



CONFIDENCE INDICATORS

DECEMBER 2019

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



Finnish Industrial Confidence Stable

■ Manufacturing Confidence almost Unchanged

In December, the manufacturing confidence indicator stayed almost at the same level as in previous month. Confidence was -6 in December (-7 in November). The long-term average is +1. Production is expected to decrease in the near future. Order books were almost unchanged and their levels were close to long-term average. Stocks of finished goods diminished but they remained above the long-term average. Production capacity was fully utilized only by 71 % of the respondents.

■ Sentiment in Construction Decreased slightly

The construction confidence indicator decreased by one point from previous month to +3 points. The indicator is above its long-term average which is -6. Companies' assessments on order books strengthened and the level is now above the normal. However, the weakness is reflected now in labour market. Seasonally adjusted workforce numbers are expected to remain at current levels during the next few months.

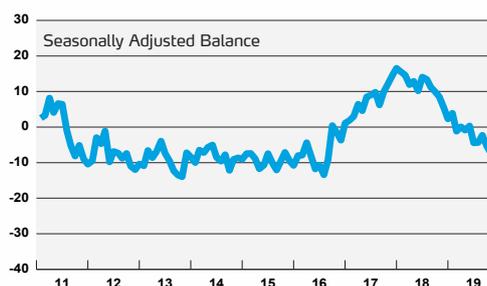
■ Service Confidence Increased

The service sector confidence indicator scored +11 points in December, which is three points more than in November. Confidence is getting closer to the long-term average (+14). Service companies' assessment of the current business situation has remained weak in December. On the other hand, sales volumes have risen during the previous months and the sales expectations were still positive. Thus, the sales development is expected to be positive in the near future.

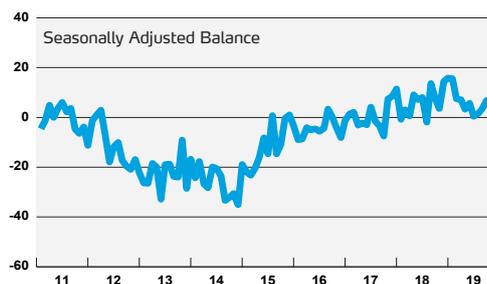
■ Confidence in Retail Sector Improved

Retail trade confidence gained one point in December. The latest standing is +8, which is above the long-term average (-1). Sales development continued to grow in December and the views concerning future sales figures were also rather positive. Volumes of stocks decreased and they are now clearly below the long-term average.

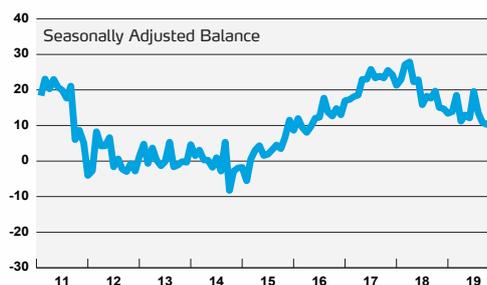
Industrial Confidence Indicator



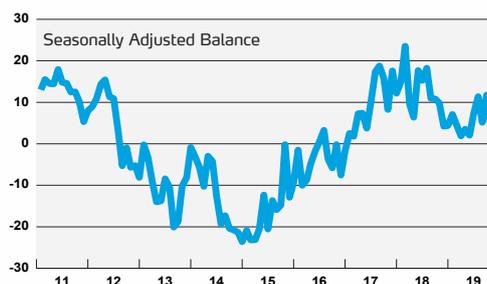
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



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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