

2015-09-21

PRESS RELEASE

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September 2015 consumer survey

Consumer confidence drops in September

The consumer confidence indicator has fallen back considerably in September, following a sharp deterioration in expectations about the macroeconomic context.

So, forecasts concerning the general economic situation in Belgium have become gloomier. Fears of a rise in unemployment over the next twelve months have surged to an even greater extent, after having clearly receded and reached the lowest level for four years. These negative trends may well be related to recent geopolitical and international macroeconomic developments.

As for their personal situation, households have partly revised upwards the unfavourable predictions they had given last month as to their own finances. But they are still expecting to save a little less than before.

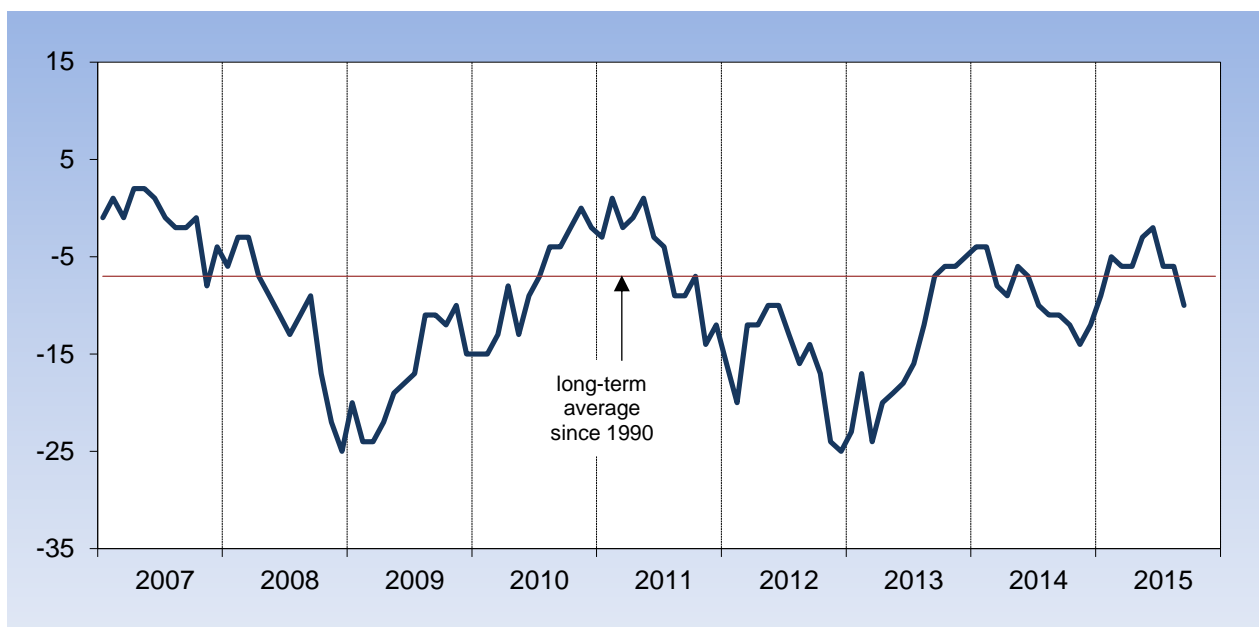
Consumer confidence indicators

		Expectations for the next twelve months				Consumer confidence indicator
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium ¹	Financial situation of households	Savings of households	
2014	September	-6	33	0	-4	-11
	October	-9	31	-3	-4	-12
	November	-15	27	-6	-8	-14
	December	-10	26	-5	-5	-12
2015	January	-5	24	-3	-4	-9
	February	2	18	-1	-1	-5
	March	-1	21	-3	1	-6
	April	0	24	-1	2	-6
	May	4	17	-1	4	-3
	June	8	15	-1	1	-2
	July	-1	19	-1	-1	-6
	August	-4	13	-6	0	-6
	September	-10	28	-3	-1	-10

Source: National Bank of Belgium.

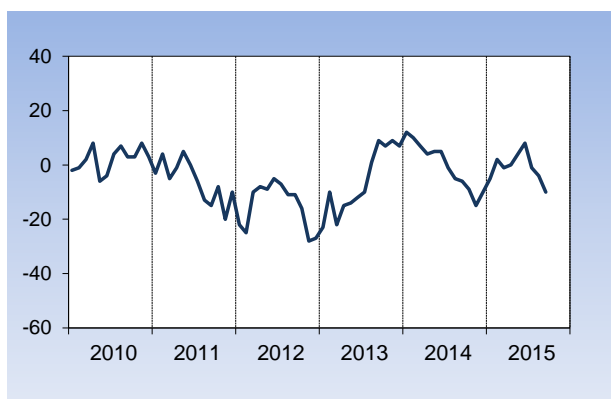
¹ Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR



Expectations for the next twelve months

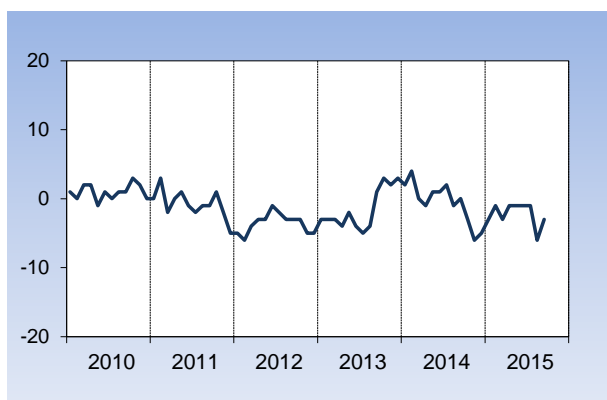
General economic situation in Belgium



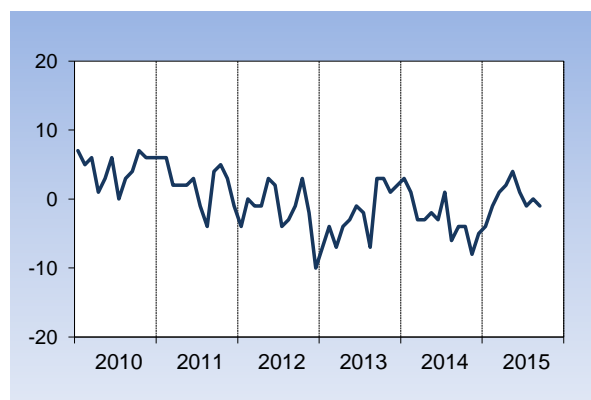
Unemployment in Belgium¹



Financial situation of households



Savings of households



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