



27th April 2023
BUSINESS AND CONSUMER SURVEYS
April 2023

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE AND ECONOMIC CLIMATE INDICATORS INCREASE

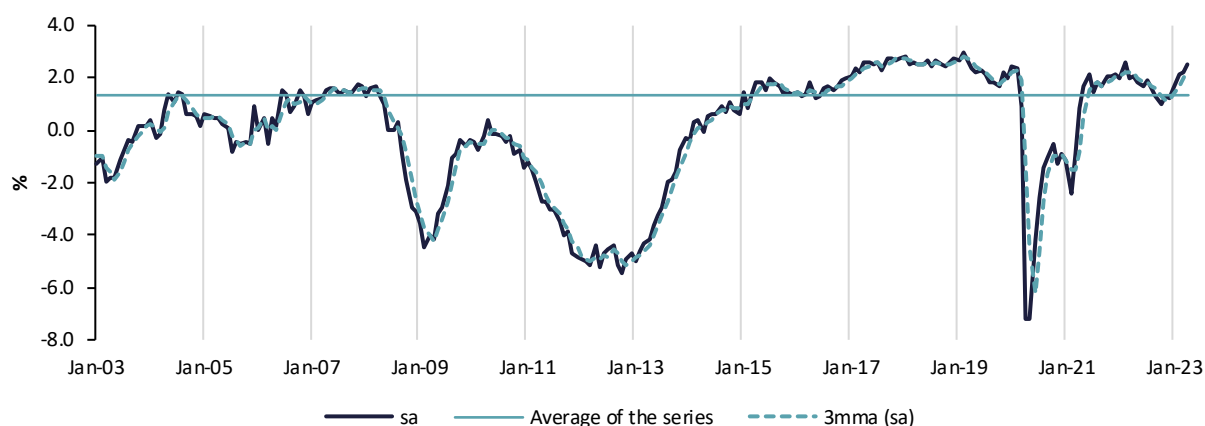
The Consumer confidence indicator increased between December and April¹, after decreasing in the previous three months which resulted, in November, in the lowest value since April 2020 when the pandemic began. The balance of Consumer opinions on the past evolution of the price level increased in March and April, after declining in the previous four months from the maximum value of the series recorded in October.

The economic climate indicator² increased between January and April, reversing the downward movement initiated in March 2022. The confidence indicators of the Construction and Public Works and Services increased compared to March, while indicators of Manufacturing Industry and Trade declined.

The entrepreneurs' expectations regarding the future evolution of selling prices decreased significantly between November and April in the Manufacturing Industry, reaching the lowest level since May 2020. In March and April, this balance also decreased significantly in Trade, reaching the lowest level since August 2021, while in Construction and Public Works and in Services, the reductions were more moderate in the last three months.

According to information collected about the evolution of investment in the context of the business survey for the manufacturing industry (page 10 of this press release), 57.7% of firms foresee that investment will stabilize in 2023 compared to 2022, while 34.3% foresee an increase and 8.0% a decrease.

Figure 1. Economic climate indicator
- Manufacturing Industry, Construction and Public Works, Trade and Services-



¹ The collection period (see final notes) of the consumer survey occurred from 01 to 19 of April (working days), in the case of the consumer survey, and from 01 to 21 of April in the case of business surveys.

² The economic climate indicator summarizes the balances of business surveys' questions.



Consumer Survey

The Consumer confidence indicator increased between December and April, following the decreases of the previous three months which resulted, in November, in the lowest value since April 2020 when the pandemic began. The evolution of the indicator in the last month resulted from the positive contribution of the expectations on the future evolution of the country's economic situation and of households' financial situation, and, to a lesser degree, of the opinions on the past evolution of households' financial situation. In the opposite direction, expectations on the future evolution of major purchases by households registered a negative contribution.

The balance of perspectives regarding the future evolution of the country's economic situation increased significantly in April, reaching the highest value since February 2022 and resuming the increasing trajectory observed since November of 2022, which had been interrupted in March.

The balance of expectations about household's future financial situation increased in April, following the slight decrease of the previous month, resuming the positive profile initiated in November of 2022.

The balance of opinions on the past evolution of the price level increased in the last two months, remaining relatively close to the series' maximum value registered in October, as a consequence of the significantly ascending trajectory initiated in March of 2021. The balance of expectations regarding the future evolution of the price level decreased in the last two months, significantly in April, resuming the markedly descending trajectory observed since March of 2022, when the maximum value of the series was reached.

Figure 2. Consumer confidence indicator

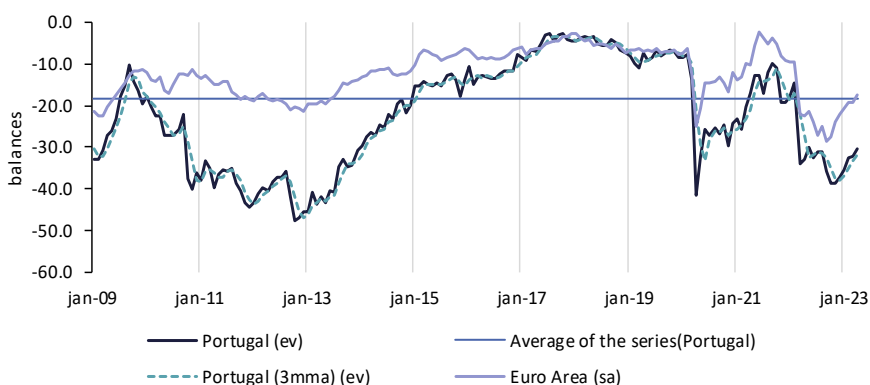
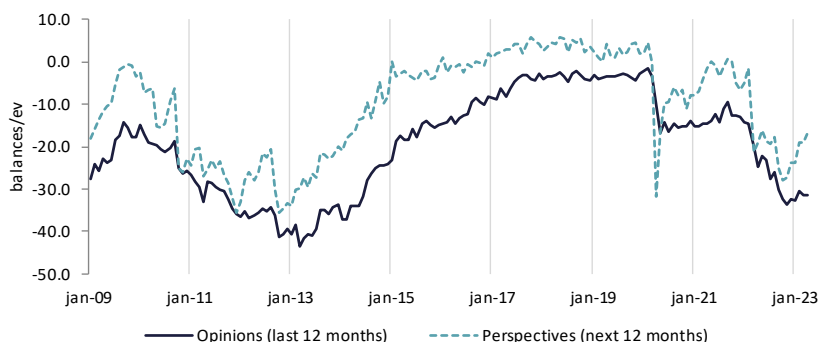


Figure 3. Opinions and expectations about household's financial situation





Manufacturing Industry Survey

The Manufacturing Industry confidence indicator decreased in April, after increasing between November and March. The behaviour of the indicator reflected the negative contributions of the firm's production perspectives over the next three months and of the opinions on the current stocks of finished products, while the opinions on the evolution of the overall order books in the last three months presented a null contribution.

The indicator decreased in Intermediate Goods and in Investment Goods, more intensely in the first case and increased in Consumer Goods.

The balance of opinions on current overall order books stabilized in April, after decreasing in March. Opinions regarding domestic order books, considering firms with production oriented to the domestic market, recovered in March and April, intensely in the reference month. Opinions on export order books, considering firms with production oriented to the foreign market, also recovered in April, after the worsening of the previous month.

The balance of opinions on the evolution of sale prices decreased in the last six months, after increasing in September and October, prolonging the downward trend recorded between May and August and reaching the lowest value since May 2020. This balance decreased in all groups: Consumer Goods, Intermediate Goods and Investment Goods.

Figure 4. Manufacturing industry confidence indicator

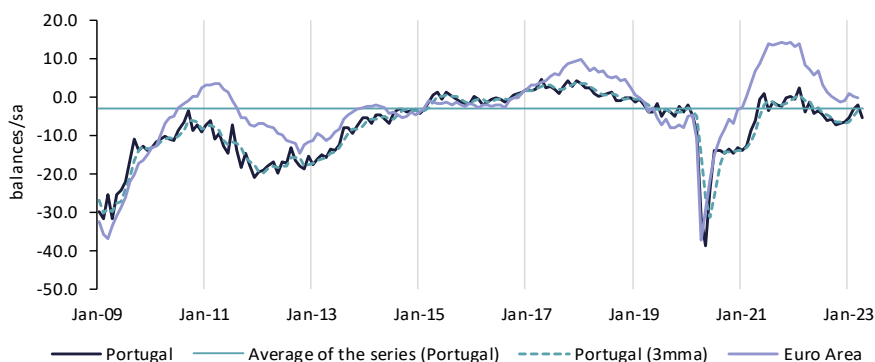
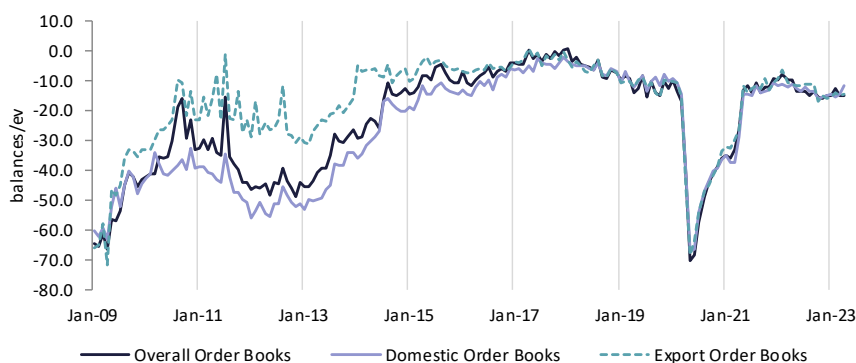


Figure 5. Opinions on current overall order books





Construction and Public Works Survey

The confidence indicator of Construction and Public Works increased in March and April, significantly in the second case, after decreasing in February. The increase in the last month reflected the positive contribution of both components, balance of opinions on current order books and perspectives on employment, more intensely in the latter case.

The confidence indicator increased in the divisions of Construction of Buildings, and Specialized Construction Activities, and decreased in the division of Civil Engineering.

The balance of opinions on the firm's activity in the last three months increased in April, after decreasing in February and March.

The balance of perspectives regarding the selling prices charged by the firm in the next three months decreased between February and April, resuming the downward path started in July.

Among the main factors limiting activity indicated by firms, the percentage that indicated the shortage of labour force reached a new maximum of the series in April.

Figure 6. Construction and Public Works confidence indicator

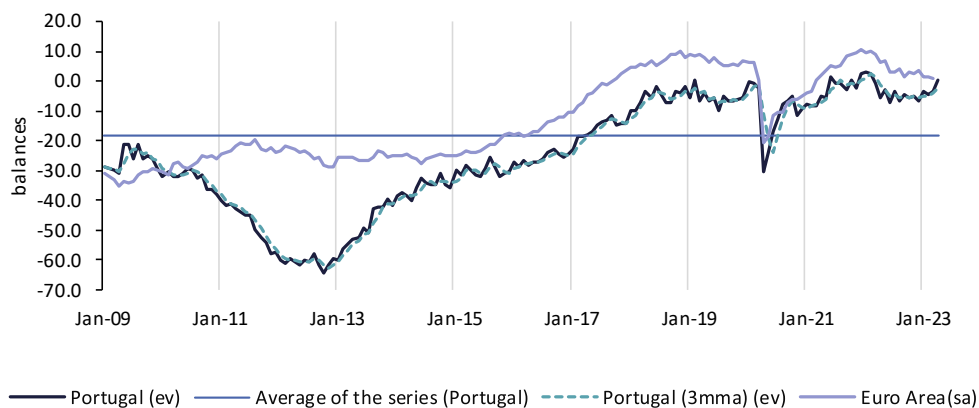
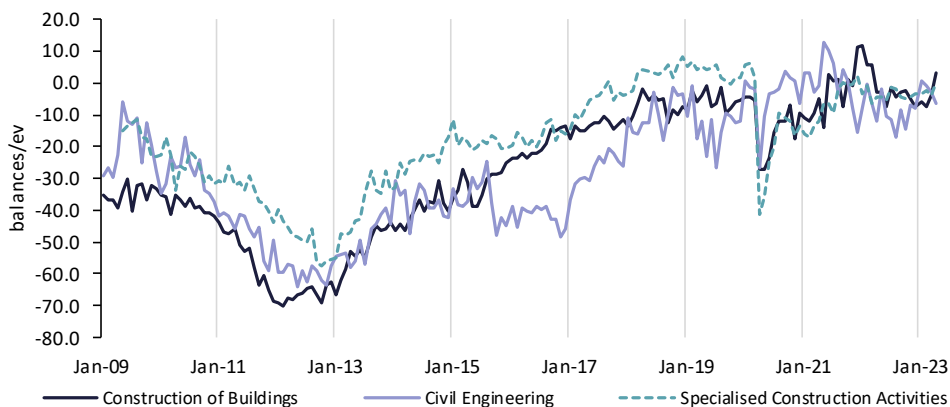


Figure 7. Construction and Public Works confidence indicators by NACE divisions





Trade Survey

The trade confidence indicator decreased in March and April, interrupting the upward movement that started in November. The evolution of the last month reflected the negative contribution of the opinions on the volume of sales and of the assessments on the current volume of stocks, while the expectations on the firm's activity over the next three months contributed positively. In April, the trade confidence indicator decreased in the Wholesale and increased in Retail Trade.

The balance of opinions on the volume of sales slightly decreased in March and April, slightly in the last month, after increasing significantly between December and February. By turn, the perspectives of activity recovered in April, after the decrease observed in the previous month.

The balance of opinions on selling prices evolution compared to the previous month declined between November and April, moving away from the series maximum reached a year ago. The balance of price expectations over the next three months declined sharply in March and April, reaching the lowest level since August 2021.

Figure 8. Trade confidence indicator

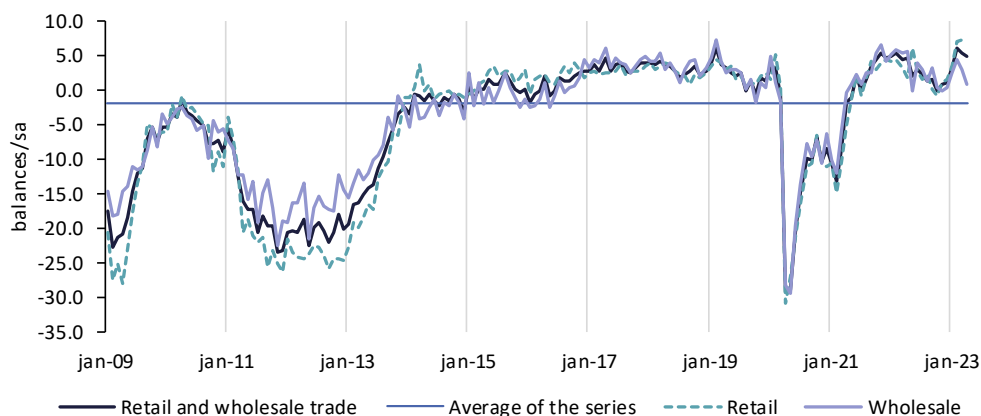
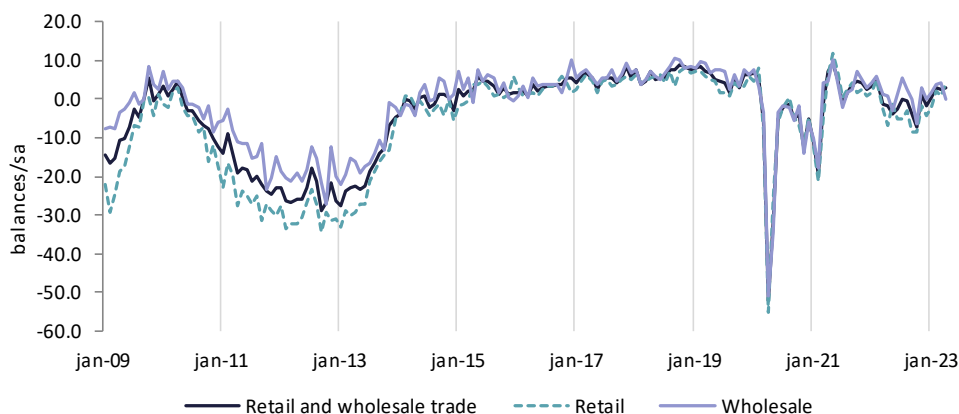


Figure 9. Perspectives on business activity (sales) over the next three months





Services Survey

The Services' confidence indicator increased in April, after decreasing in the precedent month, resuming the ascendent trajectory started in January. The indicator's behaviour resulted from the positive contributions of all components, perspectives on the evolution of demand, opinions on the evolution of the business and assessments on the evolution of the order books, significantly in the former case.

In April, the confidence indicator increased in six of the eight sections of Services, with emphasis on the sections of Transport and Storage Activities and Arts, entertainment and recreation activities.

The balance of perspectives on the evolution of demand increased markedly in April, after decreasing in the previous month, resuming the upward movement that began in November.

The balance of expectations for prices of services decreased between February and April, after increasing in the previous three months.

Figure 10. Services confidence indicator

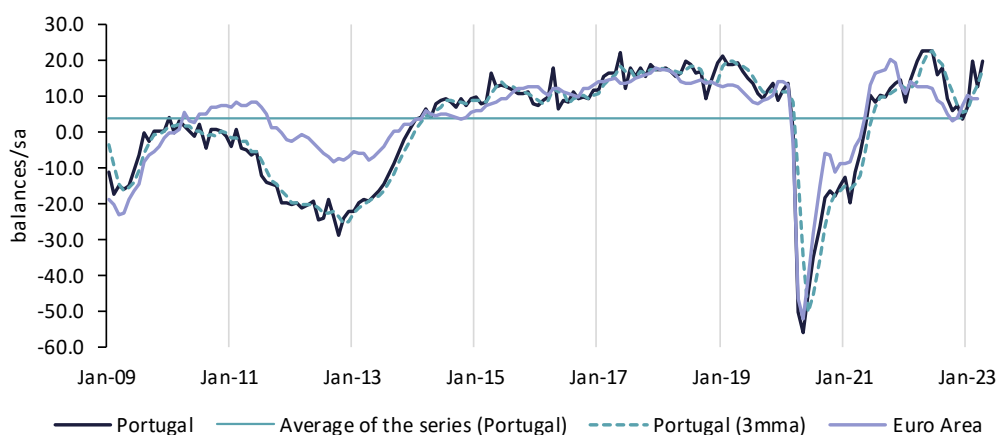
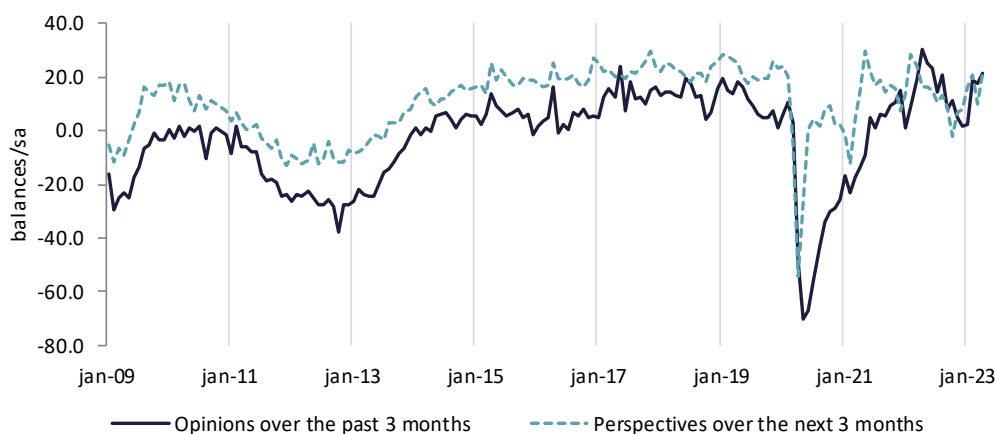


Figure 11. Opinions and perspectives on the evolution of demand (order books)





Monthly series of Consumer and Business Surveys

Table 1. Confidence and climate economic indicators

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2022								2023				
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Confidence indicator																		
Consumers	bal/ev	-47.8	Oct-12	-0.1	Sep-97	-32.9	-30.1	-32.5	-31.1	-31.1	-35.8	-38.6	-38.7	-37.1	-35.4	-32.5	-32.3	-30.2
Manufacturing industry	bal/sa	-38.6	May-20	19.4	Mar-87	-1.1	-4.1	-3.6	-4.5	-6.1	-5.6	-7.3	-6.9	-6.6	-5.5	-3.0	-1.9	-5.3
Construction and public works	bal/ev	-64.5	Oct-12	25.6	Sep-97	-5.4	-2.9	-7.4	-3.5	-6.5	-4.4	-5.8	-5.3	-6.4	-3.6	-4.5	-3.6	0.4
Trade	bal/sa	-29.1	Apr-20	11.7	Jun-98	4.6	2.0	3.1	2.3	1.4	1.7	0.0	0.8	1.2	3.2	6.0	5.4	4.8
Services	bal/sa	-56.0	May-20	29.5	Jun-01	22.7	22.6	22.7	16.1	18.0	9.2	6.1	7.4	3.9	7.0	19.9	13.0	20.1
Economic climate indicator																		
	%/sa	-7.2	May-20	5.5	Apr-98	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.6	2.2	2.3	2.5

Table 2. Monthly series of Consumer Survey

	Uni.	Mínimo		Máximo		2022								2023				
		Valor	Data	Valor	Data	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Indicador de confiança (a+b+c+d)/4																		
Situação económica do país nos próximos 12 meses (c)	sre/ve	-47.8	Oct-12	-0.1	Sep-97	-32.9	-30.1	-32.5	-31.1	-31.1	-35.8	-38.6	-38.7	-37.1	-35.4	-32.5	-32.3	-30.2
Situação financeira do agregado familiar nos últimos 12 meses (a)	sre/ve	-72.7	Apr-20	16.6	Jun-17	-53.1	-45.6	-50.2	-49.1	-47.9	-51.9	-60.2	-59.4	-52.4	-50.3	-41.8	-45.1	-38.0
Situação financeira do agregado familiar nos próximos 12 meses (b)	sre/ve	-43.5	Mar-13	0.5	Aug-99	-24.7	-22.2	-23.3	-27.5	-26.0	-30.2	-32.2	-33.8	-32.3	-32.6	-30.6	-31.5	-31.3
Realização de compras importantes nos próximos 12 meses (d)	sre/ve	-35.6	Oct-12	8.6	Feb-99	-19.0	-16.0	-18.8	-19.3	-17.9	-25.0	-28.0	-27.2	-23.8	-23.7	-19.1	-19.2	-16.8
Situação económica do país nos últimos 12 meses	sre/vcs	-51.6	Apr-20	-6.4	Sep-97	-34.8	-36.5	-37.6	-28.4	-32.6	-36.1	-34.0	-34.2	-39.8	-34.8	-38.3	-33.7	-34.6
Realização de compras importantes nos últimos 12 meses	sre/vcs	-77.1	Oct-12	20.1	Oct-17	-60.9	-61.3	-62.8	-65.5	-65.4	-71.8	-76.1	-76.5	-73.5	-75.1	-69.0	-71.6	-67.5
Poupança no momento atual	sre/ve	-88.1	Dec-08	-14.5	Sep-97	-72.5	-72.6	-75.8	-72.6	-75.9	-79.6	-80.5	-78.2	-80.7	-80.7	-81.0	-79.6	-79.2
Poupança nos próximos 12 meses	sre/ve	-55.1	Nov-22	-0.2	Sep-97	-47.0	-46.0	-45.8	-45.7	-46.6	-50.9	-49.8	-55.1	-54.4	-51.9	-52.9	-54.1	-53.9
Desemprego próximos 12 meses	sre/ve	-43.4	Nov-22	0.9	Oct-97	-34.5	-36.0	-33.9	-35.4	-31.7	-39.1	-41.0	-43.4	-42.6	-34.8	-38.3	-39.6	-39.6
Preços nos últimos 12 meses	sre/ve	-20.0	Jun-17	85.5	Feb-09	30.4	24.0	24.0	21.4	22.9	28.3	34.6	42.8	38.0	36.1	33.1	31.5	26.2
Preços próximos 12 meses	sre/vcs	-14.6	Sep-09	87.0	Oct-22	74.7	76.8	79.2	83.1	83.1	83.2	87.0	86.2	83.9	85.3	83.4	83.9	84.3
	sre/vcs	-7.6	Dec-15	81.3	Mar-22	67.2	58.0	59.4	48.9	44.5	45.2	51.7	41.7	33.3	27.2	27.9	22.6	12.5

Table 3. Monthly series of Manufacturing Industry Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2022								2023				
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Confidence Indicator (a+b-c)/3																		
Consumer goods	bal/sa	-38.6	May-20	19.4	Mar-87	-1.1	-4.1	-3.6	-4.5	-6.1	-5.6	-7.3	-6.9	-6.6	-5.5	-3.0	-1.9	-5.3
Investment goods	bal/ev	-27.0	Apr-20	12.6	Jan-99	-0.9	-0.6	-0.8	-1.0	-5.1	-4.1	-3.0	-5.1	-7.1	-5.3	-3.8	-3.7	-3.3
Intermediate goods	bal/sa	-36.0	Apr-20	24.3	Feb-07	-7.0	-8.1	-6.0	-6.1	0.7	-2.7	-3.5	-3.5	-2.2	-2.5	1.2	-1.2	-2.9
Current overall order books (a)	bal/sa	-50.3	May-20	17.6	Jan-95	1.8	-1.9	-3.7	-5.9	-8.5	-9.1	-13.6	-12.2	-9.7	-7.0	-5.2	0.2	-7.7
Consumer goods	bal/ev	-70.2	May-20	14.6	Mar-98	-9.6	-13.4	-13.4	-13.4	-14.8	-13.3	-15.5	-16.0	-14.8	-15.0	-12.3	-14.7	-14.7
Investment goods	bal/ev	-60.9	May-20	6.1	Dec-17	-10.9	-10.3	-9.4	-8.7	-11.4	-8.3	-9.7	-10.8	-7.7	-15.3	-11.8	-12.9	-14.5
Intermediate goods	bal/ev	-84.0	May-20	33.8	Jan-08	-18.1	-25.2	-19.8	-22.3	-9.6	-14.4	-11.8	-8.4	-8.2	-10.0	-7.4	-12.8	-11.8
Production over next 3 months (b)	bal/ev	-72.4	Jun-20	33.8	Mar-98	-4.7	-10.1	-13.4	-12.7	-19.8	-16.5	-21.5	-23.4	-23.1	-17.0	-15.0	-17.0	-16.2
Consumer goods	bal/sa	-52.3	Apr-20	34.8	Feb-87	6.3	0.6	3.3	3.5	0.4	-1.1	-3.0	-0.3	-0.1	2.5	4.9	13.9	4.0
Investment goods	bal/sa	-47.8	Apr-20	39.5	Aug-98	8.8	10.2	7.5	8.0	0.8	-4.3	0.9	-1.2	-7.9	3.0	-0.2	8.4	11.0
Intermediate goods	bal/ev	-44.9	Feb-09	50.6	Aug-00	0.5	-0.1	3.9	7.0	12.7	9.3	3.4	-0.7	4.6	5.4	7.8	6.8	3.0
Current stock finished products (c)	bal/sa	-58.6	Apr-20	32.6	Jan-97	7.9	1.9	2.3	-0.4	-0.8	-6.7	-12.9	-6.5	-0.7	1.2	4.7	24.6	0.3
Consumer goods	bal/ev	-17.6	Jan-08	22.5	Jun-93	0.0	-0.6	0.6	3.5	3.9	2.4	3.4	4.4	5.0	4.1	1.5	4.8	5.4
Investment goods	bal/ev	-11.5	Jan-10	22.3	Aug-07	0.7	1.9	0.6	2.3	4.7	-0.3	0.1	3.2	5.8	3.5	-0.6	6.6	6.6
Intermediate goods	bal/ev	-37.9	Jan-09	22.4	Jun-10	3.5	-0.9	1.9	2.9	0.9	2.8	2.2	1.5	2.9	2.9	-3.3	-2.5	-0.2
Firm's employment next 3 months	bal/ev	-30.8	Jan-08	36.5	May-20	-2.3	-2.3	-0.1	4.7	4.7	4.2	6.4	6.6	5.4	5.1	5.4	7.0	7.2
Selling prices next 3 months	bal/sa	-28.4	Apr-20	13.0	Sep-17	6.2	6.8	4.8	5.9	6.4	3.3	2.1	11.6	11.2	4.9	5.1	6.3	5.5
	bal/sa	-25.4	Apr-20	42.5	Apr-22	42.5	34.2	29.7	24.1	22.8	28.0	30.6	25.1	20.7	16.0	9.6	3.9	1.6



Table 4. Monthly series of Construction and Public Works Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2022												2023			
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr			
Confidence Indicator (a+b)/2	bal/ev	-64.5	Oct-12	25.6	Sep-97	-5.4	-2.9	-7.4	-3.5	-6.5	-4.4	-5.8	-5.3	-6.4	-3.6	-4.5	-3.6	0.4			
Construction of buildings	bal/ev	-70.2	Feb-12	26.4	Sep-97	-3.1	-2.7	-7.3	-1.3	-4.3	-2.6	-2.6	-4.8	-7.5	-5.8	-7.5	-3.8	3.4			
Civil engineering	bal/ev	-64.3	May-12	16.7	Jul-97	-11.8	-1.6	-10.4	-11.4	-17.1	-8.7	-14.4	-7.1	-8.1	0.8	-0.8	-2.7	-6.3			
Specialised construction activities	bal/ev	-57.7	Oct-12	8.2	Dec-18	-4.3	-4.2	-5.2	-1.2	-2.1	-4.2	-4.7	-4.6	-3.4	-3.1	-2.1	-4.1	0.4			
Current overall order books (a)	bal/ev	-77.5	Oct-12	23.3	Sep-97	-16.7	-13.3	-16.6	-13.7	-14.7	-12.9	-13.5	-11.2	-14.1	-9.6	-14.6	-13.1	-10.2			
Construction of buildings	bal/ev	-85.6	Oct-12	22.1	Sep-97	-11.9	-10.0	-11.8	-10.3	-11.6	-8.5	-7.8	-10.1	-13.6	-10.0	-17.5	-10.8	-5.2			
Civil engineering	bal/ev	-71.5	Jul-12	12.1	Jul-97	-27.8	-17.4	-28.8	-30.1	-33.4	-26.0	-31.8	-13.2	-21.5	-12.0	-11.4	-16.2	-23.9			
Specialised construction activities	bal/ev	-73.3	Oct-12	2.1	Jul-19	-16.2	-15.7	-15.3	-6.9	-5.3	-10.2	-9.1	-11.5	-9.3	-7.1	-12.3	-14.7	-8.1			
Employment next 3 months (b)	bal/ev	-51.8	Jan-12	35.9	Jun-97	5.9	7.6	1.8	6.7	1.6	4.0	1.8	0.7	1.2	2.4	5.7	5.8	11.0			
Construction of buildings	bal/ev	-59.0	Jan-12	37.6	Jun-97	5.7	4.7	-2.8	7.8	3.0	3.2	2.6	0.5	-1.4	-1.7	2.6	3.2	12.1			
Civil engineering	bal/ev	-61.7	May-12	31.2	Jul-01	4.2	14.1	8.1	7.3	-0.9	8.7	3.0	-1.0	5.3	13.6	9.7	10.7	11.3			
Specialised construction activities	bal/ev	-43.6	Dec-12	16.3	Dec-18	7.6	7.4	4.8	4.4	1.2	1.7	-0.3	2.3	2.4	0.9	8.0	6.6	8.9			
Activity past 3 months	bal/ev	-65.5	Apr-12	26.7	May-98	3.2	2.8	-0.7	3.6	6.9	3.8	4.3	-0.3	-0.1	4.8	4.1	0.3	3.6			
Selling prices next 3 months	bal/ev	-29.3	Aug-12	43.0	Jun-22	41.9	40.0	43.0	39.2	39.2	40.0	39.8	39.7	31.3	33.5	30.2	29.1	26.7			

Table 5. Monthly series of Trade Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2022												2023			
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr			
Confidence indicator (a+b-c)/3	bal/sa	-29.1	Apr-20	11.7	Jun-98	4.6	2.0	3.1	2.3	1.4	1.7	0.0	0.8	1.2	3.2	6.0	5.4	4.8			
Wholesale	bal/sa	-29.5	May-20	13.1	Apr-98	5.8	-0.2	3.9	3.0	1.5	3.2	0.4	-0.1	0.3	2.6	4.5	3.0	0.8			
Retail	bal/sa	-31.0	Apr-20	13.1	Jul-98	1.9	6.1	2.8	1.7	2.4	0.1	-0.7	1.2	1.6	3.5	7.2	7.4	7.7			
Business activity past 3 months (a)	bal/sa	-55.3	Jun-20	16.4	Feb-89	12.1	4.8	8.1	4.1	-0.4	4.7	5.7	-0.3	5.1	10.9	15.0	14.6	14.5			
Wholesale	bal/sa	-57.5	Jun-20	19.3	Feb-89	16.7	2.4	11.2	6.8	0.9	11.9	12.0	1.5	5.9	12.6	14.3	10.5	9.1			
Retail	bal/sa	-58.5	Aug-12	19.2	Apr-99	5.7	9.4	5.3	1.3	0.7	-2.0	-1.4	-2.3	3.8	9.4	14.5	17.9	17.7			
Business activity next 3 months (b)	bal/sa	-52.1	Apr-20	40.2	Oct-89	-1.8	-3.9	-2.6	-0.2	-0.4	-3.9	-7.3	1.1	-1.6	0.4	3.0	2.6	2.9			
Wholesale	bal/sa	-51.0	Apr-20	49.6	Oct-89	0.7	-2.9	1.1	5.3	2.6	-0.1	-6.3	2.8	0.1	1.7	3.7	4.2	-0.2			
Retail	bal/sa	-55.1	Apr-20	40.8	Jul-94	-7.0	-1.5	-5.2	-4.9	-2.8	-8.3	-8.5	-1.8	-4.2	-2.1	2.2	0.9	4.4			
Current volume of stocks (c)	bal/ev	-14.9	Feb-13	26.4	Jul-90	-3.5	-5.2	-3.8	-2.8	-5.0	-4.2	-1.6	-1.5	0.0	1.7	-0.1	1.1	2.8			
Wholesale	bal/ev	-15.3	Oct-12	28.2	Jul-90	0.1	0.0	0.6	3.0	-1.0	2.3	4.5	4.5	5.2	6.7	4.6	5.6	6.5			
Retail	bal/ev	-17.5	Feb-13	32.6	Jul-89	-7.0	-10.3	-8.3	-8.7	-9.1	-10.6	-7.8	-7.6	-5.2	-3.3	-4.8	-3.5	-0.9			
Orders next 3 months	bal/sa	-45.2	Apr-20	20.4	Aug-98	-4.3	-2.3	-7.2	-2.4	-5.6	-5.8	-6.8	-3.3	-3.7	-2.9	-4.0	0.1	-0.5			
Employment next 3 months	bal/ev	-29.2	Oct-12	22.8	Sep-97	1.6	3.2	1.8	4.0	0.8	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.1	3.1	1.4			
Selling prices past month	bal/sa	-11.7	Apr-09	41.0	Apr-22	41.0	35.1	38.4	31.0	25.4	33.6	39.1	32.6	26.1	23.2	22.9	20.4	17.5			
Selling prices next 3 months	bal/sa	-11.8	Jul-03	41.2	Mar-22	38.8	34.2	37.1	29.8	25.0	34.0	39.3	35.0	27.7	25.4	26.4	20.1	15.2			

Table 6. Monthly series of Services Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2022												2023			
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr			
Confidence indicator (a+b+c)/3	bal/sa	-56.0	May-20	29.5	Jun-01	22.7	22.6	22.7	16.1	18.0	9.2	6.1	7.4	3.9	7.0	19.9	13.0	20.1			
Business activity past 3 months (a)	bal/sa	-70.8	May-20	33.4	Jun-01	21.6	26.4	29.7	23.2	19.9	11.5	9.4	10.6	2.2	2.2	20.1	11.4	17.6			
Demand next 3 months (b)	bal/sa	-54.3	Apr-20	34.6	Jan-02	16.2	16.2	15.1	10.7	13.1	8.4	-2.3	6.5	7.9	16.6	20.6	10.1	21.1			
Demand past 3 months (c)	bal/sa	-70.3	May-20	30.3	Apr-22	30.3	25.1	23.2	14.5	20.9	7.9	11.1	5.1	1.6	2.0	18.9	17.4	21.6			
Employment next 3 months	bal/sa	-29.4	Apr-20	19.8	Aug-19	12.7	11.8	14.3	7.4	9.9	8.3	5.4	7.5	0.7	9.3	7.5	5.5	8.5			
Selling prices next 3 months	bal/sa	-23.4	Apr-20	25.0	Apr-22	25.0	19.8	23.8	20.4	13.4	15.8	14.3	16.8	20.0	23.0	19.9	18.5	17.5			



Box – Results of bi-annual qualitative questions on investment

Manufacturing Industry Survey

Considering the opinions regarding the evolution of investment, 55.2% of firms considers that investment stabilized in 2022 when compared to the previous year while 30.7% of firms reported an increase from the previous year and 14.0% a decrease. By investment destination, 55.6% reported a stabilization of machinery and equipment investment, 61.5% in land improvements, construction and infrastructure and 77.4% in intangible assets, with the decrease in investment being the less reported case by firms in machinery and equipment (12.1%) and in land improvements, construction and infrastructure (12.5%). For intangible assets, the less reported by firms was an increase in investment (10.4%).

Table 7. Evolution of total investment made/planned (%)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY	YEAR	INCREASE	REMAIN UNCHANGED	DECREASE	BALANCE
Consumer Goods	2022	34.1	48.5	17.4	16.7
	2023	20.7	71.5	7.7	13.0
Investment Goods	2022	40.0	48.5	11.5	28.6
	2023	40.6	52.5	7.0	33.6
Intermediate Goods	2022	23.8	63.4	12.8	11.1
	2023	41.3	50.1	8.7	32.6
TOTAL	2022	30.7	55.2	14.0	16.7
	2023	34.3	57.7	8.0	26.3

For 2023, 57.7% of firms considers that investment stabilized when compared to the previous year while 34.3% of firms reported an increase and 8.0% a decrease. Consequently, the balance of responses is expected to increase between 2022 and 2023. By investment destination, 58.0% reported a stabilization of machinery and equipment investment, 60.1% in land improvements, construction and infrastructure and 77.9% in intangible assets, with the decrease in investment being the less reported case by firms (6.8% of firms reported a decrease in investment in machinery and equipment, 7.5% in land improvements, construction and infrastructure and 8.1% in intangible assets).

Table 8. Evolution of investment made/planned by destinations (%)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY	YEAR	INCREASE	REMAIN UNCHANGED	DECREASE	BALANCE
Machinery and equipment	2022	32.3	55.6	12.1	20.2
	2023	35.2	58.0	6.8	28.4
Land, building and infrastructure	2022	26.0	61.5	12.5	13.5
	2023	32.5	60.1	7.5	25.0
Intangibles	2022	10.4	77.4	12.3	-1.9
	2023	14.0	77.9	8.1	5.9



Services Survey

Considering the services' activities, 58.8% of firms consider that investment has stabilized in 2022 compared to the previous year, while 24.9% of firms reported an increase compared to the previous year and 16.3% a decrease. By investment destination, 58.4% of firms indicated a stabilization in investment in machinery and equipment, 63.5% in land improvements, construction and infrastructure and 67.8% in intangible assets, with the decrease in investment being the least reported by firms (17.5% in machinery and equipment, 13.4% in land improvements, construction and infrastructure and 15.9% in intangible assets).

Table 9. Evolution of total investment made/planned by destinations (%)

SERVICES	YEAR	INCREASE	REMAIN UNCHANGED	DECREASE	BALANCE
Transportation and storage (Section H)	2022	28.8	41.4	29.9	-1.1
	2023	21.7	70.2	8.1	13.6
Accommodation and food service activities (Section I)	2022	29.1	58.9	12.0	17.1
	2023	25.1	72.0	2.9	22.2
Information and communication (Section J)	2022	38.0	40.7	21.3	16.7
	2023	38.8	47.8	13.4	25.5
Real estate activities (Section L)	2022	23.5	65.5	11.0	12.5
	2023	14.4	84.4	1.2	13.1
Professional, scientific and technical activities (Section M)	2022	11.6	78.5	9.9	1.6
	2023	14.0	79.2	6.8	7.2
Administrative and support service activities (Section N)	2022	20.8	68.6	10.6	10.2
	2023	22.5	68.6	9.0	13.5
Arts, entertainment and recreation (Section R)	2022	28.9	62.1	9.0	20.0
	2023	21.1	59.9	19.0	2.1
Other service activities (Section S)	2022	12.2	68.8	16.1	-3.9
	2023	20.1	70.3	6.7	13.4
TOTAL	2022	24.9	58.8	16.3	8.6
	2023	22.3	70.8	6.9	15.4

For 2023, 70.8% of firms in the services' activities believe that investment will stabilize compared to the previous year, with 22.3% of firms considering that investment will increase and 6.9% believe that it will decrease, being observed an increase in the balance of responses. By investment destination, 68.3% of firms indicated a stabilization in investment in machinery and equipment, 73.2% in land, construction and infrastructure improvements and 77.6% in intangible assets, with the decrease in investment being the least reported by firms (7.2% of firms reported a decrease in investment in machinery and equipment, 9.6% in land, construction and infrastructure improvements and 9.0% in intangible assets).

Table 10. Evolution of total investment made/planned (%)

SERVICES	YEAR	INCREASE	REMAIN UNCHANGED	DECREASE	BALANCE
Machinery and equipment	2022	24.1	58.4	17.5	6.6
	2023	24.5	68.3	7.2	17.3
Land, building and infrastructure	2022	23.1	63.5	13.4	9.7
	2023	17.2	73.2	9.6	7.6
Intangibles	2022	16.3	67.8	15.9	0.4
	2023	13.4	77.6	9.0	4.3



METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

The Business and Consumer Qualitative Surveys published by Statistics Portugal are developed in the framework of the harmonized EU Business and Consumer Surveys Programme of the European Commission (EC) DG-ECFIN (Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs) and are financially supported in the framework of the agreement signed between these two institutions. The questionnaires are harmonized among the European countries, as well as the respective confidence indicators' methodology. The surveys' results are sent to the EC in effective values, and, therefore, the seasonally adjusted values published by the EC are computed by this entity. The seasonal adjustment method used by the EC is available on the user guide, accessible in:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/user-guide-joint-harmonised-eu-programme-business-and-consumer-surveys_en

The seasonal adjustment uses the X13-Arima method (combination of moving averages process and auto-regressive integrated moving average models) developed in the JDemetra+, software provided by Eurostat. This application relies on the use of probabilistic models to correct seasonal effects from the original series. The seasonal treatment is updated for monthly and quarterly series in January, for consumer survey, and in May, for business surveys, which might result on a revision of the series previously published.

The use of moving averages smoothes out the series by removing the irregular movements, allowing the detection of the short-term trends. Since the average is not centered (the information is used to analyze the evolution of the last month) there is a small lag compared with the trend that is supposed to detect. In order to compare the difference between original and moving average series, the graphical representation of the confidence indicators presents both types of series.

The balances of the questions are the difference between the positive and negative answers, that is $\text{Balance} = \% \text{answer}(+) - \% \text{answer}(-)$. In the Consumer Survey, there are questions with more than one option of positive/negative answer. In these cases, to the most positive/negative answers is given the weight 1 and to the others the weight 0.5, that is $\text{Balance} = [\% \text{answer}(++) * 1 + \% \text{answer}(+) * 0.5] - [\% \text{answer}(--) * 1 + \% \text{answer}(-) * 0.5]$. The percentage of answers that correspond to "equal" is not considered.

The analysis of this press release is based on monthly series of effective values (raw or seasonally adjusted data), which allows for a clearer identification of very short-term movements, particularly relevant in the context of worsening impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The monthly series in three-months moving average (3mma) and the quarterly series in two-quarters moving averages (2qma) are available in the excel file that supports this press release.

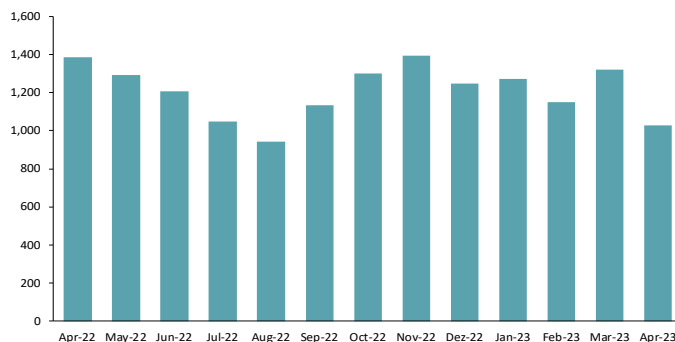


INFORMATION ON DATA COLLECTION

In the results obtained from business and consumer surveys for the collection of April 2023, the data collecting period occurred from 01 to 19 in the case of the consumer survey, with 1029 responses obtained (telephone interviews) and from 01 to 21 for business surveys ([Webing](#)).

The distribution of the number of responses by data collection's months to the consumer is presented in the next figure.

Figure 12. Consumer Survey - Number of responses by data collection's months



The response and weighted response rates for business surveys were:

Table 11. Response and weighted response rates

Business Surveys	Response Rate				Weighted Response Rate ⁽²⁾			
	2022 ⁽¹⁾	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	2022 ⁽¹⁾	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023
Manufacturing Industry	79.0%	76.4%	77.6%	76.8%	92.3%	88.3%	89.8%	89.7%
Construction and Public Works	71.7%	69.2%	74.6%	71.4%	87.8%	84.7%	88.7%	86.7%
Trade	76.6%	76.6%	78.4%	76.3%	93.5%	91.4%	93.7%	91.5%
Services	76.8%	75.4%	77.1%	75.7%	91.8%	94.4%	93.6%	94.1%

⁽¹⁾ Annual average.

⁽²⁾ Corresponds to the ratio between the turnover of the firms that answered to the survey and the turnover of all the firms in the sample.

The following graphs show the distribution of the number of responses by data collection's months to the business surveys.



Figure 13. Manufacturing Industry Survey - Number of responses by data collection's months

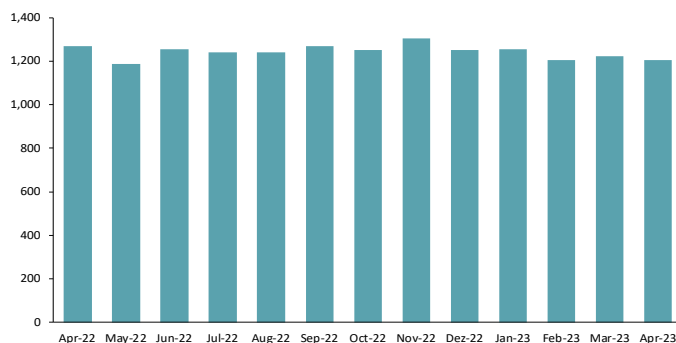


Figure 14. Construction and Public Works - Number of responses by data collection's months

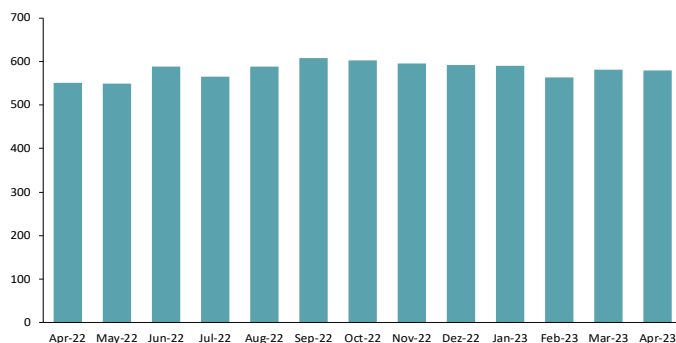


Figure 15. Trade Survey - Number of responses by data collection's months

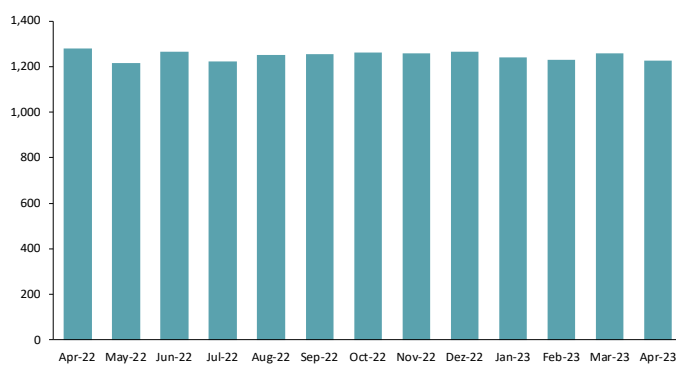
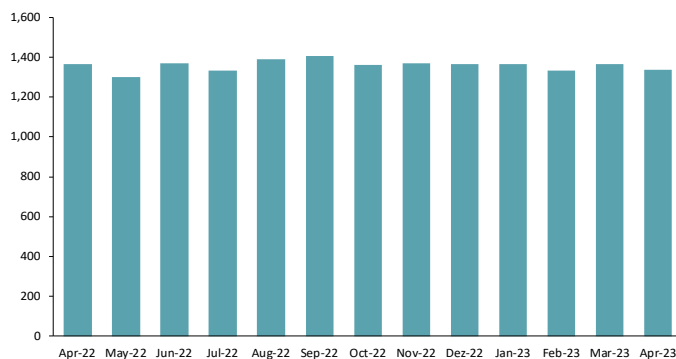


Figure 16. Services Survey - Number of responses by data collection's months





It should also be noted that the representativeness of the branches of activity covered by Business Surveys, considering the Gross Added Value (GVA) at current prices (Final Annual National Accounts) as the economic variable, is as follows:

Table 12. Weight of the GVA of the branches

Qualitative Business Surveys	Weight of the GVA of the branches of each survey in the total GVA of the economy	
	2019	2020
Manufacturing Industry	13.7%	13.8%
Construction and Public Works	4.4%	4.7%
Trade	13.3%	13.1%
Services	38.1%	35.8%

ECONOMIC CLIMATE INDICATOR

Synthetic Indicator estimated using balances of questions from the Manufacturing Industry, Trade, Construction and Public Works and Services Surveys. The method for this indicator uses the factor analysis and the estimated series (the common component) is calibrated using the GDP change rates. The questions that integrate the indicator are:

Qualitative Manufacturing Industry survey

- How has your production developed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + increased; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - decreased.
- Do you consider your current overall order books to be...? 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- Do you consider your current export order books to be...? 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- How do you expect your production to develop over the next 3 months? It will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease. (seasonally adjusted)

Qualitative Trade survey

- How has (have) your business activity (sales) developed over the past 3 months? It has... (They have...) 1. + improved (increased); 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - deteriorated (decreased). (seasonally adjusted)
- How do you expect your orders placed with suppliers to change over the next 3 months? They will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease. (seasonally adjusted)
- Your business activity is currently...: 1. + more than sufficient; 2. = sufficient; 3. - not sufficient.
- How do you expect your business activity (sales) to change over the next 3 months? It (They) will... 1. + improve (increase); 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - deteriorate (decrease). (seasonally adjusted)

Qualitative Construction and Public Works survey

- How has your building activity developed over the past 3 months? It has...; 1. + increased; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - decreased.
- Do you consider your current overall order books to be...?: 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- How do you expect your firm's total employment to change over the next 3 months? It will...; 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease.



Qualitative Services survey

- How has your business situation developed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + improved; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - deteriorated. (seasonally adjusted)
- How has demand (turnover) for your company's services changed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + increased; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - decreased. (seasonally adjusted)
- How do you expect the demand (turnover) for your company's services to change over the next 3 months? It will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease. (seasonally adjusted)

SECTORIAL CONFIDENCE INDICATORS

The confidence indicators (CI) are the result of the arithmetic average of balance of the following questions:

Manufacturing Industry confidence indicator

- Do you consider your current overall order books to be...? 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- How do you expect your production to develop over the next 3 months? It will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease.
- [Inverted Sign] Do you consider your current stock of finished products to be...? 1. + too large (above normal); 2. = adequate (normal for the season); 3. - too small (below normal).

Trade confidence indicator

- How has (have) your business activity (sales) developed over the past 3 months? It has... (They have...) 1. + improved (increased); 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - deteriorated (decreased).
- How do you expect your business activity (sales) to change over the next 3 months? It (They) will... 1. + improve (increase); 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - deteriorate (decrease).
- [Inverted Sign] Do you consider the volume of stock you currently hold to be...? 1. + too large (above normal); 2. = adequate (normal for the season); 3. - too small (below normal).

Construction and Public Works confidence indicator

- Do you consider your current overall order books to be...?: 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- How do you expect your firm's total employment to change over the next 3 months? It will...; 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease.

Services confidence indicator

- How has your business situation developed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + improved; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - deteriorated.
- How has demand (turnover) for your company's services changed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + increased; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - decreased.
- How do you expect the demand (turnover) for your company's services to change over the next 3 months? It will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease.



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

The consumer confidence indicator results of the arithmetic average of the balances of the following questions:

- How has the financial situation of your household changed over the last 12 months? It has...1. ++ got a lot better; 2. + got a little better; 3.= stayed the same; 4.– got a little worse; 5. – – got a lot worse; 6. N don't know.
- How do you expect the financial position of your household to change over the next 12 months? It will...1. ++ get a lot better; 2. + get a little better; 3.= stay the same; 4.– get a little worse; 5. – – get a lot worse; 6. N don't know.
- How do you expect the general economic situation in this country to develop over the next 12 months? It will... 1. ++ get a lot better; 2. + get a little better; 3.= stay the same; 4.– get a little worse; 5. – – get a lot worse; 6. N don't know.
- Compared to the past 12 months. do you expect to spend more or less money on major purchases (furniture. electrical/electronic devices. etc.) over the next 12 months? I will spend...1. ++much more; 2. + a little more; 3.– a little less; 4. – – much less; 5. N don't know.

ABBREVIATIONS

Bal: Balances correspond to weighted difference between the percentages of positive and negative responses.

EV: Effective Values.

SA: Seasonally Adjusted values.

3MMA: Three-Months Moving Average.

2QMA: Two-Quarters Moving Average

Next monthly press release – May 30th 2023
