



No Big Changes in Overall Business Situation

Manufacturing

Manufacturing confidence recovered slightly but it is still weak.

Despite a small recovery, the manufacturing confidence indicator stayed at a low level in August. It stood at -10 points, two points higher than the revised figure in July. Confidence is clearly weaker than its long-term average (+1). Production figures are expected to stay stable in the near future. Order books are clearly below their long-term average. Stocks of final goods shrank to average levels.

Construction

Construction confidence improved in August.

Finnish construction confidence improved in August. The confidence indicator rose to +3 points from -6 in July. Its long-term average is -8. Order books have improved and their level is now close to normal. Some employment increase is predicted for the next few months.

Services

Service sector confidence retreated slightly but is still at a rather high level.

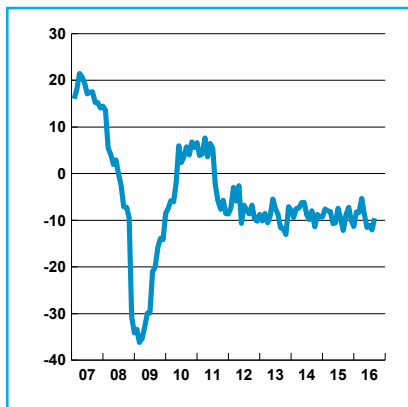
Service sector confidence declined to +14 points in August (+17 in July). The indicator is somewhat above its long-term average (+13). The overall business situation has improved slightly during the last few months. Sales volumes are expected to grow at a steady pace.

Retail trade

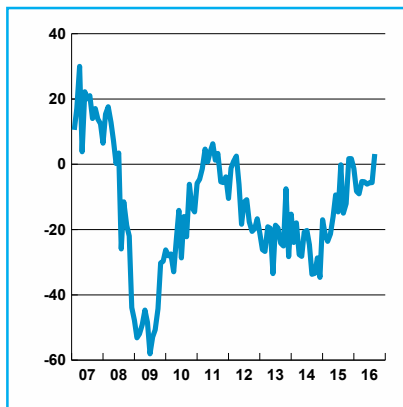
Retail trade confidence weakened somewhat in August.

Retail trade confidence weakened slightly in August. The confidence indicator scored -3 points (+3 in July). Its long-term average is -2. Sales figures have been stable and no growth is foreseen for the next three months either.

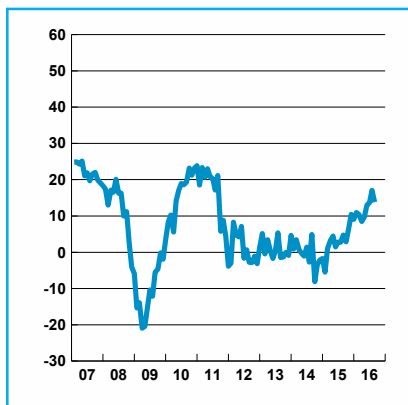
Industrial Confidence Indicator



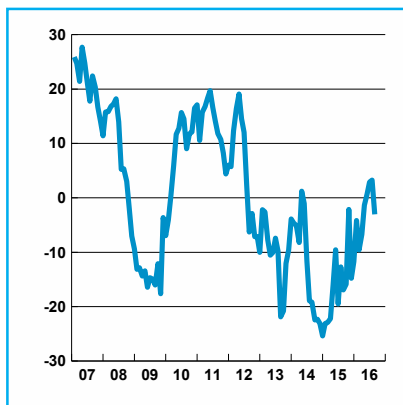
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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EK Business Surveys

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