

2013-04-19

PRESS RELEASE

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April 2013 consumer survey

Consumer confidence recovers somewhat in April

After a sharp fall in the previous month, consumer confidence partially recovered in April.

The increase in consumer confidence is mainly due to a less pessimistic outlook with regard to macroeconomic developments. In particular, fears of a further economic decline and of an increase in unemployment were significantly assuaged.

Households' expectations as to their financial situation have practically remained at the level of the past three months. On the other hand, they estimate their future saving capacity to be somewhat rosier than a month ago.

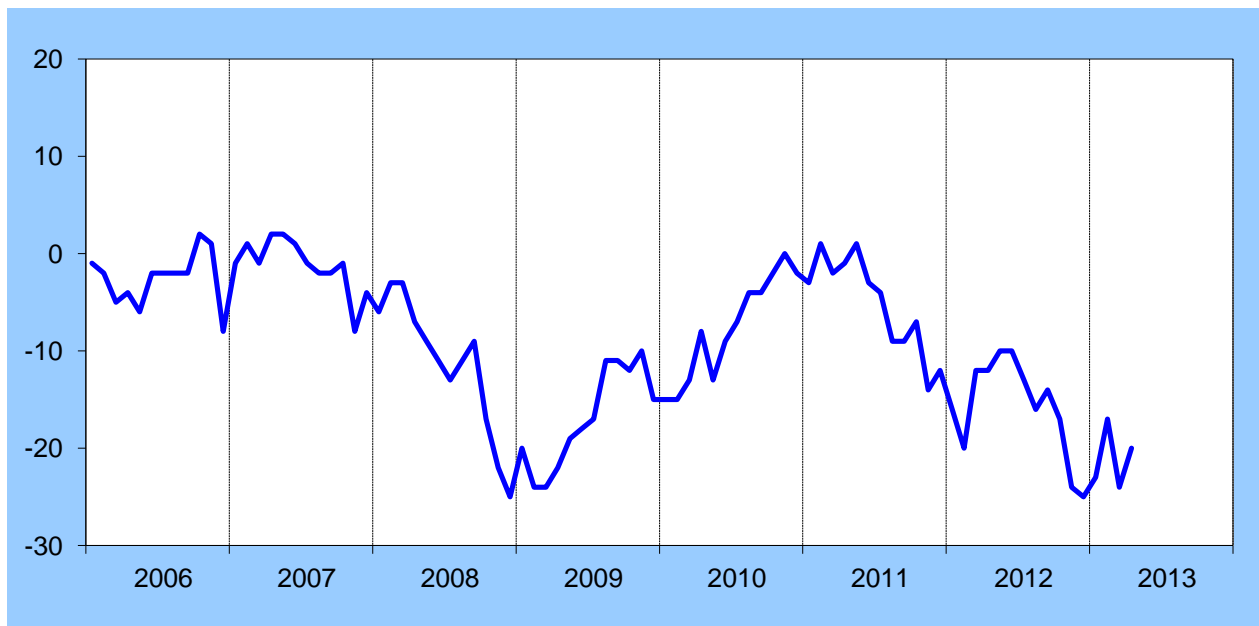
Consumer confidence indicators

		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		
2012	April	-8	35	-3	-1	-12	
	May	-9	31	-3	3	-10	
	June	-5	35	-1	2	-10	
	July	-7	39	-2	-4	-13	
	August	-11	46	-3	-3	-16	
	September	-11	40	-3	-1	-14	
	October	-16	50	-3	3	-17	
	November	-28	62	-5	-2	-24	
	December	-27	57	-5	-10	-25	
	2013	January	-23	59	-3	-7	-23
		February	-10	52	-3	-4	-17
		March	-22	63	-3	-7	-24
April		-15	56	-4	-4	-20	

Source: National Bank of Belgium.

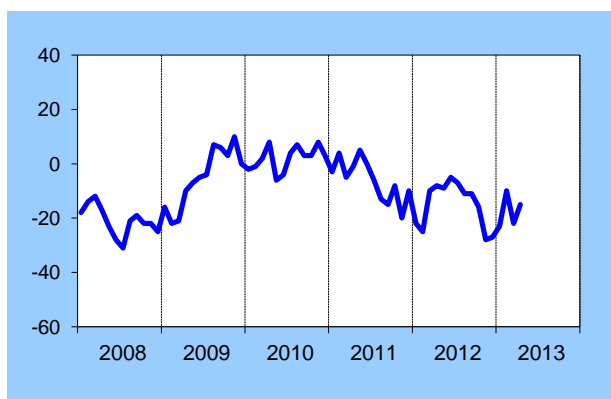
¹ Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

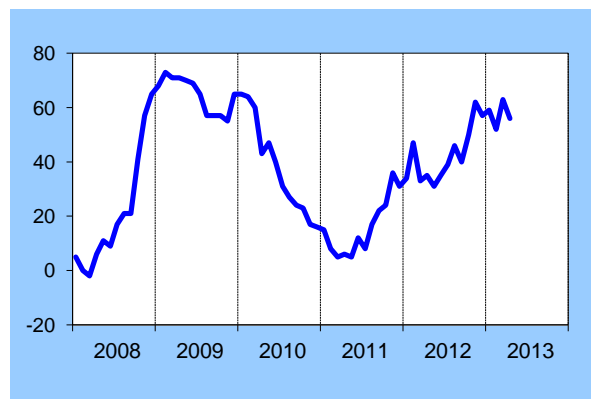


Expectations for the next twelve months

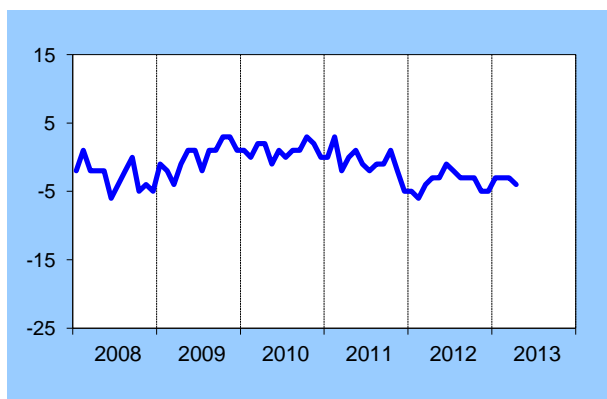
General economic situation in Belgium



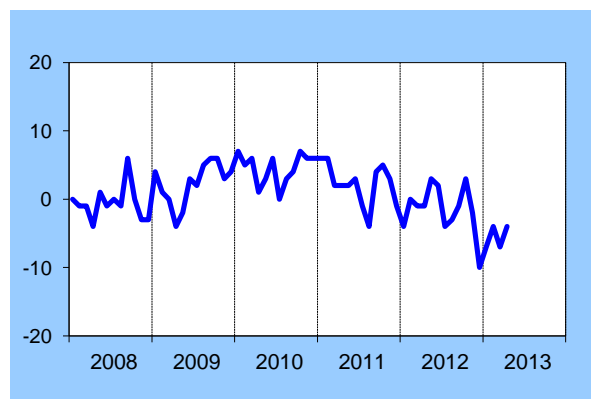
Unemployment in Belgium¹



Financial situation of households



Saving capacity of households



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