



## Business Confidence Indicators Improved Somewhat

### Manufacturing

Manufacturing confidence was stable but below average. Some production growth is expected.

Finnish manufacturing confidence was stable at a relatively low level in April. The confidence indicator scored -7 points which is equal to the figure recorded in March. The long-term average is +1. Slight production growth is expected for the coming few months. Order books have continued to improve but they are still smaller than normal.

### Construction

Confidence improved in April but it is still below average.

Finnish construction confidence indicator improved slightly. However, confidence is well below long-term average. Order books are smaller than normal and personnel is still expected to decrease. The confidence indicator scored -17 points in April (revised figure -22 in March). Its long-term average is -8.

### Services

Service sector confidence stayed unchanged in April, with moderate growth expectations.

The service sector confidence indicator was rather stable in April. It scored +2 points which is only marginally less than the revised figure in March (+3). Its long-term average is +13. The overall business situation has still deteriorated slightly. Nevertheless, moderate sales growth is expected for the next few months.

### Retail trade

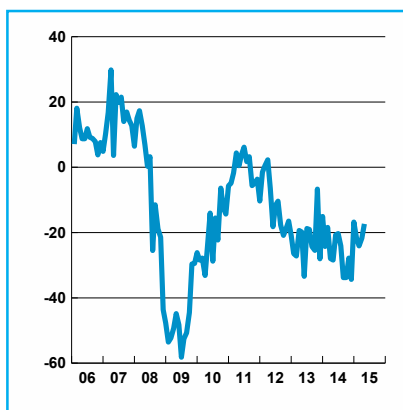
Retail trade confidence is still weak despite some recovery.

Although the confidence indicator recovered somewhat, the Finnish retail trade confidence is still at a very low level. The most recent indicator figure is -15 (revised figure -23 in March) while the long-term average is -1. Sales volumes are expected to decrease further.

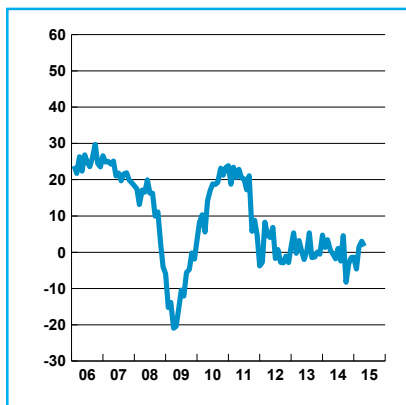
Industrial Confidence Indicator



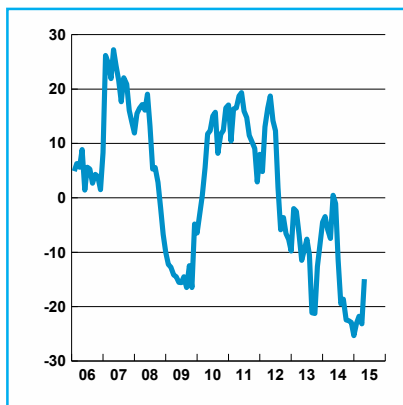
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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#### EK Business Surveys

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

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