

2021-07-22

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Monthly consumer survey – July 2021

## Consumer confidence stabilises in July

- The consumer confidence indicator remained steady at the high level reached in the previous month.
- Consumers are again a bit more confident about the outlook for the jobs market. Conversely, they are slightly less optimistic about their future financial situation.

The macroeconomic outlook for the next twelve months remains unchanged compared to June, and households still regard it as particularly good. What is more, they have again proved to be more optimistic about the future of the jobs market. Their concerns about rising unemployment over the coming twelve months are thus gradually subsiding to a level close to that seen before the start of the health crisis.

Conversely, consumers expect their financial situation to deteriorate somewhat over the coming twelve months, while their intentions in regard to savings are much the same as they were last month.

### Consumer confidence indicators <sup>1</sup>

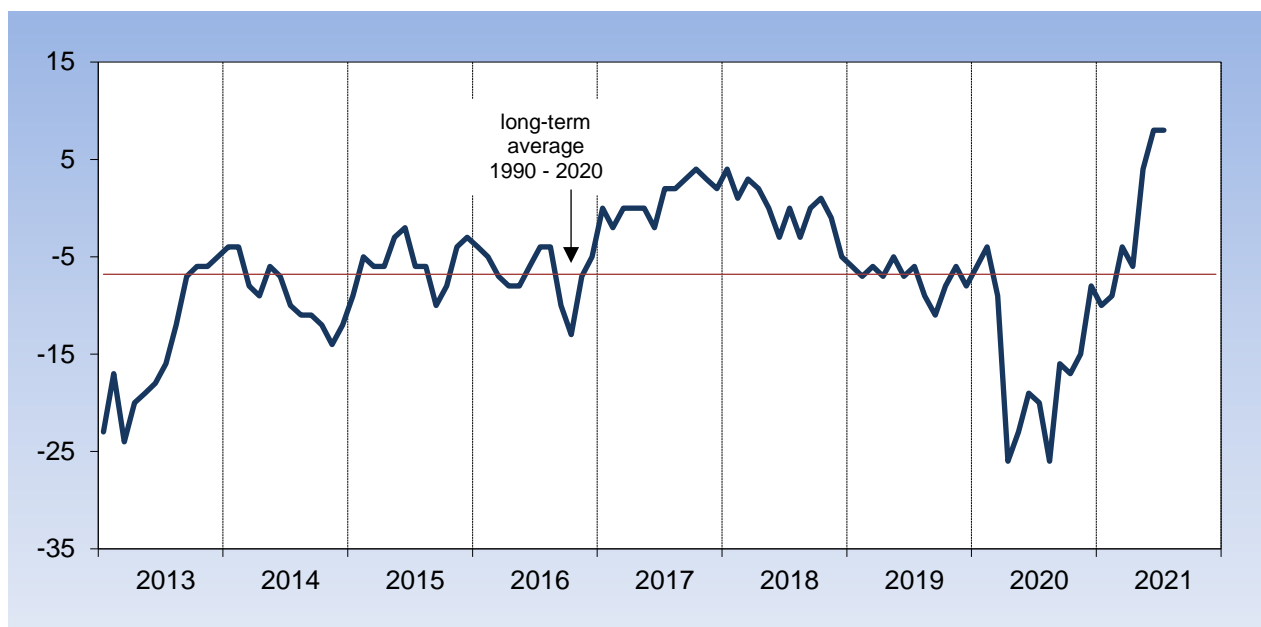
		Expectations for the next twelve months				Consumer confidence indicator
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium <sup>2</sup>	Financial situation of households	Savings of households	
2020	July	-22	70	1	12	-20
	August	-38	77	-1	12	-26
	September	-20	62	2	17	-16
	October	-20	59	1	10	-17
	November	-17	58	1	13	-15
	December	-3	51	4	20	-8
2021	January	-5	54	4	17	-10
	February	-4	48	2	13	-9
	March	2	37	2	18	-4
	April	-2	43	2	20	-6
	May	9	21	1	25	4
	June	19	13	4	24	8
	July	19	11	2	23	8

<sup>1</sup> As of February 2020, the survey sample has been adapted to better reflect the socio-demographic characteristics of the population. In line with the European Commission's recommendations, this change is being introduced only gradually, so as not to interfere too much with the information content of the indicator.

<sup>2</sup> Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.

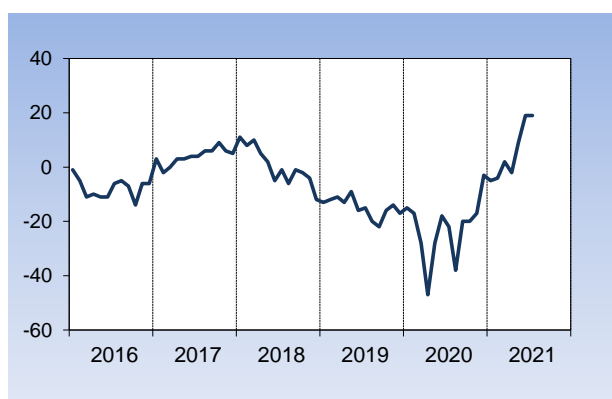
Source: National Bank of Belgium.

### CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

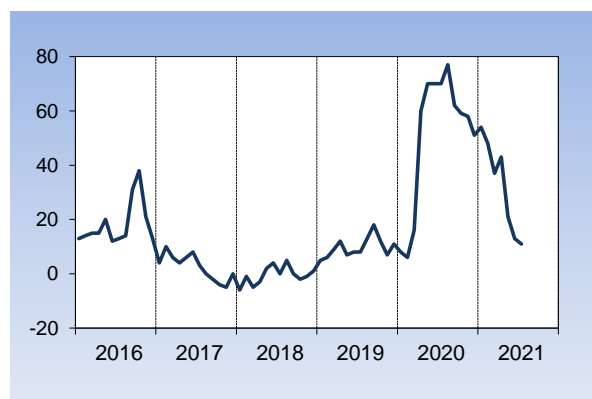


### Expectations for the next twelve months

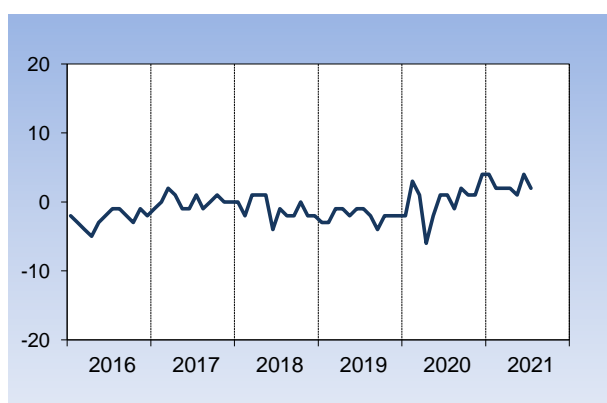
General economic situation in Belgium



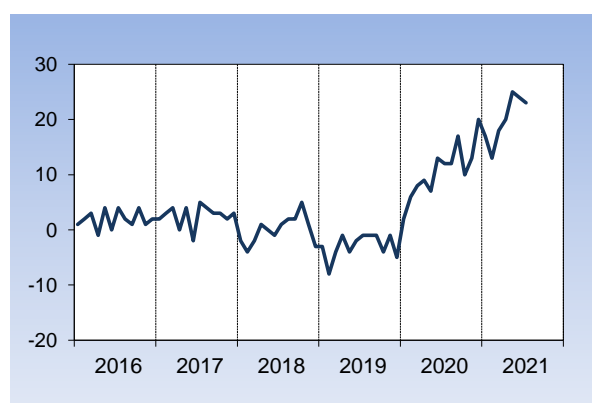
Unemployment in Belgium<sup>1</sup>



Financial situation of households



Savings of households



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