade confidence is still very weak although the confidence indicator improved a little in January. It recovered to -20 points from an all-time low of -25 points in December (revised figure). The long-term average is -1. Sales volumes are expected to continue their prolonged decline.

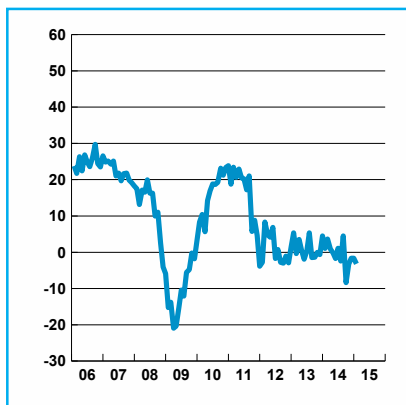
Industrial Confidence Indicator



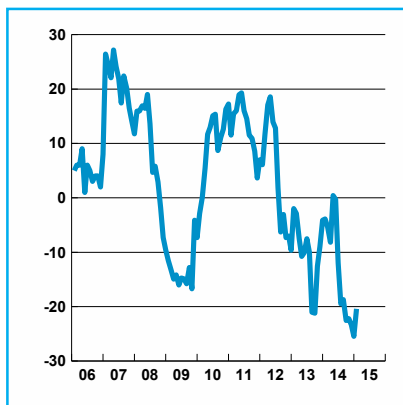
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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EK Business Surveys

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