



Business Confidence Remained at a High Level

Manufacturing

Manufacturing confidence improved in May

Finnish manufacturing business confidence strengthened in May. The indicator climbed up to +8 points (revised figure +4 in April). It is well above its long-term average (+1). Production is expected to grow in the near future. Order books rose above average levels. Stocks of final goods decreased and their level was somewhat normal.

Construction

Construction confidence stayed almost unchanged

Confidence in the construction sector weakened marginally in May. The confidence indicator scored -4 points (-3 in April). The indicator is slightly stronger than the long-term average (-7). Order books are above their average levels. However personnel expectations are mildly deteriorating.

Services

Confidence more and more stronger

The Finnish service sector confidence indicator improved to +23 points in May (+22 in April). It is clearly above its long-term average (+13). The overall business situation has continued its rising trend. Sales volumes are expected to grow steadily during the next few months.

Retail trade

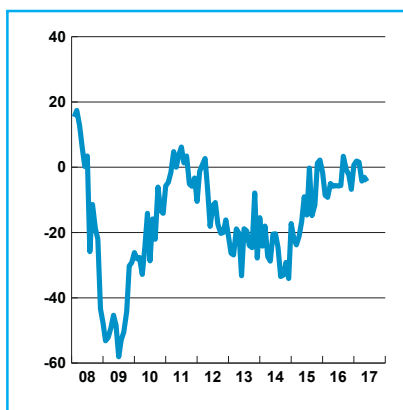
Retail trade confidence was mainly steady in May

The retail trade confidence indicator lost one point in May as indicator turned from +5 in April to +4 in May. Its long-term average is -2. Sales growth turned up in May and some improvement is expected for the forthcoming summer as well.

Industrial Confidence Indicator



Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



Inquiries:

Jouko Kangasniemi, Economist
Tel. +358 40 5518136

firstname.lastname@ek.fi

EK Business Surveys

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Confederation of Finnish Industries EK

P.O.Box 30, FI-00131 Helsinki, Finland
Telephone +358 9 420 20
Fax +358 9 4202 2299
www.ek.fi