



# Finnish Business Confidence decreased slightly in February

## ■ Manufacturing confidence in slight decrease

Finnish manufacturing confidence weakened slightly in February. Confidence is currently just below its long-term average. The confidence indicator scored -2 points in February which is six points lower than the revised figure recorded in January. The long-term average is +1. Production expectations were positive but order books decreased slightly below normal. Stocks of finished goods stayed clearly above average in February.

## ■ Construction confidence weakened

Construction sector confidence decreased from the previous month level in February. The indicator declined eight points to +8 points (revised figure +16 in January). The long-term average for the indicator is -6 points. Confidence softened albeit strong position in companies' assessments on order books. Employment expectations remained fairly optimistic when seasonal variation is taken into account.

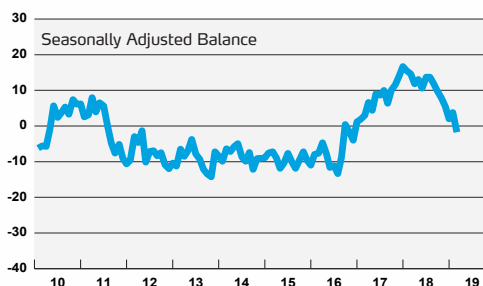
## ■ Service confidence indicator continued improving

Service sector confidence indicator increased furthermore to +19 points in February which is five points higher than in January. The indicator stands currently at above its long-term average level (+14). Managers' views on past business development changed to positive. Sales have increased and a steady growth is predicted for the coming months.

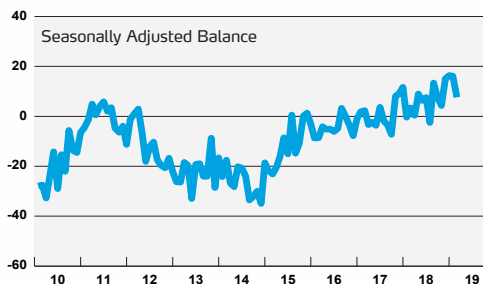
## ■ Retail trade confidence stable in February

Retail trade confidence weakened only slightly in February. The indicator decreased to +5 points from +7 in January. Nevertheless, the indicator is above its long-term average (-1). Sales growth has continued and sales expectations for the near future are also positive. The level of stocks rose and it is currently above average.

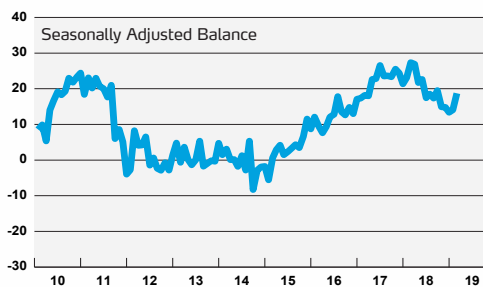
### Industrial Confidence Indicator



### Construction Confidence Indicator



### Services Confidence Indicator



### Retail Trade Confidence Indicator

