



Slight Improvement in Finnish Business Confidence

Manufacturing

Business confidence improved somewhat in July because of decreasing stocks. Order books are still at a very low level.

Finnish manufacturing confidence turned up in July. However, the confidence indicator is still at a very low level. The confidence indicator scored -27 (revised figure -32 in June). The long-term average is +3. Order books are still at considerably low levels and production volumes are still expected to decrease over the next months. Nevertheless, stocks of finished goods decreased close to average.

Construction

The confidence indicator improved slightly in July. Order books are well below long-term average.

The construction confidence indicator improved slightly in July. It reached -51 points (revised figure -58 in June). Its long term average is -4. Order books are well below their normal level and further personnel decrease is expected in the near future.

Services

The confidence indicator continued its weak recovery. However, the general business situation is still weak.

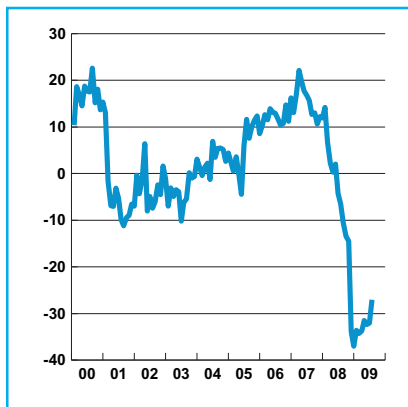
The service sector confidence indicator continued a weak recovery in July. The indicator scored -21, which is four points better than the revised figure one month earlier. The long term average of the series is +17. Despite the small improvement, sales are continuing to decline.

Retail trade

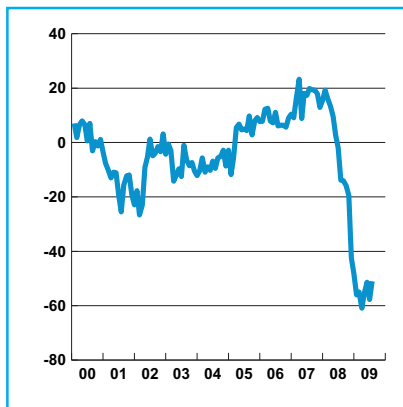
Confidence remained weak in July. No upswing in sales is expected.

The retail trade confidence indicator is still at a low level. It scored -14 in July, which can be compared with the revised figure of -16 points in June. The volume of sales has lowered and expectations for the coming months are still weak.

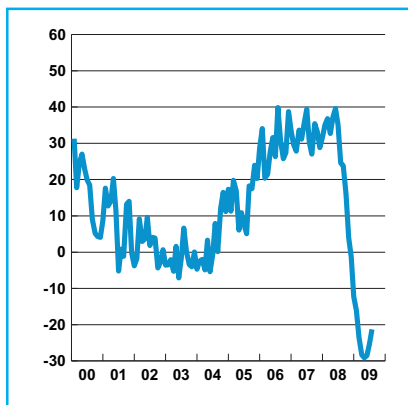
Industrial Confidence Indicator



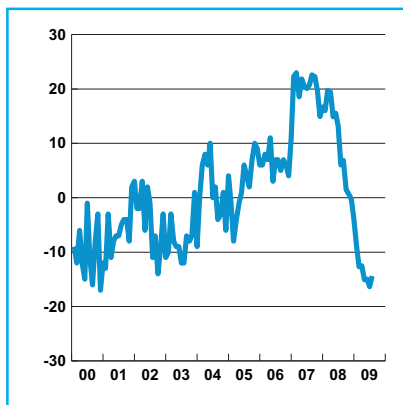
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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