

# Confidence Indicators December 2009

To be released on 28 December 2009 at 9.00 a.m.



## Manufacturing Confidence Improved in December

### Manufacturing

Business confidence became clearly stronger in December. Production expectations are somewhat brighter and stocks of final goods decreased.

Finnish manufacturing confidence indicator strengthened in December due to brighter production expectations and decreasing stocks of final goods. The indicator reached -9 points (revised figure -18 in November). The long-term average is +2. Order books continued a gradual recovery but they are still fairly weak. Production growth is expected to start slowly in the beginning of next year. Stocks of final goods are clearly smaller than average.

### Construction

Construction confidence improved in December. Order books have gradually improved, but personnel expectations are still cautious.

Construction confidence indicator improved in December. It reached -23 points (-28 in November). The long term average is -5. Order books continued to improve gradually but they are still well below average. Personnel decrease is expected to slow down in the beginning of next year.

### Services

Business confidence was steady at a low level in December. However, sales figures are expected to turn up.

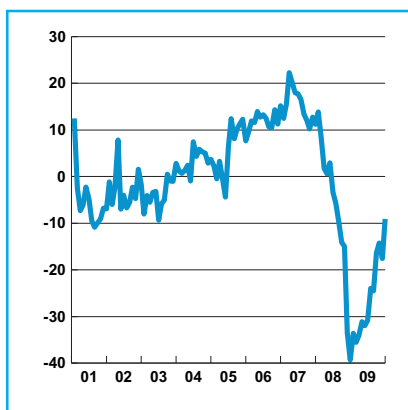
Service companies' confidence was steady at a low level in December. The confidence indicator scored -19 points which is equal to the revised figure in November. The long-term average is +16. Sales were in a slight decline, but some growth is expected for the coming months.

### Retail trade

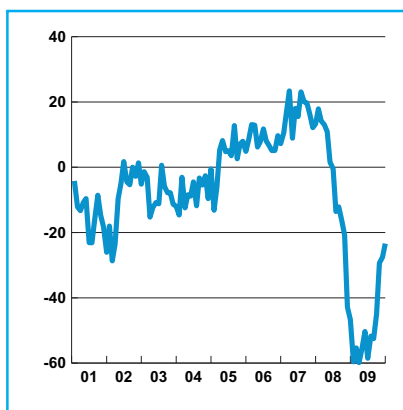
Confidence stayed unchanged in December. The overall business situation is weak.

Retail trade confidence stayed unchanged in December. The confidence indicator scored -10 points, equal to the figure one month earlier. Sales volume continued to decline, but sales figures are expected to stabilise in the next few months.

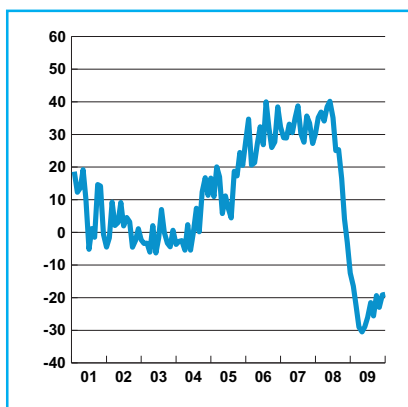
Industrial Confidence Indicator



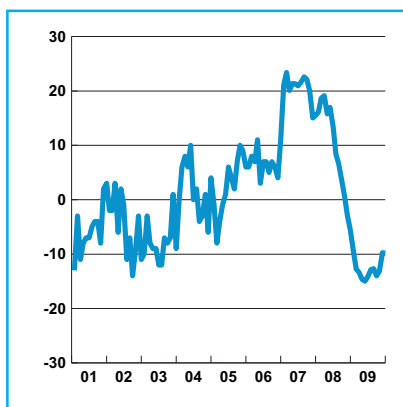
Construction Confidence Indicator



Services Confidence Indicator



Retail Trade Confidence Indicator



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