



## CONFIDENCE INDICATORS

AUGUST 2019

To be released on 27 August 2019 at 8.00 a.m.

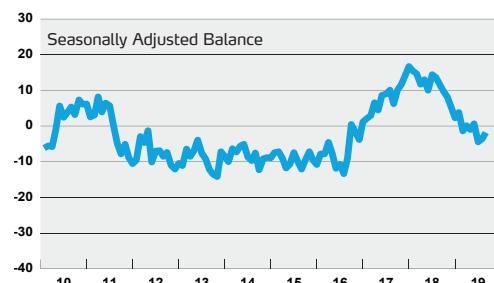


# Confidence in Finnish Manufacturing Stable

## ■ Manufacturing confidence almost unchanged

Manufacturing confidence rose slightly from the previous month's level in August. Confidence was in -2 in August as in July the figure was -4. The long-term average is +1. Production has increased slightly, and production is expected to increase moderately in the near future. Order books continued diminishing and their levels were just below long-term average. Stocks of finished goods decreased but they were still above average.

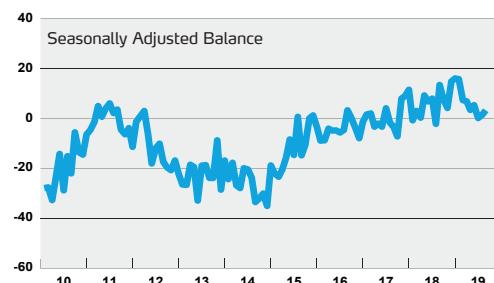
### Industrial Confidence Indicator



## ■ Minor improvement in construction sector

Construction confidence indicator rose slightly in August. The latest figure is +3 as the revised figure in July was +1. The indicator is still above its long term average (-6). Companies' assessments on order books improved modestly and the level was still above normal. Seasonally adjusted workforce numbers are expected to be unchanged during the next few months.

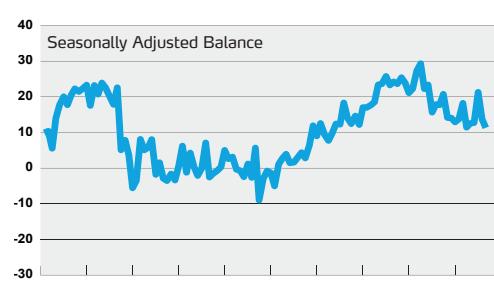
### Construction Confidence Indicator



## ■ Service confidence weakened

The service sector confidence indicator decreased to +11 points (+14 in July). Confidence is now below the long-term average (+14). Service companies assess that their sales have improved from previous month but the expectations are now more cautious than before. However, sales development is expected to pick up in the near future.

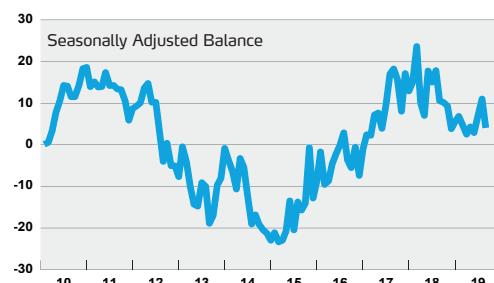
### Services Confidence Indicator



## ■ Confidence in retail trade decreased

Retail trade confidence lost 7 points in August. The latest standing is +4, which is still above the long-term average (-1). Sales development was slowing in the summer but the views concerning future sales development are rather optimistic. Volumes of stocks increased modestly but they are still below the long-term average.

### Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



#### EK Business Surveys

EK Business Surveys are part of the Joint Harmonised EU Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys. They are co-financed by the European Union. EK Business Surveys have been carried out since 1966.

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