

2017-12-18

PRESS RELEASE

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December 2017 consumer survey

Consumer confidence wanes further in December

The consumer confidence indicator dropped marginally in December for the second month in a row.

The decline in the indicator is mainly due to a deterioration in consumers' outlook for unemployment, which had been following a highly optimistic trend since July. Moreover, they are taking a little less positive view of future general economic developments too.

Households' forecasts regarding their financial situation nevertheless remain unchanged, while their savings expectations are deemed to be slightly brighter than a month ago.

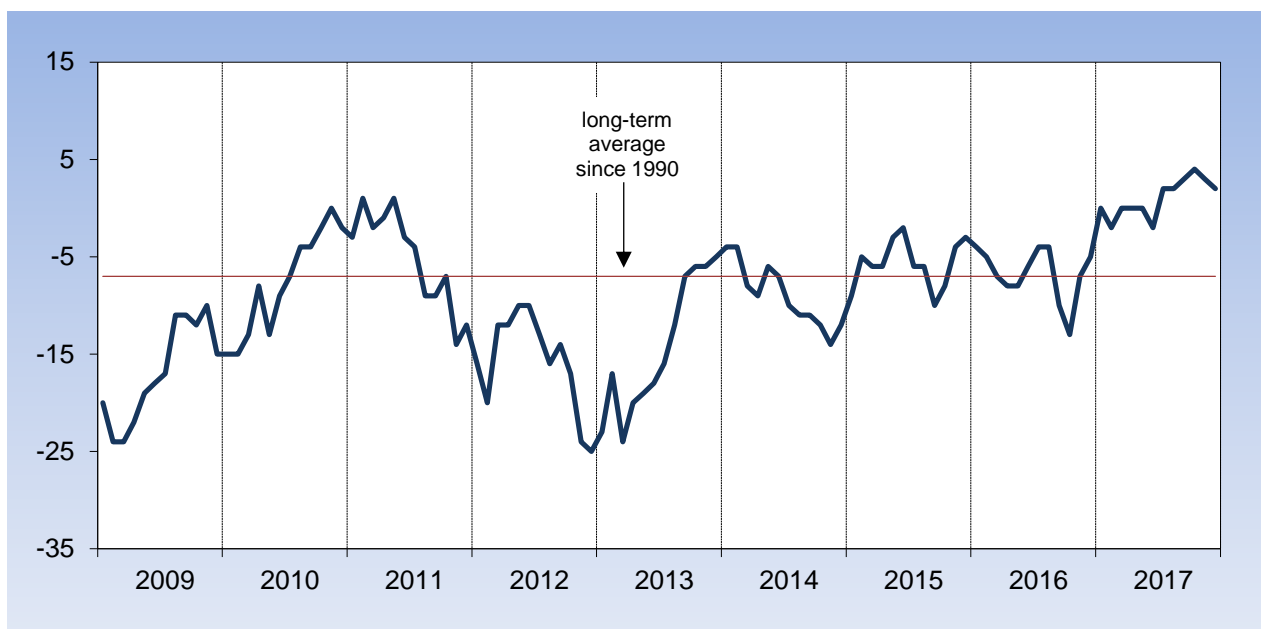
Consumer confidence indicators

		Expectations for the next twelve months				Consumer confidence indicator
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium ¹	Financial situation of households	Savings of households	
2016	December	-6	13	-2	2	-5
2017	January	3	4	-1	2	0
	February	-2	10	0	3	-2
	March	0	6	2	4	0
	April	3	4	1	0	0
	May	3	6	-1	4	0
	June	4	8	-1	-2	-2
	July	4	3	1	5	2
	August	6	0	-1	4	2
	September	6	-2	0	3	3
	October	9	-4	1	3	4
	November	6	-5	0	2	3
	December	5	0	0	3	2

Source: National Bank of Belgium.

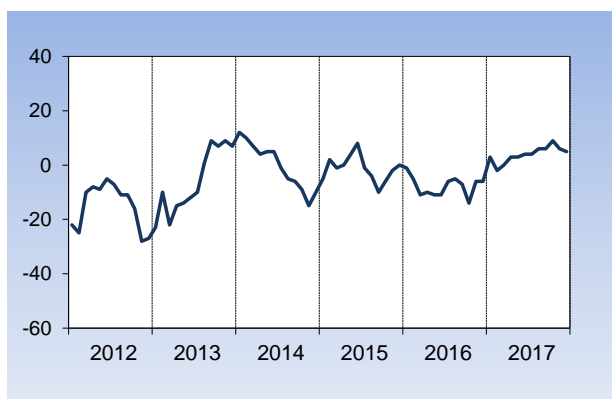
¹ Regarding unemployment expectations, a rise indicates a deterioration while a decline indicates an improvement.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

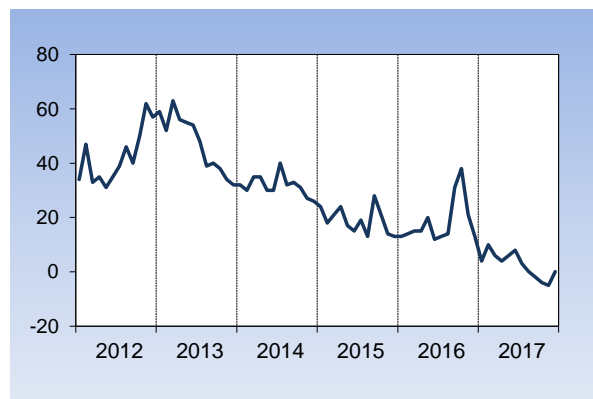


Expectations for the next twelve months

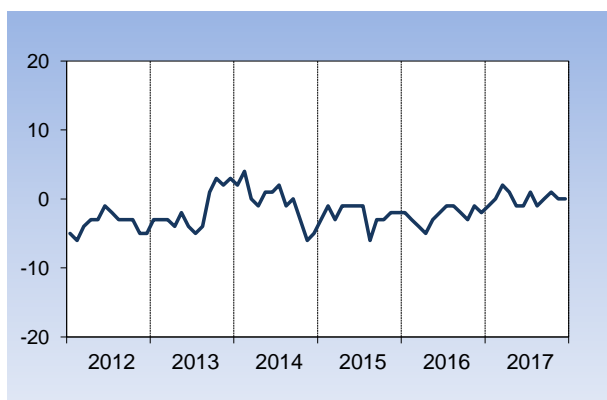
General economic situation in Belgium



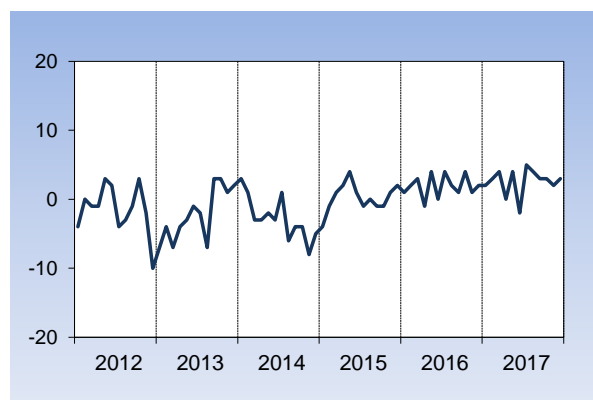
Unemployment in Belgium¹



Financial situation of households



Savings of households



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