

2018-12-17

PRESS RELEASE

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Monthly consumer survey – December 2018

Consumer confidence falls again in December

- **The consumer confidence indicator has nosedived in December, falling back to its lowest level for two years**
- **The loss of confidence is particularly evident in the outlook for the general economic situation in Belgium**

Consumers are expecting the general economic situation to get significantly worse over the next twelve months. Fears of a rise in unemployment have also grown, albeit to a lesser extent.

This last month, households have not revised their forecasts regarding their own financial situation. They are nevertheless planning to save less over the coming year.

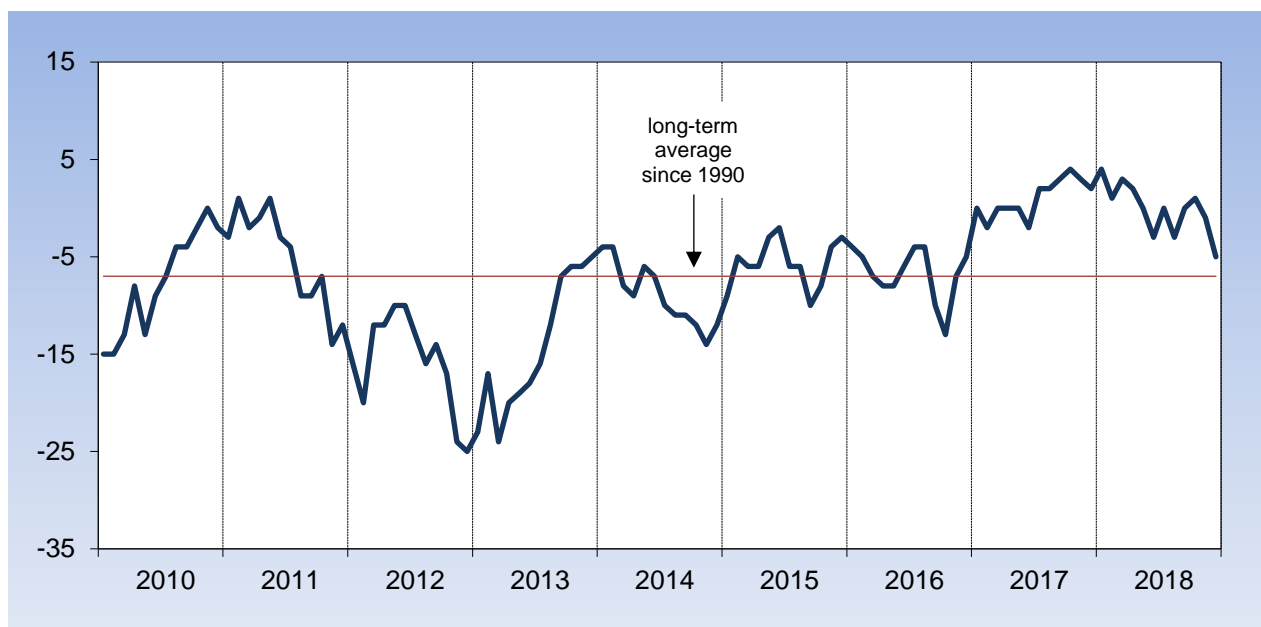
Consumer confidence indicators

		Expectations for the next twelve months				Consumer confidence indicator
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium ¹	Financial situation of households	Savings of households	
2017	December	5	0	0	3	2
2018	January	11	-6	0	-2	4
	February	8	-1	-2	-4	1
	March	10	-5	1	-2	3
	April	5	-3	1	1	2
	May	2	2	1	0	0
	June	-5	4	-4	-1	-3
	July	-1	0	-1	1	0
	August	-6	5	-2	2	-3
	September	-1	0	-2	2	0
	October	-2	-2	0	5	1
	November	-4	-1	-2	1	-1
	December	-12	1	-2	-3	-5

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

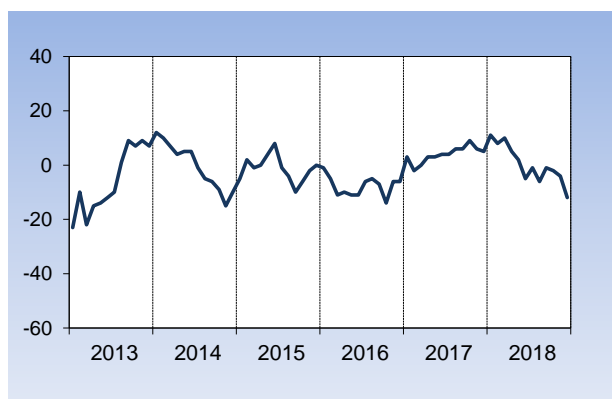
Source: National Bank of Belgium.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

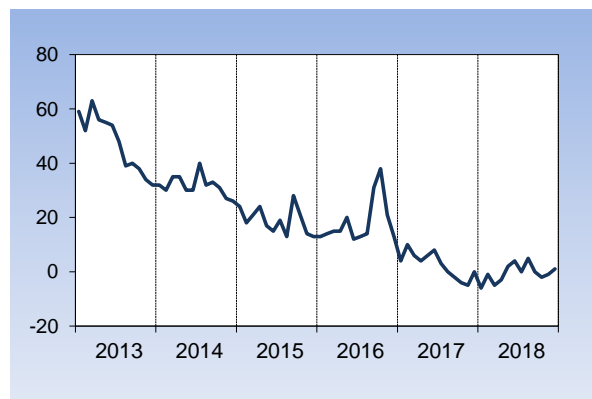


Expectations for the next twelve months

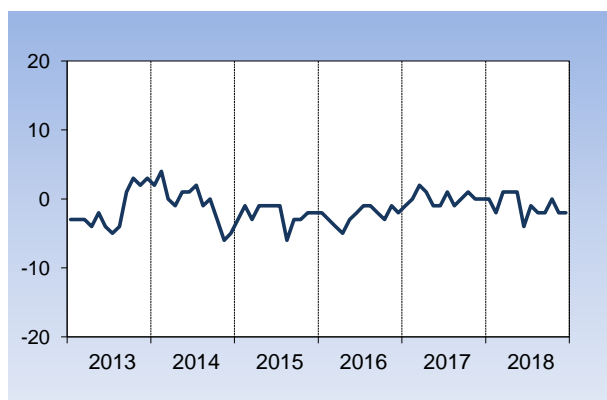
General economic situation in Belgium



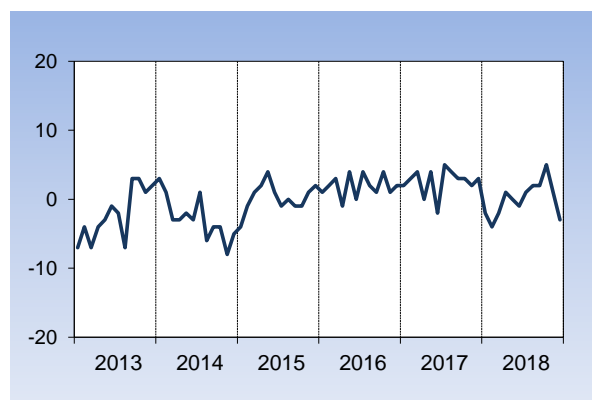
Unemployment in Belgium¹



Financial situation of households



Savings of households



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