

2010-01-20

PRESS RELEASE

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January 2010 consumer survey

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE STABILISES IN JANUARY

After having fallen back sharply in December, consumer confidence has stabilised during the month of January.

Consumers' outlook with respect to general economic developments deteriorated slightly further, compared with the previous month. At the same time, they remain in a pessimistic mood with their assessment of unemployment trends in Belgium. As regards their personal situation, households see no change in their financial position. They foresee that their saving capacity will increase in the coming twelve months.

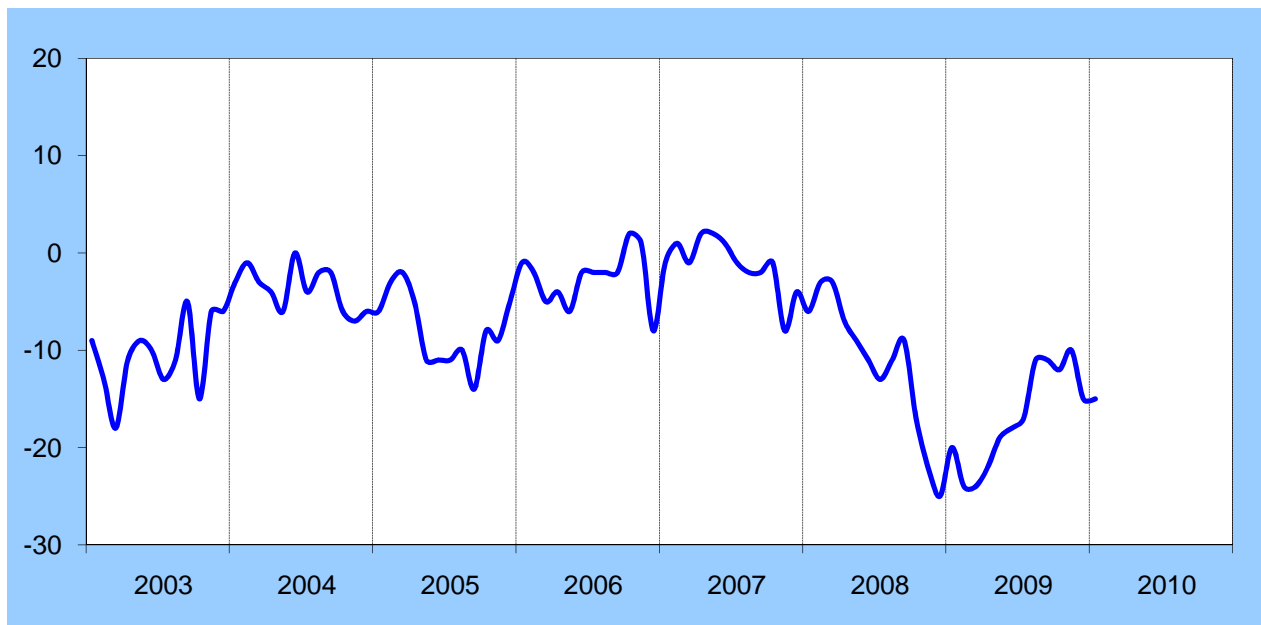
Consumer confidence indicators

		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	January	-16	68	-1	4	-20
	February	-22	73	-2	1	-24
	March	-21	71	-4	0	-24
	April	-10	71	-1	-4	-22
	May	-7	70	1	-2	-19
	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

Source: National Bank of Belgium.

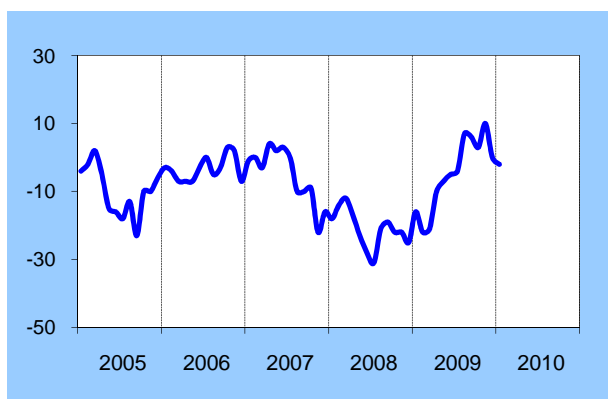
¹ Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

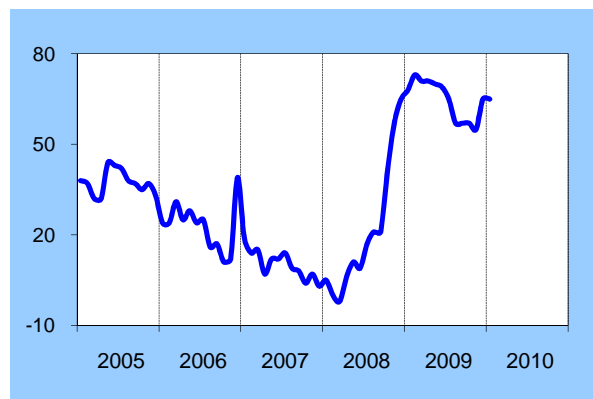


Expectations for the next twelve months

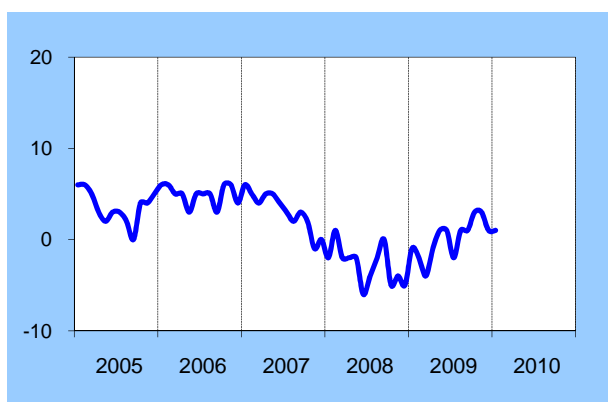
General economic situation in Belgium



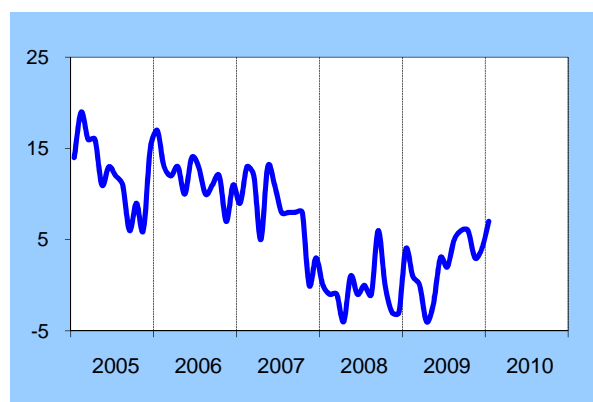
Unemployment in Belgium¹



Financial situation of households



Saving capacity of households



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