



Finnish Business Confidence is quite stable

■ Manufacturing confidence increased slightly

Finnish manufacturing confidence stayed almost at the same level as in February. Confidence is currently quite the same as the long-term average. The confidence indicator scored +1 point in March which is three points higher than the revised figure recorded in February. The long-term average is +1. Production expectations were positive and order books increased slightly. Stocks of finished goods stayed clearly above average in March.

■ Construction confidence unchanged

Construction sector confidence stayed at the same level as the previous month. The indicator declined one point to +7 points (revised figure +8 in February). The long-term average for the indicator is -6 points. Companies' assessments on order books were positive although the figure decreased two points, being +10 in March and +12 in February. Employment expectations remained fairly optimistic when seasonal variation is taken into account. Employment expectations are slightly over the average level.

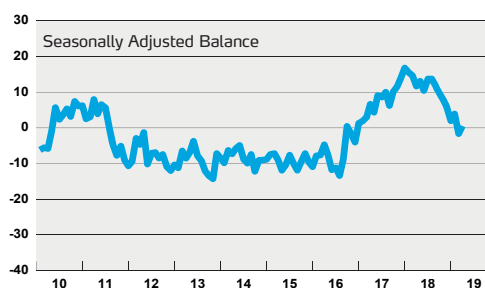
■ Service confidence indicator a bit weaker

Service sector confidence indicator decreased to +11 in March which is seven points lower revised than in February. The indicator stands currently below its long-term average (+14). Managers' views on past business development changed to +14 in March, which is lower than in February (revised +25). The growth of sales is slower than in February.

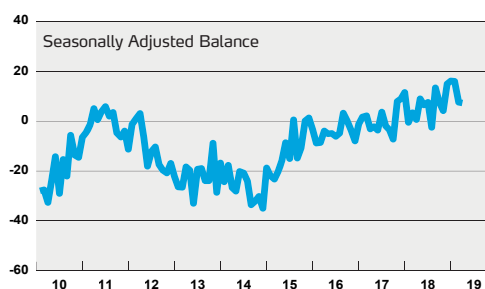
■ Retail trade confidence has slightly weakened

Retail trade confidence weakened slightly in March. The indicator decreased to +1 from +5 in February. Nevertheless, the indicator is still above its long-term average (-1). Sales growth has decreased but sales expectations for the near future are still positive. The level of stocks has decreased and is below the long-term average at +8 points.

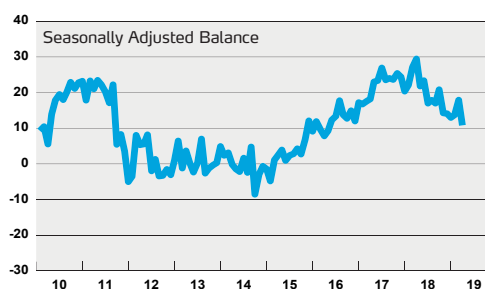
Industrial Confidence Indicator



Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator

