

Confidence Indicators December 2015

To be released on 28 December 2015 at 9.00 a.m.



Business Confidence Still Rather Weak

Manufacturing

Manufacturing confidence was weak in December with low order books and capacity utilisation rate.

Finnish manufacturing confidence indicator scored -11 points in December (-10 in November). Confidence is well below its long-term average (+1). Only very slow production growth is expected for the next few months. Order books are clearly below their long-term average. Stocks of final goods stayed almost unchanged but their level is somewhat above average.

Construction

Confidence indicator lost a few points but is still at a relatively good level.

Finnish construction confidence weakened a few points in December but the indicator is slightly better than average. It fell to -2 points (+2 points in November) while its long-term average is -8. Order books are almost at normal levels and personnel is expected to increase slightly when measured with seasonally adjusted figures.

Services

Confidence is close to long-term average with little change in December.

Improving trend in Finnish service sector confidence halted in December when the confidence indicator stood at +9 points (+10 in November). Confidence is slightly below its long-term average (+13). Finnish service companies have some positive sales expectations for the coming months.

Retail trade

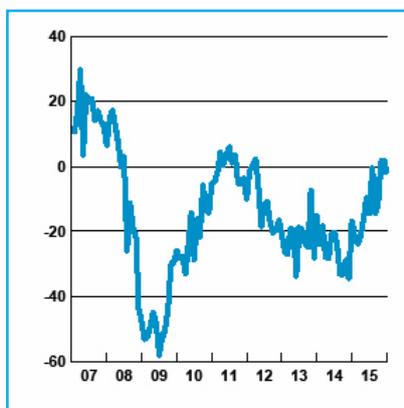
Retail trade confidence is well below average.

Confidence in retail trade was weak in December. The confidence indicator figure was -15 (-14 in November) while its long-term average is -2. Sales volumes are expected to decline further during the next few months.

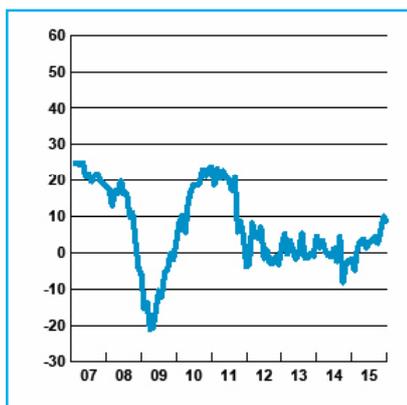
Industrial Confidence Indicator



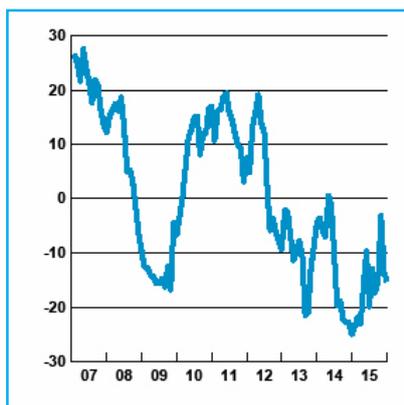
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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EK Business Surveys

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