

2010-06-18

PRESS RELEASE

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June 2010 consumer survey

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE PICKS UP AGAIN IN JUNE

The consumer confidence indicator has recovered in June, after having fallen back sharply last month.

Consumers appeared distinctly more confident about future developments on the labour market. Fears of a resurgence of unemployment have thus faded, as has generally been the case for the last few months. After dropping sharply the previous month, prospects for the general economic situation in Belgium have firmed up as well, albeit to a lesser extent than forecasts solely concerning the labour market.

Besides the more optimistic assessment of the macroeconomic aspects, consumers are also expecting to bolster their financial means and saving capacity over the next twelve months.

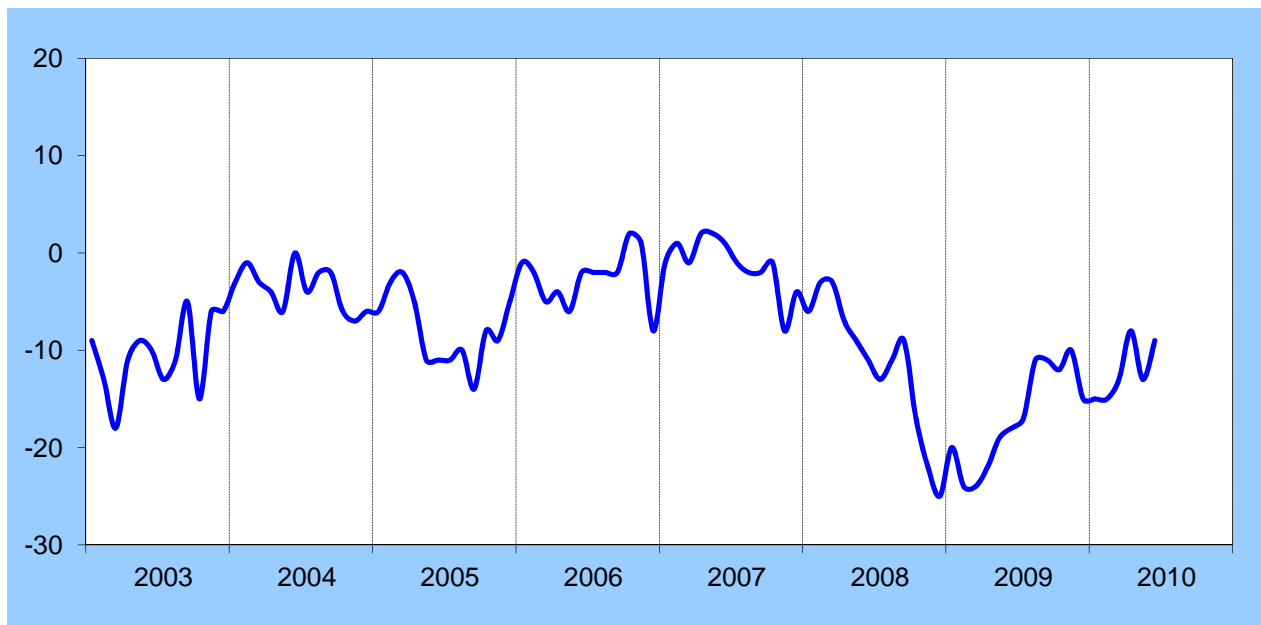
Consumer confidence indicators

		Expectations for the next twelve months				Consumer confidence indicator
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium ¹	Financial situation of households	Saving capacity of households	
2009	June	-5	69	1	3	-18
	July	-4	65	-2	2	-17
	August	7	57	1	5	-11
	September	6	57	1	6	-11
	October	3	57	3	6	-12
	November	10	55	3	3	-10
	December	0	65	1	4	-15
2010	January	-2	65	1	7	-15
	February	-1	64	0	5	-15
	March	2	60	2	6	-13
	April	8	43	2	1	-8
	May	-6	47	-1	3	-13
	June	-4	40	1	6	-9

Source: National Bank of Belgium.

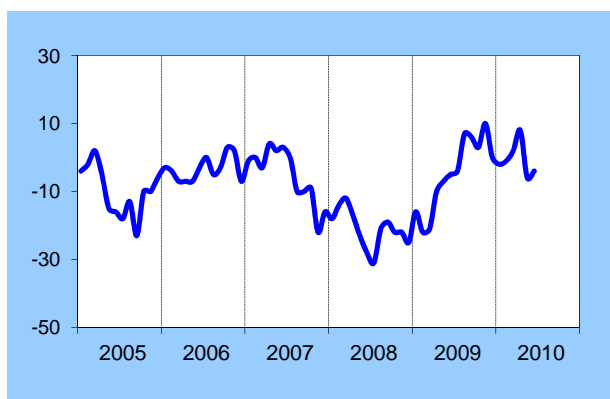
¹ Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

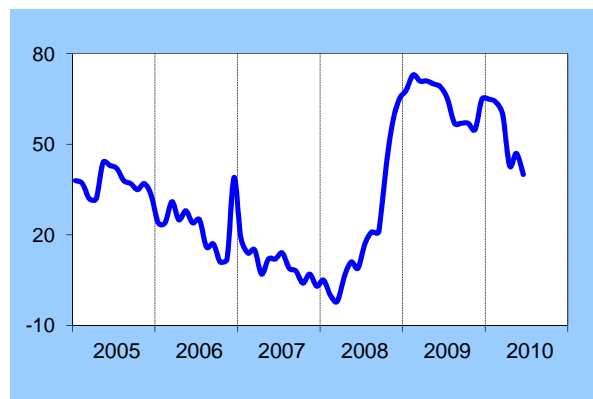


Expectations for the next twelve months

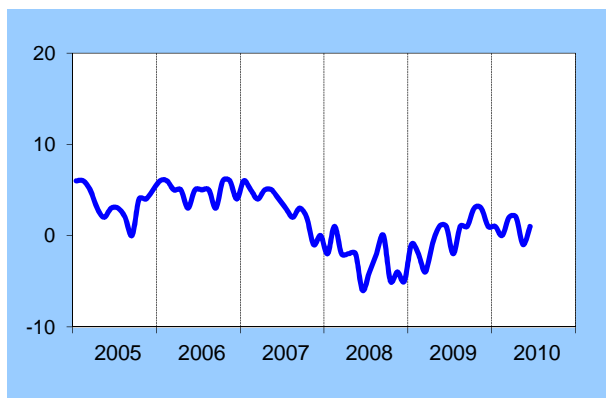
General economic situation in Belgium



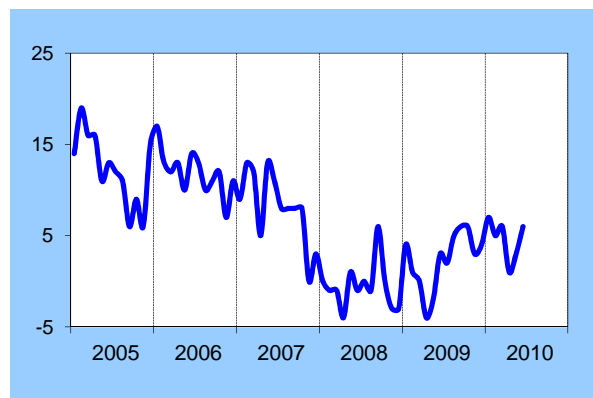
Unemployment in Belgium¹



Financial situation of households



Saving capacity of households



¹ Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.