



Finnish Industrial Confidence Decreased

■ Manufacturing Confidence Decreased

In January, the manufacturing confidence indicator decreased three points from December. Confidence was -8 in January (-5 in December). The long-term average is +1. Production is expected to increase slightly in the near future. Order books diminished rapidly and their levels were clearly below the long-term average. Stocks of finished goods stayed unchanged above the long-term average. Production capacity was fully utilized only by 71 % of the respondents.

■ Sentiment in Construction Unchanged

The construction confidence indicator scored +3 in January, which is the same figure as in December. The indicator is above its long-term average which is -6. Companies' assessments on order books weakened and the level is now above the normal. Positive expectations are now reflected also to labour market. Seasonally adjusted workforce numbers are expected to increase from the current levels during the next few months.

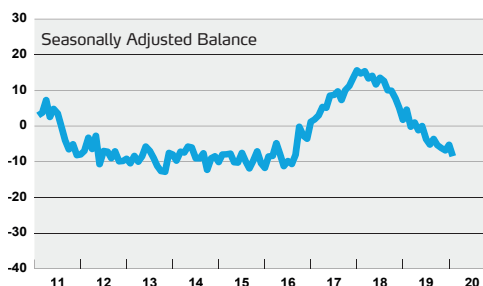
■ Service Confidence in Slight Decline

The service sector confidence indicator scored +10 points in January, which is one point less than in December. Confidence is getting away from the long-term average (+14). Service companies' assessments of the current business situation have weakened during the past few months. 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.

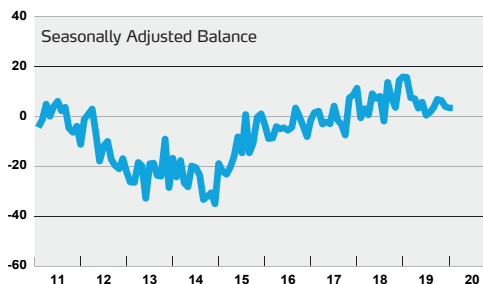
■ Confidence in Retail Sector Drops

Retail trade confidence lost eight points in January. The latest standing is -3, which is below the long-term average (-1). Sales development was weak in January and the views concerning future sales figures were also rather cautious. Volumes of stocks increased but they are still clearly below the long-term average.

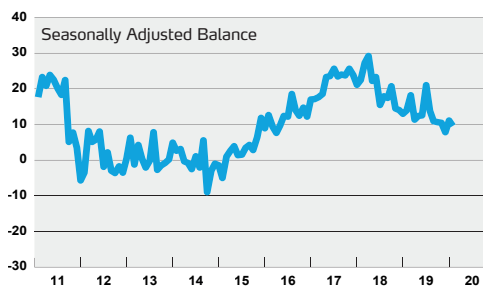
Industrial Confidence Indicator



Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator

