

2019-02-20

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Monthly consumer survey – February 2019

## Consumer confidence continues to weaken slightly in February

- The consumer confidence indicator has dropped back marginally again in February, falling for the fourth month in a row
- The erosion of confidence is attributable to lower savings expectations

This month, consumers have revised sharply downwards their savings intentions for the coming twelve months. However, they are expecting their financial situation to remain stable.

Very little change has been observed when it comes to the macroeconomic outlook: consumers were barely more optimistic about the general economic situation in Belgium and even a little gloomier about unemployment trends.

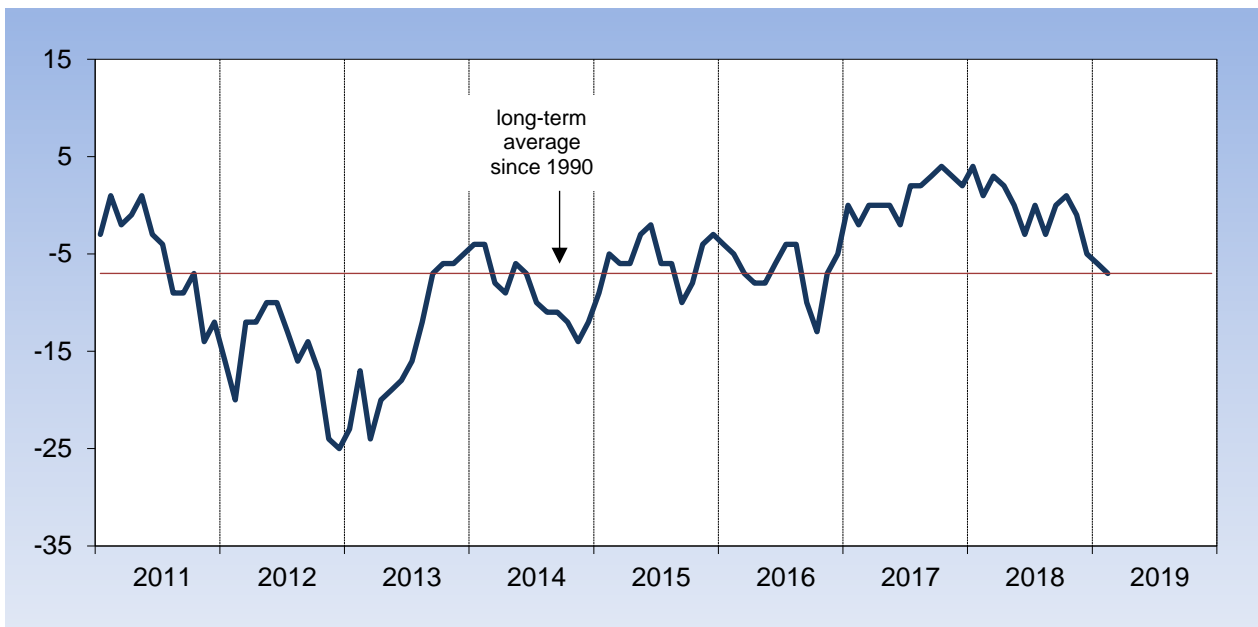
### Consumer confidence indicators

		Expectations for the next twelve months				Consumer confidence indicator
		Economic situation in Belgium	Unemployment in Belgium <sup>1</sup>	Financial situation of households	Savings of households	
2018	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
	2019	January	-13	5	-3	-3
February		-12	6	-3	-8	-7

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

Source: National Bank of Belgium.

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR**

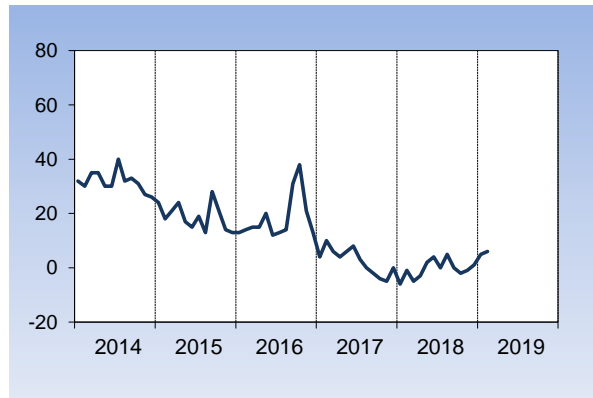


**Expectations for the next twelve months**

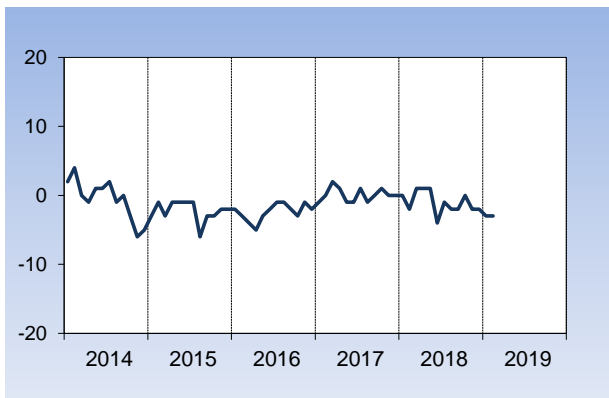
**General economic situation in Belgium**



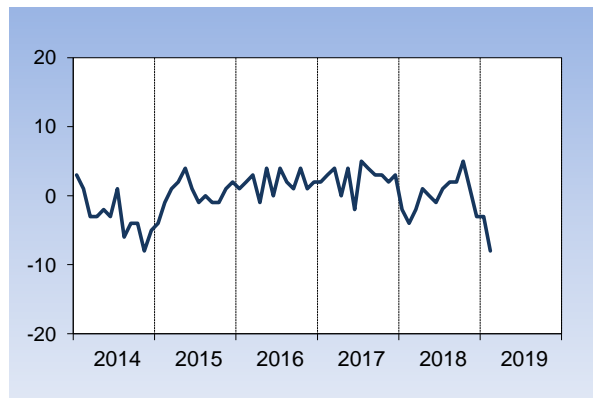
**Unemployment in Belgium<sup>1</sup>**



**Financial situation of households**



**Savings of households**



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