

# 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

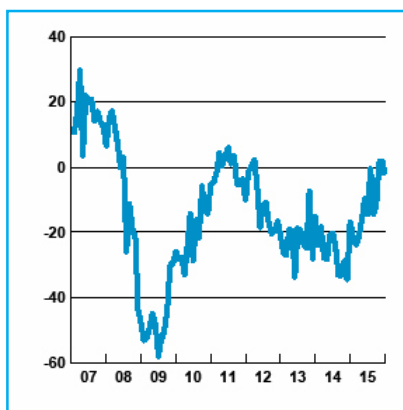
Retail trade confidence is well below average.

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



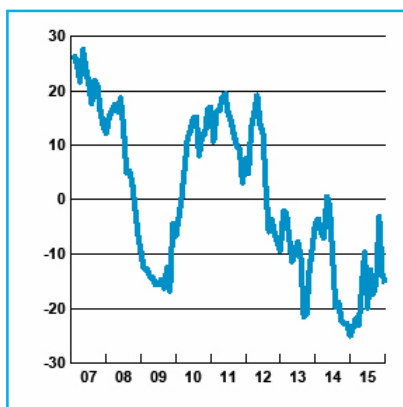
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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#### EK Business Surveys

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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