



Only Small Changes in Business Confidence

Manufacturing

Manufacturing confidence remained at a weak level.

Finnish manufacturing confidence remained weak in July. The confidence indicator lost a few points and fell to -13 (-11 in June). Its long-term average is +1. Production expectations are cautious and no growth is predicted for the next few months. Order books are clearly below their long-term average. Stocks of final goods stayed slightly above normal.

Construction

Construction confidence was unchanged in July. The indicator is close to long-term average.

The construction confidence indicator remained stable at -6 points in July (-6 in June, too). The long-term average is -8. Order books are somewhat below normal but employment is expected to improve slightly during the next three months.

Services

Service sector confidence strengthened slightly.

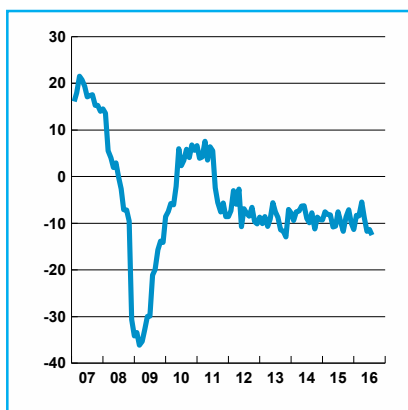
Service sector confidence improved to +17 points in July (revised figure +14 in June). The indicator is somewhat above its long-term average (+13). The overall business situation has improved slightly during the last few months. Sales volumes are expected to grow at a steady pace.

Retail trade

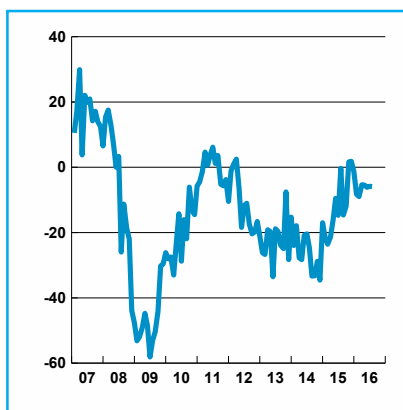
Retail trade confidence stayed stable in July.

Retail trade confidence stayed unchanged in July. The latest indicator figure is +3, equal to the reading in June. Its long-term average is -2. Sales growth has been moderate and some growth is foreseen for the next three months, too.

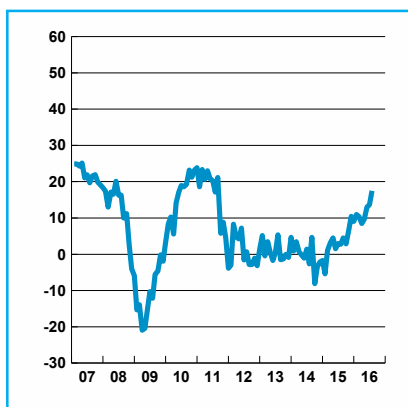
Industrial Confidence Indicator



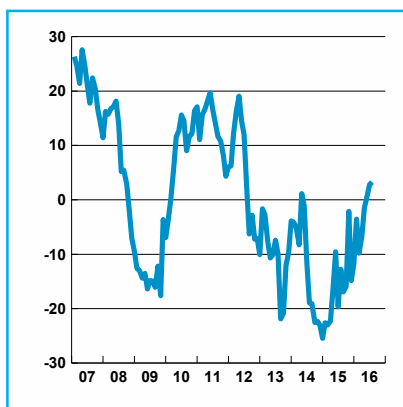
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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EK Business Surveys

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