

2024-04-22

PRESS RELEASE

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Monthly consumer survey – April 2024

Consumer confidence indicator dips slightly in April

- **The slump in confidence is limited, despite a clear deterioration in employment expectations. Households expressed slightly more optimism about the other three components of the indicator.**

The announcement of the bankruptcy and closure of several companies and retailers did not go unnoticed by consumers, who indicated that they are much more concerned about how the job market will develop in the next three months. For the second month in a row, the deterioration in this component was clear to see.

On the other hand, consumer expectations regarding the general economic situation in Belgium improved.

On a personal level, households revised slightly upwards their expectations of their own financial situation, along with their saving intentions.

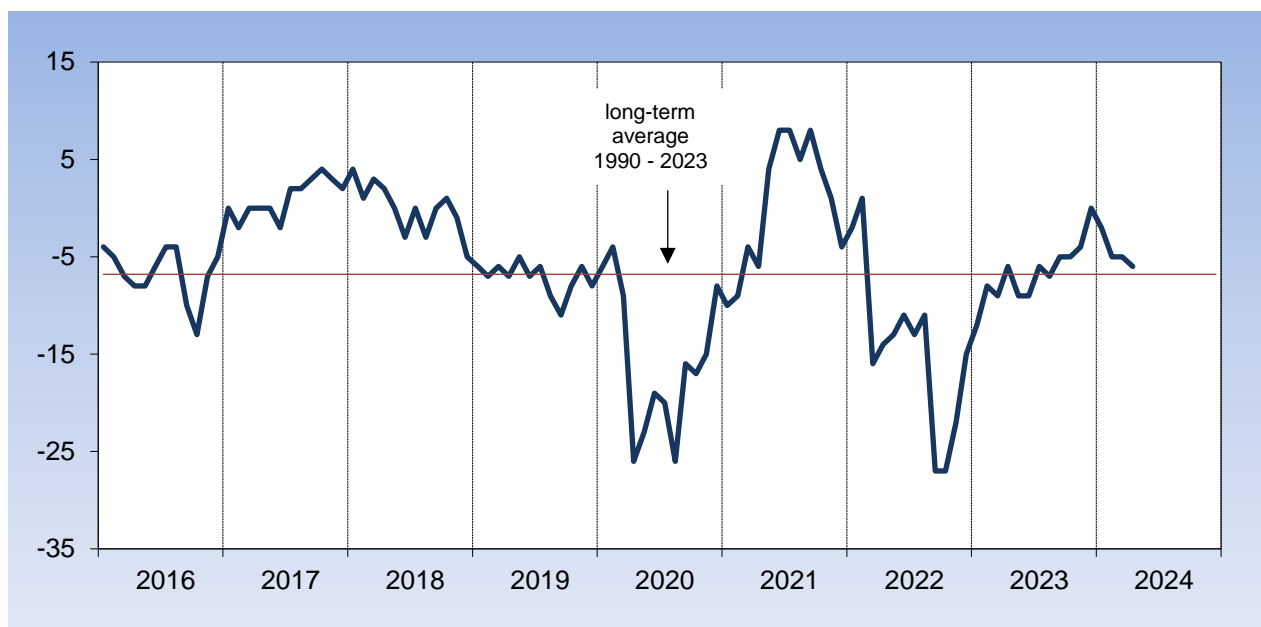
Consumer confidence indicators

		Expectations for the next twelve months				Consumer confidence indicator	
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium ¹	Financial situation of households	Savings of households		
2023	April	-15	14	-2	6	-6	
	May	-20	18	-3	2	-9	
	June	-15	17	-5	1	-9	
	July	-13	15	0	5	-6	
	August	-17	20	0	11	-7	
	September	-13	12	-1	7	-5	
	October	-17	15	-1	13	-5	
	November	-12	14	0	10	-4	
	December	-9	14	1	20	0	
	2024	January	-14	14	-1	21	-2
		February	-19	10	-3	13	-5
		March	-20	17	-2	17	-5
April		-18	24	-1	18	-6	

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

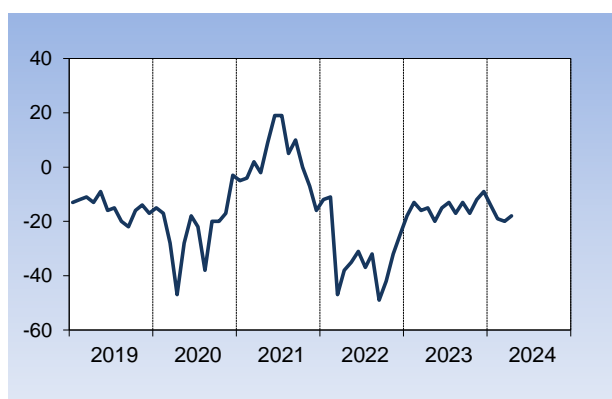
Source: National Bank of Belgium.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

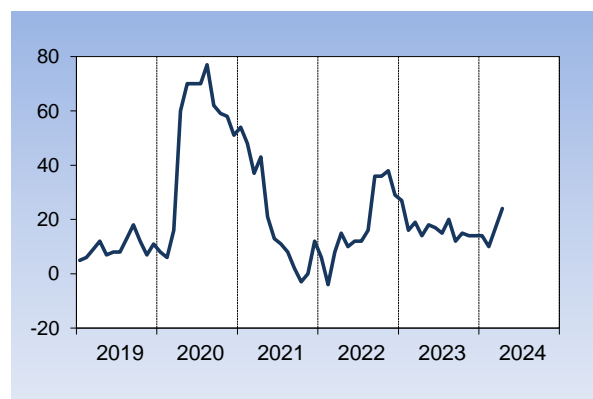


Expectations for the next twelve months

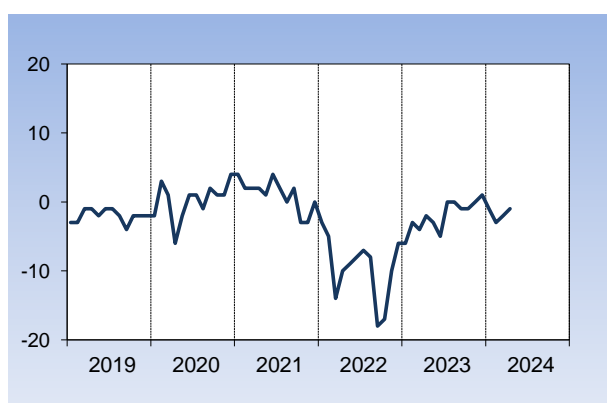
General economic situation in Belgium



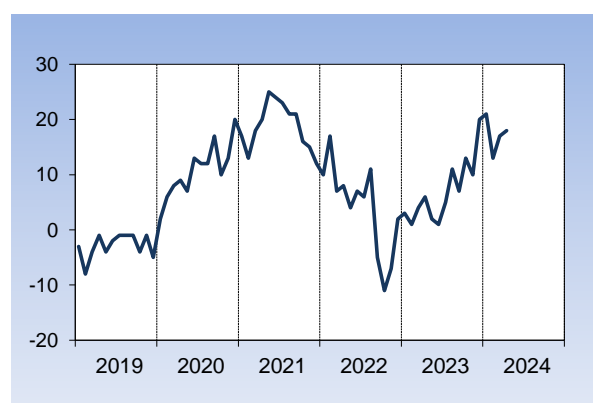
Unemployment in Belgium¹



Financial situation of households



Savings of households



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