

2016-12-19

## PRESS RELEASE

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### December 2016 consumer survey

#### Consumer confidence improves further in December

In the wake of the strong recovery recorded last month, the consumer confidence indicator has continued to pick up in December and is now almost back to this summer's level.

As far as consumers' macroeconomic estimates are concerned, fears of a rise in unemployment over the coming twelve months have again subsided sharply. The outlook for the general economic situation remains unchanged on the previous month.

Households predict only very minor changes in their personal situation. They reckon their financial situation will get slightly worse but expect to save a little bit more.

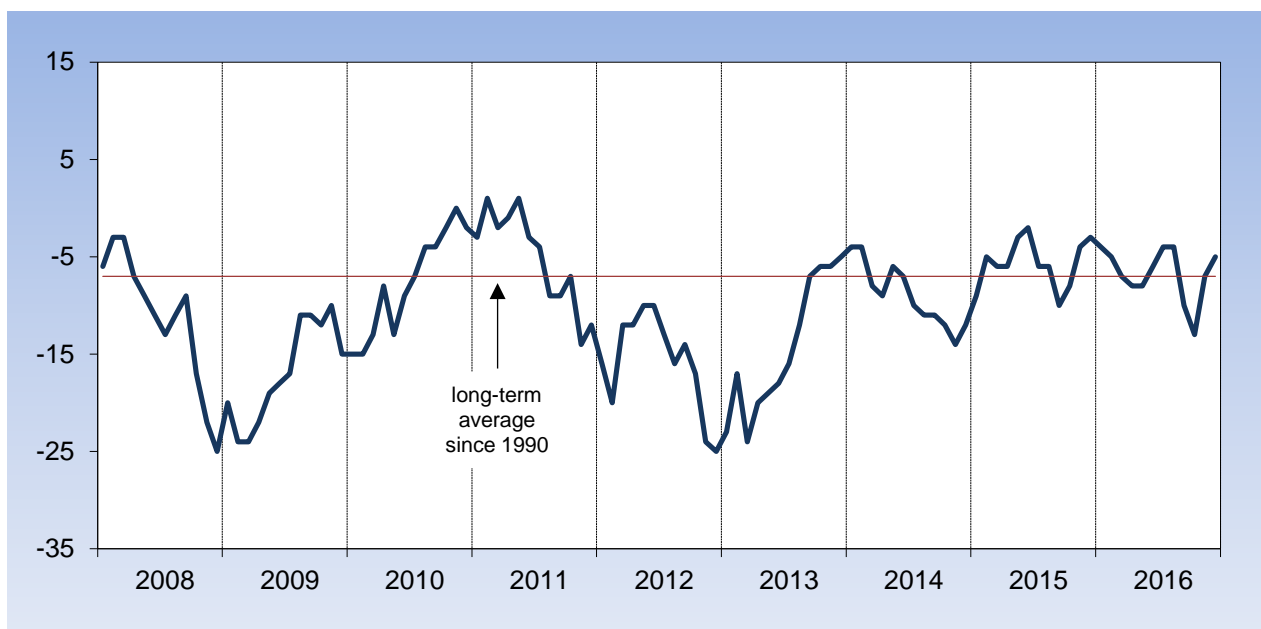
#### Consumer confidence indicators

		Expectations for the next twelve months				Consumer confidence indicator
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium <sup>1</sup>	Financial situation of households	Savings of households	
2015	December	0	13	-2	2	-3
2016	January	-1	13	-2	1	-4
	February	-5	14	-3	2	-5
	March	-11	15	-4	3	-7
	April	-10	15	-5	-1	-8
	May	-11	20	-3	4	-8
	June	-11	12	-2	0	-6
	July	-6	13	-1	4	-4
	August	-5	14	-1	2	-4
	September	-7	31	-2	1	-10
	October	-14	38	-3	4	-13
	November	-6	21	-1	1	-7
	December	-6	13	-2	2	-5

Source: National Bank of Belgium.

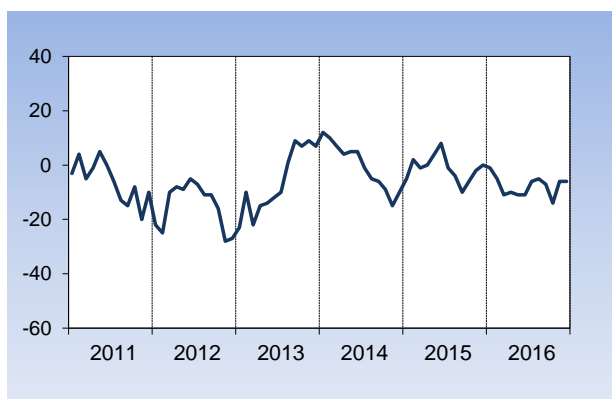
<sup>1</sup> Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR**

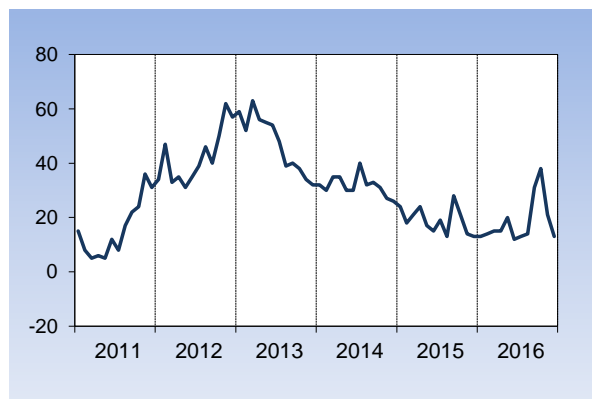


**Expectations for the next twelve months**

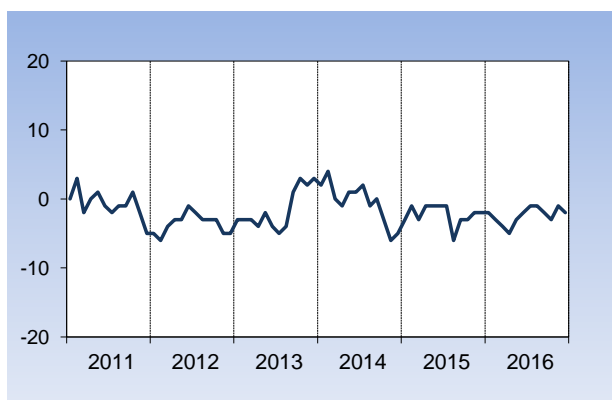
**General economic situation in Belgium**



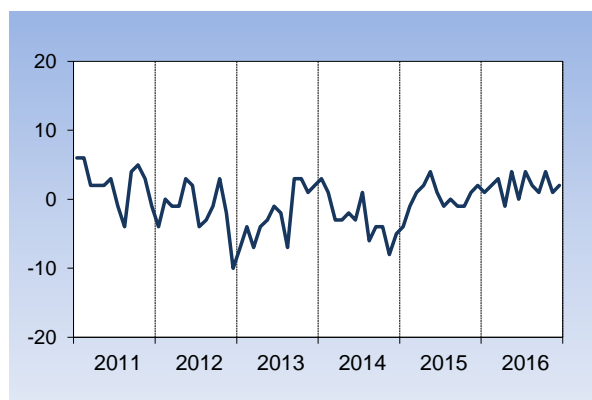
**Unemployment in Belgium<sup>1</sup>**



**Financial situation of households**



**Savings of households**



<sup>1</sup> Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.