

2021-09-21

PRESS RELEASE

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Monthly consumer survey – September 2021

Consumer confidence recovers in September

- **The rise in the confidence indicator wipes out last month's fall.**
- **The increased confidence is reflected in all components of the indicator except for intentions regarding saving, which remained stable.**

Households are more optimistic about the outlook for the general economic situation in Belgium and the prospects for the jobs market. Concerns about rising unemployment over the next twelve months are at their lowest since the beginning of 2019.

Consumers' personal predictions concerning their financial situation have also improved. Households have not changed their expectations regarding saving, which remain at a very high level.

Consumer confidence indicators ¹

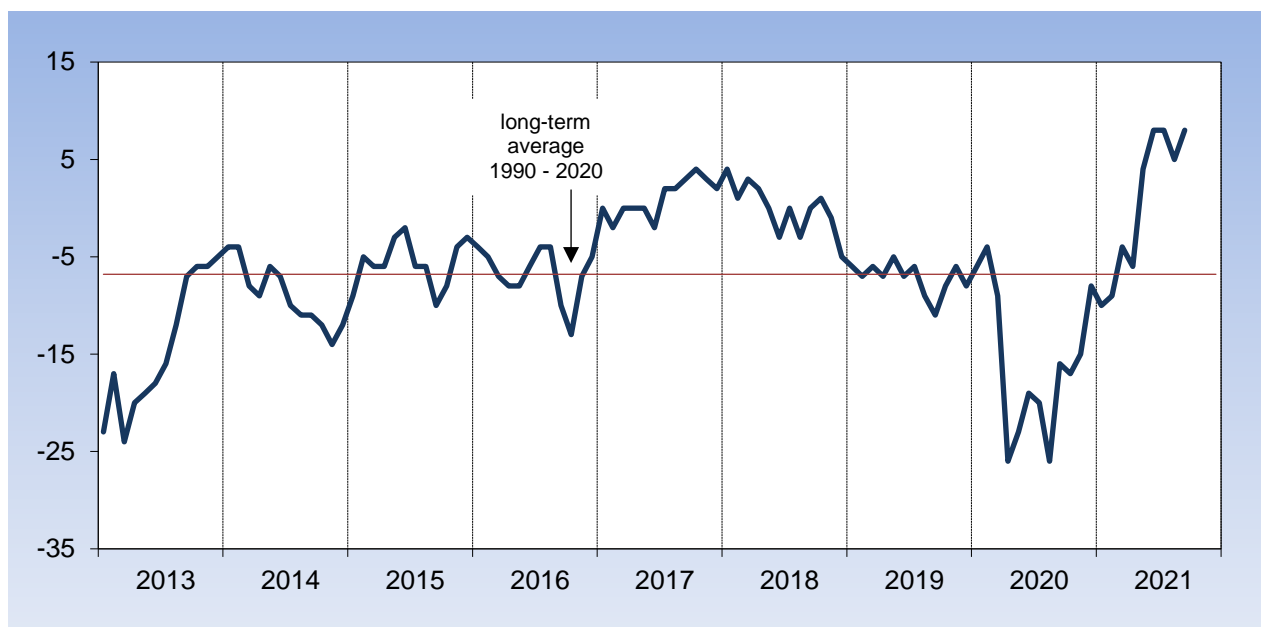
		Expectations for the next twelve months			Consumer confidence indicator	
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium ²	Financial situation of households		Savings of households
2020	September	-20	62	2	17	-16
	October	-20	59	1	10	-17
	November	-17	58	1	13	-15
	December	-3	51	4	20	-8
2021	January	-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
	August	5	8	0	21	5
	September	10	2	2	21	8

¹ 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.

² Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.

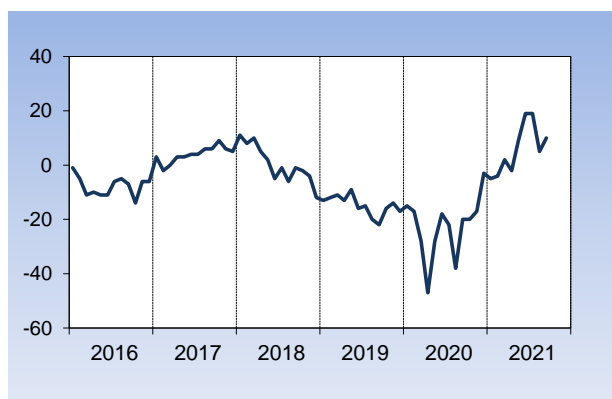
Source: National Bank of Belgium.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

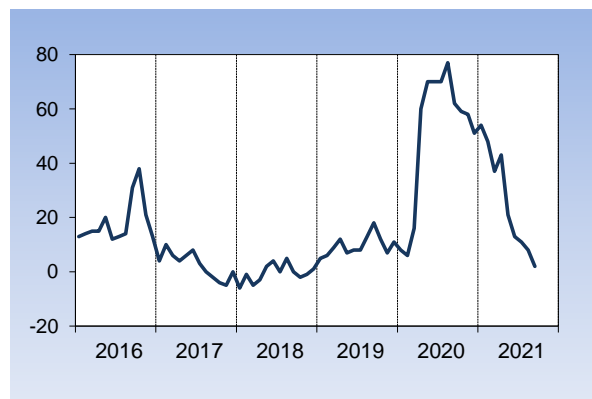


Expectations for the next twelve months

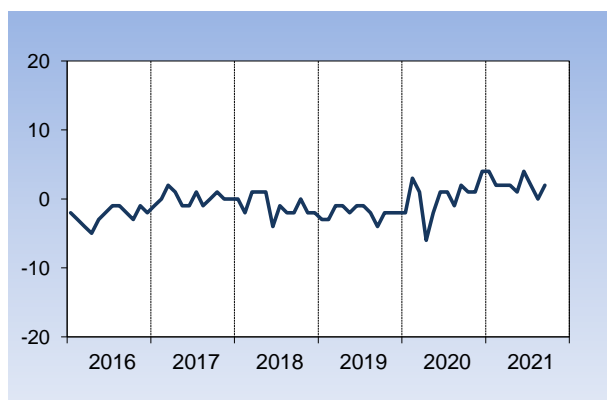
General economic situation in Belgium



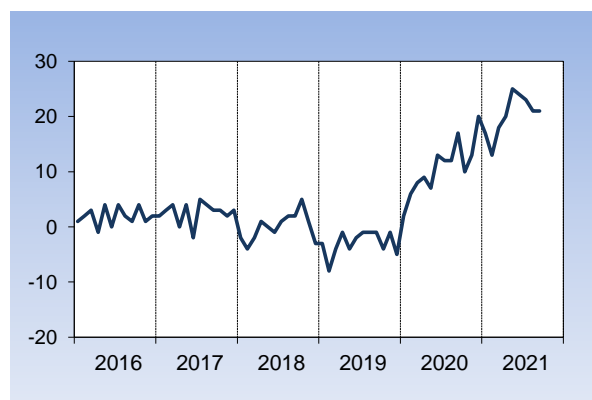
Unemployment in Belgium¹



Financial situation of households



Savings of households



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